

#### The Lord Has Made Me Glad Psalm 92 Verse 4

*A Psalm or Song for the sabbath day.*

**Ps 92:1 "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: 2 To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night, 3 Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound."**

This Psalm is titled "A Psalm or Song for the sabbath day." For us today our day of worship is Sunday. So, we would interpret this title to say: "A Psalm or Song for Sunday worship" or, "for worship services."

The Psalm indicates that it is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, which we should be doing often. Especially, when we awake in the mornings and before we retire to bed at night. We try to give thanks to God every time we have a meal. We give thanks to God throughout the day, when the Holy Spirit prompts us to recognize some blessing that God has provided us.

The Psalm also indicates that when we give thanks to the Lord, we should also sing praise to the name of the Lord. This is one of the reasons why the Primitive Baptist worship services begin, and end, with divine worship, which is singing, and with prayer.

We point out, singing is to be praise to the name of the Lord, not to give a person, or group of persons, praise for their talents with God left out. This is why churches have congregational singing, it is not about us it is all about God. Congregational singing is one way, that everyone can have something to do that includes them in the worship service. Everyone wants to feel they are needed, and congregational singing can fill this need.

Some people will say that I cannot sing, or I cannot sing with a quality voice as others. To these we say: the bible teaches us in: **1Co 14:15 "I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."** and in: **Ps 95:1 ¶ "O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation."** I can testify that when those who do not have what we call pretty voices, who do not always harmonize and blend into the singing, yet, when they are in the spirit and truly singing praise to God, it will not disrupt the song service or take away from it. Why? Because it is a joyful noise to the Lord. For example: Though he has passed now, we once had a member of the church congregation who was afflicted, and his voice was not clairvoyant. Sometimes he would sing very loud, but it never took away from the singing, because we all knew that if anyone was worshipping the Lord, he was.

When we consider what songs, we are to sing to praise the name of the Lord: we should examine the text for biblical soundness, be assured that it directs our thoughts godward, and assigns all praise to God. We should devote our full attention to what we are singing, not letting our attention be drawn away to unspiritual things. We should not sing songs that are not biblically sound and claim to be praising the name of the Lord. We should not claim to sing songs to praise the name of the Lord, which give honor, or glory, to the works of mankind, or that are immoral or filthy.

Many people will make fun of you for singing, solemnly, hymns of praise to the name of the Lord. This is just one of the tools of the devil, who does not want you to praise God. The devil wants you to sing songs that are pleasing to the desires of the flesh nature. Just ask yourself the question: does this song give God, and Christ, honor, and praise: or does this song give honor and praise to the "me god?"

Why are we to give thanks, and sing praise to the name of the Lord? To remind us, and others, of the lovingkindness and faithfulness of God to his people, which is to be done in the morning and at night.

This Psalm tells us that they had three instruments for which this song was written to be played upon. We point out that this song, of praise to the name of the Lord, was to be sung while playing these instruments with a solemn sound. When we use our voices and sing with the Spirit, we are using three instruments: God the Father, God the Son, and the Holy Spirit. A solemn sound does not stir up the desires of the flesh. We must remember, it is about God not us. It is to give reverence to his name.

When we get to the New Testament, we do not find in scripture any use of musical instruments in church worship. This is why we Primitive Baptist sing congregationally and use only our voices, which are the instruments of music that God gave to mankind. Just as with the instruments the song was to be played upon, so it is with the voices also. Most people like peppy, or lively, songs which give pleasure to the natural man. When we sing our songs of thanks and praise to God: we should also sing with a solemn sound. Remember, we are not currying the flesh, but praising the Lord, and he deserves our full devotion and reverence. Do not

misunderstand; we can sing songs with joy and happiness and still sing praise to the Lord. However, the warning is; let us not forget who the singing is for and the purpose of the singing, in our worship services.

**4 "For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands. 5 O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep."**

To get to the thought set forth here we ask: What has the Lord done to make me glad through his work? Which leads us to the question: What is his work? To answer this question let us go to the scriptures. We find in **Ps 29:2 "Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name;"** God's glory is the result of his nature, and of his actions, thus we see the work of God. If you have been born again, you understand this concept. Thus, the initiative to give thanks and praise to the name of the Lord. We understand; there is one singular work, which was God's eternal plan before the world was, which is the plan of eternal salvation for all of God's people.

Does it make you glad that Jesus Christ has ushered in the age of salvation by Grace? Does it make you glad that we no longer have to make the animal sacrifices of the sacrificial law service, which did not forgive sins but restored the consciences of Israel to a right standing before God, seen in: **Heb 10:4 "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. 5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. 7 ¶ Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God."** Our sins, like their sins, will be blotted out forever in the eternal resurrection of the dead in Christ, even though, here in time, when we sin, there is a consequence for our sins here, and actions are required of us when we sin.

Today, instead of offering animal sacrifices though a priest: we go to God, through the name of Jesus Christ, in repentance, in prayer, and in supplication, for forgiveness of our sins, that our consciences may be brought back into a right standing with God.

Are you glad that Jesus has wrought the eternal forgiveness of our sins, and has given to us, in the new birth, salvation and eternal life? A result of the work of God, to be enjoyed in our earthly land of promise, the church of salvation by the grace of God.

Are you glad we no longer need to fear mortal death? We know that mortal death is a consequence of the fall in sin and is inherit to our flesh nature. However, we know that our bodies will be resurrected like unto the resurrected body of Jesus our Saviour. We know that our souls, and the spirit of Christ in us, will never die. We know that when mortality is laid aside our soul and spirit are immediately conveyed to the eternal heaven to be with Christ, their owner and Lord. All this is a result of the work of God, which makes us glad.

How glad and thankful we should be in the finished work of Jesus Christ: knowing that through Jesus we have eternal victory over death, hell, and the grave. What rejoicing thoughts, to know that we will be eternally triumphant in the resurrection of the dead in Christ. We are glad that we enjoy the blessings, of these eternal promises in our lives as Christians. We are glad to know that, even now, the Holy Spirit power of Christ in us, keeps and protects us from sin and Satan. There is no end to the list of things which make us glad in the work of God. Wherefore, we should be thankful to God and always be singing praises and giving thanks to God.

This is why we, as the psalmist said, "**I will triumph in the works of thy hands, Oh Lord**" because the work is God's perfect work, performed by Jesus Christ. We are glad that we did not create our eternal life. We are glad that we did not make possible the eternal forgiveness of our sins. We are glad that we cannot uncreate that which has been bestowed upon us by God. We are glad of these wonderfully marvelous truths, because we have been made to know that we have a personal relationship with our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ.

In closing, "**great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep.**" Even though we have been born again and we study the scriptures, we cannot fathom the greatness of the works of God and Christ. Scripture teaches us that our ways are not the Lord's ways, and we see, here in time, as through a glass darkly. However, we are given enough understanding, and insight into the work of God, to glorify his name with solemn praise and thanksgiving. We are glad that because of the work of God; we shall in eternity see the fulness of the blessings of the work of God, as we behold the face of Our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ, and look upon the glories of that place that Jesus has gone to prepare for us. Hallelujah! Praise ye the Lord!