



## SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

### “He is My Song”

*Psalms 34*

June 2, 2013 A.M. Worship

#### David's Praise

✓ Bless the Lord Vs 1-3

#### David's Proof

✓ Seek the Lord Vs 4-7

#### David's Proclamation

✓ **Taste and See the Lord** Vs 8

✓ **Fear the Lord** Vs 9-10

✓ **Listen to the Lord** Vs 11-16

▪ Desire What is Good Vs 12

▪ Speak What Is True Vs 13

▪ Pursue What is Right Vs 14

▪ Expect What is Best Vs 15-16

✓ **Trust the Lord** Vs 17-22

▪ His Promises Vs 17, 21-21

▪ His Presence Vs 18

▪ His Protection Vs 19-20

#### Our Response:

1. Has there ever been that moment where you have prayed to the Father and asked Him to come into your heart and take control of your life? Would you give Him your heart & life today? Remember it is as simple as **ABC!** **Admit** to God you are a sinner, **Ask** for His forgiveness, **Believe** Jesus is God's Son, **Confess** Him as Savior & **Commit** Your Life to Him as Lord. (the Boss of your life)
2. Have you asked Christ into your heart but never made it public. Have you not been baptized? You can come & make that decision today public today. Be obedient!
3. Are you a part of a church family? If not, you need one! Is the Lord calling you to Bethsalem today? Why wait any longer? Step over the line and join us in reaching this community with the gospel of Jesus Christ! Be obedient and join a church!
4. Would you make it a priority this week to be a person who blesses the Lord by your praise? Would you spend extra time this week praising Him in prayer and in worship? He loves to hear the praises of His people!
5. Would you give proof to the world that He is your Only Source by seeking Him in everything? Spend time writing down the many ways that the Lord has saved you and delivered you.
6. Finally, would you Proclaim that He is your Source by your life? Would you taste and see daily the Lord is good? Would you fear Him with reverence that is due His name? Would you live by His teaching and desire only what is good, speak only what is true, pursue that which is right and expect the best in your life? Identify which of these you need to the Lord to help you in the most this week and then work on it!
7. Would you trust the Lord in all things in your life? Be reminded that He hears our cries, He is near to our broken hearts and He will deliver us from every one!

## SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

“The Lord is My Song”

*Psalm 34*

June 2, 2013 AM Service

We begin a new series this morning that dives into the book of Psalms and we will take a look at 17 different Psalms from now through August. The book of Psalms was the book of worship for the Jewish people, a book of praise, a book of honesty, transparency, grief, anguish, triumph, worship, and more. We see in the Psalms the honest hearts of people writing out their prayers to the Lord, their praise to the Lord, calling on the promises of the Lord in their worship of Him. So much encouragement and uplifting, and yet challenging and life changing. In each of these Psalms we will recognize who God is to us and what He was to the writer of the Psalm and also what will make the Lord. So this morning – the Lord is our Song and He makes us His song too! See [Zachariah 3:17](#) **ILLUS: We get a song stuck in our head – God’s song that’s in his heart today is you!! Will you make the Lord the song of your heart?** So let’s this morning dive in to this wonderful Psalm 34 and let us wash over our souls!!

### The Background of this Psalm

Remember back that David had killed Goliath. This certainly brought triumph into his life, but it also brought great trouble for Saul hated him after that and pursued him for years trying to kill him. We read many of David’s Psalms as he was being chased all over Israel and even as we read from this Psalm he had made a poor decision and gone into the land of the Philistines, no less the city of Gath. You can read about the story in [I Samuel 21](#). We remember that Gath was the home of Goliath and he had relatives there, even some giants. David thinks for some reason that they will give him refuge as he is carrying the sword of Goliath! It didn’t go over to well and David has to fake being crazy so that they kicked him out! It is out of that experience that David writes this Psalm. He had truly been reminded that God is our Song. He is the only One that we need and we must rely and depend upon Him completely. One more interesting note, this Psalm is an acrostic in that every verse begins with a different letter of the alphabet. Easier to remember and easily shared.

## David's Praise

- ✓ Bless the Lord I will do this! Vs 1-3
    - **It was Persistent** continual – It was at all times Why? it reflected what was in his heart! It was a part of his daily life!
    - **It was Personal** - boastful in the Lord, corporate
    - **It was Public** Invited others to praise the Lord with Him
- "In prayer, we act like men [people], in praise we act like angels."**  
Puritan preacher Thomas Watson

## David's Proof

- ✓ Seek the Lord Vs 4-7 David's action – sought the Lord
  - **He answered me** Vs 4a – Matthew 7:7-8 Asking, Seeking and Knocking – Jeremiah 33:3 29:13
  - **He delivered me** from my fears and from being ashamed Vs 4b-5
  - **He heard me** – He listens to us Vs 6a
  - **He saved me** from my troubles Vs 6b
  - **He rescued me** from enemies Vs 7 Angel of the Lord (Jesus) Joshua (or if angels Elisha and his servant)
  - **The result:** Vs 5 When I look at Him, my life is radiant and I am never ashamed

## David's Proclamation

- ✓ Taste and See the Lord – that He alone is good Vs 8
- It is experiential – come and test and see if it is true. We are not to just believe it, but to come and partake of it. "Taste" doesn't suggest a sip or a nibble; it implies feeding on the Lord through His Word and experiencing all He has for us. It means knowing Him better and enjoying Him more. David had the proof, he had done that very thing and found the Lord to be good and everything that He promised. It was a great blessing for David to be delivered from Gath, and it was a greater blessing for him to be protected by the Lord after he fled, but the greatest blessing was drawing nearer to God and enjoying His presence, not just His gifts. David found God's Word sweet and he rejoiced in the goodness of the Lord.
- The result is that we will be blessed as we take refuge in Him
- Really the theme verse of this passage.** Come and taste all the things, come and see for yourself and you will find that He only is our Source –

our foundation, our strength. He is all that I need. If you don't believe me, try it without Him and you will see. The challenge is though, don't try it without Him, try it with Him first and you will see that He is all that you need. It is here that we find the satisfaction that we are looking for. Too often we are too full of the stuff of the world to care about tasting from the Lord. May the Lord challenge us to put that stuff aside and simply taste and see that He alone is good!

✓ **Fear the Lord** Vs 9-10

The result of fearing the Lord – there is no want. No want of any good thing. As we seek Him we fear Him – reverence – for His holiness, righteousness, awesome power, great love and on the list goes **Psalm 84:11** Refers back to the wonderful message that Cleve brought last Sunday from **Matthew 6** that those who seek Him first, will have all that they need! The reason many times we are found wanting lack the hungry lion is that we don't fear Him and we have stopped seeking Him!

✓ **Listen to the Lord** Vs 11-16

David invites his men and even us to come and listen and be taught to fear the Lord. To live a life that is pleasing to the Lord by fearing Him. How do we flesh that out in our daily lives? He lays out 4 things.

▪ **Desire What is Good** Vs 12

To "love life" means to desire a full life, the abundance life Christ came to give (**John 10:10**). This kind of life has little to do with possessions, status, or fame, but it has a lot to do with character, faith, and a desire to honor the Lord. They seek the Lord and want nothing less than His will for their lives. Solomon had wealth, knowledge, fame, and power, yet he wrote, "**Therefore, I hated life ...**" (**Eccl 2:17-20**). To cultivate a heart that desires what is good, a heart that delights in the Lord (**Psalm 37:4**), is the first step toward the life that overflows with the blessing of the Lord.

▪ **Speak What Is True** Vs 13

If we can only control what we say. So difficult for most of us to do.

Yet the Word talks so much about it and the importance of it! **James**

3:1-12; Proverbs 23:23 “Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from trouble.” Psalm 141:3-4

Again David speaks from personal experience, I said some things in Gath I wished I hadn't. I told some lies and pretended to be mad. Don't do what I did. It only brings more harm.

▪ **Pursue What is Right** Vs 14

This is a two part challenge here. The first is to do the right thing, and that means we have to depart, run away from, stay away from those sinful things that break the heart of God. Not only that, we then are called to then pursue, seek out and do the right thing in God's strength. This means abandoning sin once and for all, doing good as God gives us strength and opportunity. Seeking what is good, means seeking the Lord for He is what is good. What His Word calls us to do and live by.

Secondly we are called to be a peacemaker and not a troublemaker.

Christians don't seek "peace at any price," for peace depends on purity (James 3:13-18; Isa 32:17), but they do make every effort not to make enemies (Matt 5:9; Rom 14:19; Heb 12:14-21). Sometimes our best efforts seem to be in vain, but at least we obeyed the Lord (Matt 5:21-26; 18:15-35). "Pursue" means that we have to work at it, with the help of the Lord.

▪ **Expect What is Best** Vs 15-16

Certainly the positive side to this command. For those who are His children, He is for us! It is not a frightening thing but a wonderful thing that the Lord sees us all the time and that He hears us when we cry out to Him! It echoes 2 Chronicles 16:9

In the same line though, His face is against the evil and He promises to cut off the memory of them from the earth! A strong warning for us to walk with Him, to know Him and serve Him. If we reject Him and choose to live our own way, then He is not for us but against us!

✓ **Trust the Lord** Vs 17-22

As a child of God we are not exempt from trials and troubles but He does promise that when we trust in Him and call on Him, He will see us through them and make them a blessing to us and through us to others

▪ **His Promises** Vs 17, 21-22

- **His Presence** Vs 18 our emotional needs
- **His Protection** Vs 19-20 our physical needs
- **The Lord's 2<sup>nd</sup> Promise** Vs 21-22 He will redeem us and the evil will not win, they will be defeated.