

Psalms Chapter 032 Commentary

A Psalm of David, Maschil

Maschil has the meaning of instruction, wherefore, David is giving us a song of instruction to sing praise to God.

Ps 32:1 "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. 2 Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile."

King David realized the blessedness of knowing the salvation of God. It is no different for us today, because this scripture is repeated in **Ro 4:6-8; 6 "Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, 7 Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. 8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."**

However, we are given many New Testament scriptures which affirm this. Here is one in **2Co 5:17-21; 17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."** To which we that are saved can only say, Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the gift of eternal forgiveness of sins, wrought by your finished work. Surely, this is a song to be sung to the praise and glory of our Saviour God.

3 "When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. 4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah."

David is telling us here; when I quit singing praise to God, my body felt like it was old and dry and very close to death. It felt like my well of living waters was drying up.

When we sing praise and worship to God and Christ, there is a feeling in us that nothing can compare to nor describe in its fulness. If we cease to sing praises and worship to our God and Saviour, we are not like **Joh 4:14 "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."** We will feel like God has laid the hand of judicial judgment upon us.

Selah is defined as a pause in music. So, let's pause a moment and think upon the joy of the salvation of God in our lives, and the way our hearts sing and rejoice in this great salvation. Then remember the times in our lives when we forget God, and the trials and troubles of this world come upon us and weighed us down with the thoughts of our own sinfulness. Our hearts were no longer singing to God in praise and worship, but we were drowning in the misery of our own depravity. Dear God in heaven, please keep us near thee all the time, we pray, that we may indeed sing and worship you in Spirit and Truth. Amen!

5 "I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah."

We are given another pause in this song of David, so let's stop and consider what has just been sung. When we are made a new creature in Christ, we then begin to recognize our sins, and we will willingly confess them unto God. Why? Because we know that our God knows even our very thoughts and the intents of our hearts, and there is no need to try and hide our sins from God. By confessing our sins to God and repenting of them, we are removed from under what we saw in verses 3-4 above.

When we confess our sins to God, we are taught in scripture in **1Jo 1:9; 8 ¶ "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."** Wherefore, we have knowledge that God has forgiven our sins in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Do you remember that moment when you understood that your sins were eternally forgiven? Do you remember the joy and the lightness of heart you felt at that time? Was not your heart singing, rejoicing, and praising, God at that time? Surely, every day is a day to sing praise and to worship our Saviour and Lord, Amen!

6 "For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him. 7 ¶ Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah."

We have another musical pause at the end of these two verses, therefore, let's stop and consider. Who are the godly that can pray to God? They are the born-again children of God. When is the time that God may be found? Always. How do we know this? We are told in **Heb 13:5-6; 5** ***"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. 6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."*** Wherefore, there is never a time when we cannot approach unto our God and Saviour with prayer and thanksgiving, from God's perspective.

"surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him." When it seems that the temptations of Satan, and our inherited sin nature, will overcome us, these floods of destroying waters shall not come nigh unto us. How do we know this? What happened in the new birth? You were indwelt with the Holy Spirit of Christ in you. Though the satanic people of the world may try to destroy our mortal life, we are protected in Jesus Christ and the salvation of God. Since Christ has already overcome death for us, we shall not drown in the floods of trials and tribulations of this life. Why? Because we are hid in Christ as seen in **Col 3:3; 1 ¶** ***"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."*** Wherefore, remembering these faithful and true promises of God and Christ, we can sing the songs of our deliverance with joy and thanksgiving. Hallelujah! Amen!

8 "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. 9 Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee. 10 Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about. 11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart."

The Spirit of God in us will teach us the way of God. How can we be sure of this? What if we do not have a bible to read, or a friend to tell us about God's salvation? What if we do not have a preacher to listen to and learn of God's marvelous salvation? We are told in **Heb 10:16; 16** ***"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."*** If these conditions be our state in life, we have this blessed promise from God to assure us and keep us in his way. He will guide us with His eye.

However, notice that we are instructed to not be stubborn or stiffnecked, nor even be near them. David tells us in his song: ***"Many sorrows shall be to the wicked:"*** Likewise the scriptures teach us **Re 20:15** ***"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."***

"but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about. 11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart." Since we have the Holy Spirit to teach us and inscribe the ways of God in our hearts and minds, we should be filled with full trust in the finished work of Jesus Christ. We should also be filled with gladness and joyfulness and be shouting for joy, in the Lord.

Now do you see why we are to be as seen in **Eph 5:17-21; 17** ***"Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. 18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; 21 ¶ Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."*** Surely, we should be singing with those we see in **Re 4:8 ¶** ***"And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come."*** This is what David is teaching us in this Psalm of instruction, summed up in ***"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;"*** Hallelujah! Amen!