

September 30, 2012

PSALM 40: SAY CONTINUALLY: "THE LORD BE MAGNIFIED!"

I. ONE PSALM, MANY GENRES

- A. One of 16 Messianic psalms: (1) Psalm 2: The Official Glory of the Eternal Son; (2) Psalm 40: The Incarnation; (3) Psalm 91: The Temptation; (4) Psalm 41: The Betrayal; (5) Psalm 22: The Crucifixion; (6) Psalm 69: The Trespass Offering; (7) Psalm 16: The Resurrection; (8) Psalm 68: The Ascension; (9) Psalm 45: The King-Bridegroom; (10) Psalm 24: The King of Glory; (11) Psalm 110: The Priest-King-Judge; (12) Psalm 8: The Last Adam; (13) Psalm 72: The Millennial Reign; (14) Psalm 89: The Davidic Covenant; (15) Psalm 102: The Unchangeable One; and (16) Psalm 118: The Headstone of the Corner.¹
- B. One of 29 Thanksgiving psalms: Ps 8; 18; 19; 29; 30; 32; 33; 34; 40; 41; 66; 103; 104; 105; 106; 111; 113; 116; 117; 124; 129; 135; 136; 138; 139; 146; 147; 148; 150
- C. One of 48 lament psalms: Ps 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 12; 13; 22; 25; 26; 27; 28; 35; 38; 39; 40; 42; 43; 44; 51; 54; 55; 56; 57; 59; 60; 61; 63; 64; 69; 70; 71; 74; 79; 80; 83; 85; 86; 90; 102; 109; 120; 123; 130; 140; 141; 142; 143
- D. One of 12 imprecatory psalms: 7; 35; 40; 55; 58; 59; 69; 79; 109; 137; 139; 144
- E. One of 9 new song passages in scripture: (Ps 33:3; 40:3; 96:1; 98:1; 144:9; 149:3; Is 42:10-13; Rev. 5:9,10; 14:2,3)

II. A TESTIMONY OF ENDURANCE

I I waited patiently for the Lord; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry.

A. I waited patiently for the Lord

- 1. *qavah: to be strong, to wait:* Is 40:31; Ps 27:14; 130:5; Lk 18:1-8
- 2. Examples of steadfastness: Wimber, Mueller, Jesus
- 3. Prophetic history stories: the bus, the drought, the 11th hour victory

B. He inclined to me and heard my cry

- 1. God will give us wisdom if we ask him for it. (James 1:5,6)
- 2. God will reveal His secrets if we ask him for them (Jeremiah 33:3)

¹ <http://plymouthbrethren.wordpress.com/2008/11/20/the-messianic-psalms-t-ernest-wilson/>

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3. God will give us His Holy Spirit if we ask Him for it (Luke 11:13)
4. God will forgive us if we ask for it (1 Jn 1:9, Ja 5:16, 2 Chron 7:14; Ps 103:3)
5. God will heal us if we pray in faith (James 5:14,15; Ps. 103:3)
6. God will give us the nations if we ask him (Ps 2:8)
7. God will give us whatever we ask (Ps. 37:4 – as we delight in Him; Mt. 18:19 – as we come together agreeing with others in his name; Mt. 21:22 – if we believe; Mk. 11:24 – as we believe that we have received it; Jn. 14:13,14 – as we believe & ask in Jesus' name; Jn. 15:7 – as we abide in Christ & let His words abide in us; Jn. 15:16 – as we ask in his name; Jn. 16:23,24 – as we ask in his name; James 4:2,3 – when we ask with right motive; 1 Jn. 3:21,22 – as we obey His commands and do what pleases Him; 1 Jn. 5:14,15 – if we ask anything according to His will. See also Matt. 7:7 – "...everyone who asks receives...") Even above and beyond what we could ever ask or imagine (Eph. 3:20)
8. God will release speedy justice when we cry out day & night. (Luke 18:7,8)
9. God will release His End-Time judgments through our prayers (Rev. 5:8; 8:1-5, Ps. 149:6-9) instead of inflicting them upon us (Joel 2:12-17).
10. Christ will return in response to our cries (Rev. 22:17; Mt 23:39; Zech 12:10; 2 Peter 3:11,12; Revelation 8:1-5)

III. A TESTIMONY OF DELIVERANCE

2 He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps.

- A. What you've been saved from
- B. What you've been saved to

IV. WHEN GOD SINGS THROUGH YOU

3 He has put a new song in my mouth— Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the Lord.

- A. He has put a new song in my mouth – praise to our God
 1. A testimony vs. an exhortation. (Ps 33:3; 96:1; 98:1; 149:3; Is 42:10-13)
 2. When trial becomes triumph.

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3. It is God's doing. (Exodus 15:2; Ps 118:14; Is 12:2)
4. It is post-deliverance, vs. pre-deliverance (Ps 96:1; 98:1; 144:9; 149:3; Is 42:10-13)

B. Many will

1. See it – in contrast to the Exodus that was heard/caused fear (Ex 15:14)
2. Fear of the Lord (Psalm 130:4)
 - i. Beginning of wisdom (Prov 9:10)
 - ii. Accompanies the knowledge of God (Prov 2:5)
 - iii. Key to long life (Prov 10:27)
 - iv. Key to satisfaction (Prov 19:23)
 - v. Access to the secrets of God (Psalm 25:14)
3. And will trust in the Lord
 - i. The power of testimony

V. TRUE HAPPINESS IS FOUND NO WHERE ELSE BUT IN GOD

4 Blessed is that man who makes the Lord his trust, And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

VI. GOD IS SO GOOD...IT'S DIZZYING

5 Many, O Lord my God, are Your wonderful works Which You have done; And Your thoughts toward us Cannot be recounted to You in order; If I would declare and speak of them, They are more than can be numbered.

- A. Many, O Lord my God, are Your wonderful works
-set up stones of remembrance
- B. Your thoughts toward us cannot be recounted to you in order...more than can be numbered (Psalm 139:17,18)

VII. A LIVING SACRIFICE

6 Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have opened. Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.

- A. The Inadequacy of the Levitical Sacrifices (v. 6).

"Sacrifice [zebach] and offering [minchah]. Thou didst not desire; mine ears hast Thou opened: burnt offering [olah] and sin-offering [chataah] hast Thou not required." The four Hebrew words used cover the principal offerings of the Levitical code. Zebach is a general term for all the eucharistic sacrifices, the peace, votive, and thank offerings. Minchah is the meal offering with which is

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connected the drink offering. Olah is the burnt offering. Chataah refers to the expiatory sacrifices, the sin and trespass offerings. All pointed to the death of Christ on the cross.

As we study the ancient sacrifices described in Leviticus 1-7, we find that they are divided into two groups. The first are "sweet savor" offerings, consisting of the burnt, meal, and peace offerings. The second are sin and trespass offerings. The sin offering had reference to sin against God, violating His holy character, and called for judgment. The trespass offering added to this the injury done to man, for which reparation had to be made.

The offerings were different, but all set forth various aspects of the Person and work of Christ. The burnt offering was the highest and most important. In all the other sweet savor offerings, parts were offered on the altar and went up to God; but the other parts were divided among the people and the priests, and became the food of the people of God. But the whole burnt offering was completely consumed on the altar. There was something in the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ which only God Himself could understand and appreciate in all its fullness.

The meal offering presents His moral glory and sinless humanity linked with His deity. The peace offering speaks of that One who made peace by the blood of His cross. The sin offering portrays the sinless One who was made sin for us, and the trespass offering tells of the Sufferer who was wounded for our transgressions, and who in love restored that which He took not away.

It is a mistaken view that the sacrificial system of Israel was merely ritual. The sacrifices were God's kindergarten to the nation, pointing forward to a coming Messiah who was to suffer and die for the sins of the nation, indeed, for the whole world. The offerings were profoundly educational and spiritual. But alas, they degenerated from this ideal into mere external performances. Then God expressed His repudiation of them. (See 1 Sam. 2:12-17; 15:22; Isa. 1:11-18; Jer 7:21-23; Amos 5:21-24; Micah 6:6-8; Prov 15:8; 21:3; Mal. 1:7-8; Psalms 50:8, 14; 51:16; 69:30-31)

In the Mosaic sacrificial system, millions of animals were sacrificed and rivers of blood flowed. The ox, goat, sheep, lamb, and turtle dove were sacrificed upon the altar. All had meaning, and all pointed to the cross. This was the picture-book stage of Israel's history. But Psalm 40 renders a twofold verdict: "Sacrifice and offering Thou didst not desire... Burnt offering and sin offering hast Thou not required." The Epistle To the Hebrews gives us the reasons.²

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B. "My ears You have opened"

a. Isaiah 50:4-6

b. "A body You have prepared for Me" (Heb 10:5-7; Ex. 21:6; Deut 15:17)

VIII. THE GLORY OF THE INCARNATION

*7 Then I said, "Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book it is written of me.
8 I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart."*

IX. A FIVE-FOLD PROCLAMATION

9 I have proclaimed the good news of righteousness In the great assembly; Indeed, I do not restrain my lips, O Lord, You Yourself know. 10 I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart; I have declared Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your lovingkindness and Your truth From the great assembly.

- A. I have proclaimed the good news of **righteousness** in the great assembly; I have not hidden your Righteousness within my heart
- B. I have declared your **faithfulness**
- C. And your **salvation**
- D. I have not concealed your **loving kindness**
- E. And your **truth** from the great assembly

X. INTERCESSION BASED ON PAST BREAKTHROUGHS

11 Do not withhold Your tender mercies from me, O Lord; Let Your lovingkindness and Your truth continually preserve me.

XI. ...IN SPITE OF PRESENT BROKENNESS

12 For innumerable evils have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; They are more than the hairs of my head; Therefore my heart fails me.

- A. Innumerable evils have surrounded me
- B. My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of my head
- C. Therefore my heart fails me

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XII. PRESUMING ON THE FATHER HEART OF GOD

13 Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me!

- A. **Be pleased**, O Lord to deliver me;
- B. **Make haste** to help me!

XIII. WHAT DO WE DO WITH IMPRECATORY PRAYERS?

14 Let them be ashamed and brought to mutual confusion Who seek to destroy my life; Let them be driven backward and brought to dishonor Who wish me evil.

15 Let them be confounded because of their shame, Who say to me, "Aha, aha!"

XIV. 24/7 EXALTATION OF CHRIST IS THE ONLY RESPONSE THAT MAKES SENSE FROM THE REDEEMED

16 Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; Let such as love Your salvation say continually, "The Lord be magnified!"

XV. THE CRY FOR GOD'S RETURN IS SUSTAINED BY GOD

17 But I am poor and needy; Yet the Lord thinks upon me. You are my help and my deliverer; Do not delay, O my God.

- A. Poor and needy (Rev. 3:17-22)
- B. Revelation 22:17