

Rhema Christian Center
Triumphant Tuesday & Wisdom Wednesday Bible Study
(September 5 & 6, 2023)

PSALM 105

Instructor: Sarah Twitty

REMEMBER GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

SONG: Jesus I will never forget what you have done for me.
Jesus I'll never forget how you set me free.
Jesus I'll never forget how you brought me out.
Jesus I'll never forget not never.

How can I forget what you have done for me?
How can I forget how you set me free?
How can I forget how you brought me out?
How can I forget not never.

As time passes, we sometimes forget the blessings of the Lord. There is the saying that says, "***Christians are prone to write their complaints in marble and their blessings in the sand.***" (Spurgeon). In Psalm 105, the psalmist celebrates and recounts the blessings of the Lord.

He exhorts them to remember God faithfulness and that He:

- is a promise keeper and that He kept His covenant with Abraham;
- kept his promise to make his descendants into a great nation and protect them;
- would deliver the Israelites out of the land of Egypt; and
- would lead them into a promised land flowing with milk and honey.

INTRODUCTION

Psalm 105 is believed to be written by David. The reason being is that the first section of the scripture (verses 1-15) is identical to what he wrote in I Chron. 16:8-22 when the priests and people were celebrating the arrival of the ark of the covenant in Jerusalem. The ark represented the presence of God, so this was a time of celebration.

(This was David's second attempt at bringing the ark into Jerusalem. The first attempt ended in tragedy because the guidelines for transporting the ark were not followed. The ark was supposed to be transported on shoulders of priests not by oxen. When the oxen stumbled and the ark was about to fall, Uzzah put forth his hand to steady the ark and was killed by God. It was then stored at the home of Obed-edom for three months. After that time, David tried again. He followed the guidelines for transporting the ark and was successful in bringing it into Jerusalem).

Israel rejoiced because the ark had returned home. Likewise, in this psalm David exhorted the people to praise and glorify God for all his mighty acts.

GLORIFY GOD

*¹Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!
²Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; talk of all His wondrous works! ³Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!⁴Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore!
⁵Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth,*

In David's psalm, he is giving a series of commands on how to give thanks to the Lord.

- *Give thanks unto the Lord*
- *Call upon His name (Pray to God)*
- *Make known his deeds among the people*
- *Sing to Him*
- *Talk ye of all his wondrous works*
- *Glory in his holy name*
- *Seek the Lord and His Strength*
- *Seek His face forevermore.*
- *Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth.*

GOD'S CHOSEN

⁶O seed of Abraham His servant, You children of Jacob, His chosen ones! ⁷He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth.

The audience David is addressing is the seed of Abraham--God's chosen. You might say aren't we God's chosen also? The answer is YES. There is a spiritual house and a physical house.

- The physical house of Israel came through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
 - Abraham and Sarah gave birth to Isaac, the promised seed. (Ishamel was the older son by Hagar but not the son of promise).
 - Isaac gave birth to the twins Esau and Jacob. (Even though Esau was the eldest son, the promise was not passed down to him).
 - Although Jacob was not perfect, he surrendered his life to God just as we must surrender ourselves to God. After Jacob's encounter with the angel, Jacob's name was changed to ISRAEL.
 - Jacob's twelve sons and their families became known as the twelve tribes of Israel, or the Israelites (Genesis 49:28).
- The spiritual house came through our Lord Jesus Christ by way of the Jewish nation through the tribe of Judah.

- Gal. 4:4. *“But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,”*
- Mary, the birth mother of Jesus, and Joseph, the adoptive father of Jesus, were both of the tribe of Judah. *(Jesus’ genealogy through Joseph is in the book of Matthew and Jesus’ genealogy through Mary is in the book of Luke).*
- Gal. 3:29 says, *“And if ye [be] Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”*
- God’s purpose for choosing a nation was to make himself known to the world and to serve as the vehicle by which the Savior would come into the world.

GOD’S COVENANT WITH THE PATRIARCHS 8-11

⁸ He remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, ⁹ the covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac, ¹⁰ and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, ¹¹ saying, “To you I will give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance,”

- The covenant God made with Abraham was unconditional and everlasting.
- Gen: 12:1-3 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. *And this covenant is still in effect today.*
- If this was a conditional covenant, it would have been voided years ago because Israel was unfaithful. This covenant was based in God’s faithfulness not man’s faithfulness.

GOD’S PROTECTION 12-15

¹² When they were few in number, indeed very few, and strangers in it. ¹³ When they went from one nation to another, from one kingdom to another people, ¹⁴ He permitted no one to do them wrong; Yes, He rebuked kings for their sakes, ¹⁵ Saying, “Do not touch My anointed ones, and do My prophets no harm.”

This section reflects on the early history of Israel when they were a small in number and vulnerable, wandering from place to place. (Deut. 7:7). Despite their circumstances, God protected them and had his watchful eye upon them. God wanted Israel to learn to trust in Him. He warned **Do not touch My anointed ones and do my prophets no harm**. These words were spoken not of kings but to kings. *Do not touch my anointed.*

- God protected Abraham and Sarah before the king Abimelech, and did not let Abimelech **touch** her (Genesis 20:6).

- The patriarch had deceived Abimelech by saying that Sarah was his sister rather than his wife, and Abimelech had almost taken her before God intervened to warn him that she was married to Abraham. It was then that God referred to Abraham as ‘a prophet’ (Gen. 20:7) even though he lied. Again, the emphasis here is upon God’s faithfulness, not man’s faithfulness.” (Boice)

GOD’S CARE FOR THE PATRIARCHS IN THE DAYS OF JOSEPH 16-22

These next verses recount the story of Joseph, who was sold into slavery and eventually became a ruler in Egypt. The psalmist emphasizes God’s plan and testing in Joseph’s life and how God’s plan came to fruition.

¹⁶ Moreover He called for a famine in the land; He destroyed all the provision of bread.

¹⁷ He sent a man before them—Joseph—who was sold as a slave. ¹⁸ They hurt his feet with fetters, he was laid in irons. ¹⁹ Until the time that his word came to pass, the word of the LORD tested him. ²⁰ The king sent and released him, the ruler of the people let him go free. ²¹ He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his possessions, ²² to bind his princes at his pleasure, and teach his elders wisdom.

- God called for the famine in the land in the days of Joseph (Gen. 41:53-57). It was no accident.
- Joseph was one of the 12 sons of Jacob. He was despised by his brothers because they were jealous. They wanted to kill him, but the older brother convinced them not to. As a result, Joseph was sold into slavery. What the Devil meant for evil, God meant it for good.
- Little did Joseph know that God was preparing him to be an answer to prayer. The famine would have wiped out the nation of Israel, but this was God’s plan for the preservation of Israel. This was a plan that neither Joseph nor his family knew anything about. Likewise, when God is preparing us for a work, we don’t know what road we will have to travel.
- During Joseph’s time of testing in Egypt, he proved his faithfulness to God. In our lives, we go through tests, and they aren’t always pleasant or to our liking; but, they are designed to make us and not break us.
- James 1:2-4 (msg) says, *“Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. So don’t try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work, so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way.*
- Warren Weirsbe says, “God doesn’t waste your trials. He designs them for your good and for his glory. We must stand on the word of God.
- Joseph stood. He was brought low, but in God’s time he was lifted up. He was given authority over all the **possessions** of the house of Pharaoh and authority over **princes** and **elders** of Egypt.
- Joseph was an answer to prayer.

THE PRESERVATION OF ISRAEL IN EGYPT 23-25

This section tells how the Israelites ended up in Egypt.

²³ Israel also came into Egypt, And Jacob dwelt in the land of Ham. ²⁴ He increased His people greatly and made them stronger than their enemies. ²⁵ He turned their heart to hate His people, to deal craftily with His servants.

- Many years later, Joseph and his brothers were reunited in Egypt. This was all in the plan of God for the preservation of Israel. It also fulfilled the dream that Joseph had of his father and brothers bowing to him. God sent them to Egypt and Joseph cared for them.
- In Egypt, God's covenant people multiplied with very little intermarriage with the Egyptians. They were able to grow greatly ([Ex.1:7](#)), and eventually they became stronger than their enemies.
- The people of Israel once welcomed into the land of Egypt in the days of Joseph were now hated because a Pharaoh came to power who did not know Joseph. ([Ex. 1:8-12](#)).

EXODUS FROM EGYPT 26-36

This section recalls the events of the Exodus from Egypt, where God sent plagues to convince Pharaoh to release the Israelites from slavery.

²⁶ He sent Moses His servant, and Aaron whom He had chosen. ²⁷ They performed His signs among them, and wonders in the land of Ham. ²⁸ He sent darkness and made it dark; and they did not rebel against His word. ²⁹ He turned their waters into blood and killed their fish. ³⁰ Their land abounded with frogs, even in the chambers of their kings. ³¹ He spoke, and there came swarms of flies, and lice in all their territory. ³² He gave them hail for rain, and flaming fire in their land. ³³ He struck their vines also, and their fig trees, and splintered the trees of their territory. ³⁴ He spoke, and locusts came, young locusts without number, ³⁵ And ate up all the vegetation in their land and devoured the fruit of their ground. ³⁶ He also destroyed all the firstborn in their land, The first of all their strength with Israel under slavery and bondage in Egypt, God raised up deliverers for His people at the appointed time: Moses (given the wonderful title His servant) and his brother Aaron. God gave these men the ability to perform His signs to authenticate their work.

- At the appointed time, God raised up Moses and Aaron to deliver His people out of bondage.
- The plagues God sent were directed against all the gods and goddesses of Egypt. The Egyptians had many gods—a god for everything. Through Moses, GOD showed Himself supreme over all the Egyptian gods. For example:
 - When God **sent darkness**, it showed His power was greater than the sun God and the sky goddess.

- When God **turned their waters into blood**, He showed Himself greater than the god of the Nile.
 - When God made their **land** abound **with frogs**, He showed Himself greater than the frog-goddess of fertility.
 - When God sent **hail for rain**, He showed Himself greater than the god of the earth; the goddess of grain; and the guardian of the fields.
- The final and greatest plague against the Egyptians was the death of the firstborn in every household which was not protected by the blood of the Passover lamb.

THE DELIVERANCE FROM EGYPT INTO THE WILDERNESS 37-41

³⁷He also brought them out with silver and gold, and there was none feeble among His tribes. ³⁸Egypt was glad when they departed, For the fear of them had fallen upon them. ³⁹He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light in the night. ⁴⁰The people asked, and He brought quail, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven. ⁴¹He opened the rock, and water gushed out; It ran in the dry places like a river.

- When Israel came out of Egypt, the Egyptians gave them great riches. This was payment for all those years of slave labor. (Ex. 12:35-36).
- The Egyptians were so crushed by the many plagues that they were glad when the Israelites departed.
- There was not a feeble person among them—no stretchers, wheelchairs—everyone journeyed on foot. (Ex. 12:37).
- As they journeyed, the pillar of cloud guided them by day and gave them protection from the sun. They were guided by fire at night that gave them light. These were signs of God’s presence and care for His people as He led them through the wilderness.
- God provided them with nourishment in the wilderness by providing quail, manna, and water that gushed forth from rocks.

GOD BROUGHT ISRAEL INTO THE LAND OF CANAAN. 42-45

⁴²For He remembered His holy promise, And Abraham His servant. ⁴³He brought out His people with joy, His chosen ones with gladness. ⁴⁴He gave them the lands of the Gentiles, and they inherited the labor of the nations, ⁴⁵That they might observe His statutes and keep His laws. Praise the LORD!

- God’s faithfulness in taking the Israelites to Canaan was all based on the covenant that he made with Abraham. God promises are holy and binding.

- God gave the Israelites the land of the Gentiles. He said, “I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant. (Jo. 24:13-15)
- God gave them this inheritance that they might observe his statutes and keep his laws not so Israel would accumulate possessions for their own purposes. God doesn’t give us blessings for ourselves, but that we might be a blessing to others and shine forth as lights in this dark world proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION

This lesson focused of the faithfulness of God. David reminded Israel to be thankful and not to forget the goodness of God. Next week’s lesson will focus on how Israel did forget God’s goodness and how God continued to show his mercy to a backslidden nation.

Because of the LORD’s great love, we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
Lam. 3:22-23

SOURCES

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Psalm 105 – Discover the Books of the Bible
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