

I. Review

Last week we were in Psalm 29. I love chapters like that for us to go through together in the Bible because it was one of the most incredible chapters in the Word of God. Last week, I laid out for you the voice of God, which is thunder in the Bible, and how the Second Coming of Christ it will be built around a rainstorm. I laid out four key areas; all defined for you in the Word of God.

- 1.) Clouds
- 2.) Lightning
- 3.) Thunder
- 4.) Rain

Clouds: we talked about this being at the Second Coming of Christ. Lightning: I showed you how Satan comes as an imitator of Christ, like lightening. Then Christ comes as lightening at the Second Coming of Christ. We looked at the thunder which is God's voice. I showed you how the rain is the context for it all. I took you back to Old Testament references, particularly James chapter 5, and explained the former and latter rain, and how that works in the last three and a half years of the Tribulation Period.

This shows how the Old Testament lays out something that will happen in the future. The seven thunders were talked about in Revelation chapter 10, and I gave you that last week. If you really want to understand that you must find the passages in the Old or New Testament that really lay it out. For us, it was Psalms chapter 29.

It is all laid out around one of the greatest principles you will ever find that will unlock the Bible for you: Romans 1:20.

20. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

There is no greater what I call an "unlocking" verse than that verse to show you. You got a good example of that last week, and even the week before on Thursday when I laid out the book of Ezekiel. This is really where I am coming from, and this is what I want to do when we go through the books of the Bible. In these last days before the Lord comes back, and hopefully He will come back before we finish, I want to give you everything I can. If we just take one book a month and really devour it on that night. Then you have the other three weeks to get it into your Bible and I will show you how to do it. I have some other things I want to add to help you. My goal is for you to be able to go to any book in your Bible and be able to lay it out, show somebody, and teach somebody what the Word of God says. That is my goal.

All through the Bible, you find that God will have places just like that. I showed you how the devil will counterfeit and imitate Christ in every way to deceive man. I told you that my goal is to get you some depth in the Bible. I said Thursday night, there are many aspects to depth of the Bible. Sometimes when you talk about depth, you just think you are talking about really knowing the deep things of the Word of God. But as I said Thursday night, it is more than that. It is having the deep things of the Word of God, but depth also necessitates how you teach the Word of God, understanding the crowd that you are teaching to.

On Sunday morning like this, we have people who are older Christians, midline Christians, some are young Christians. Some of you know the Bible very well, some of you know the Bible pretty well, some of you are just getting into the Word of God. When I speak to you, I have to be cognizant of all of those groups. I cannot get so deep on one thing that I lose the crowd over here. You have to be able to blend it all together. Certainly, you boys that are going to the rest home this afternoon, and Loren over at Victory Baptist this morning. He would not be teaching Psalms 29 like I did last week. You have to be relevant to the people you are speaking to. That is the key. What good is having the greatest sermon in the world if nobody understands what you just said? Most Baptist preachers make the terrible mistake of continuing to speak after there is nothing left to be said. You have to understand the people you are dealing with. We are going to try to help you to get that because everybody here, for the most part, has a tremendous opportunity to be the witness that God wants you to be.

II. Introduction to Psalms 30

Today we are going to move into Psalms 30 which is another Psalm of David. David has always been a favorite of mine as one of the character studies that you can take through the Word of God. His life is a picture of what most Christians will go through in their life. He has his good times and he has his bad times.

I look at him, even though they are hundreds of years apart, they are great studies in the Bible like him and Abraham. If you want to study how to be God's friend, then you look at the life of Abraham because everything in there will show you how to build that relationship to become God's friend. But if you want to get God's heart, then you have to study David. They both will teach you two different aspects. You hear me talk a lot about a defining moment in our lives. A defining moment in our lives is when what you know about the Bible, what God has done in your life, and now you have come to the place that in your life you are now defined: either all in for the Lord, half in for the Lord, or nowhere to be found for the Lord.

In the Bible, when you look at guys like Abraham, Daniel, Jacob, and David, you will find that in their life, when you study it, what you want to look for within the life they have with God is their defining moment. That is the key. When you look at Abraham, you will find the defining moment that made him God's friend. When you look at David, you will find the defining moment where he got God's heart. It is an incredible aspect. But to David, there is a human side to him that always gets him into trouble, but there is a godly side to him that always gets him out of trouble. David will have times when he is totally out of fellowship and away from God. Yet, no man in the Old Testament can compare to him when he and God are in fellowship. He is a perfect

picture of the struggles that we go through in life. He is a perfect picture of the battles that we all have. He lost some, but he won the end battle.

David, if you remember, is Israel's first real king. Saul was the first king, but he was not God's choice; he was the people's choice. As you look through the years of the kings of Israel, once in Judah, when David comes into power and becomes the king. You will find that every one of the other kings found in Kings and Chronicles, every king that Israel has, is compared to David and his relationship with God. Whether they were a good king or a bad king. In Israel's two kings, the first two, you had Saul, who was the people's choice, then you had David, who was God's choice. Saul was the first king, which is a picture of your birth as a sinner in the flesh. Saul failed because he was the first king that represents your first birth. It was David who brought the blessings of God, but that was the second king, just like your second birth will bring the blessings of God. It is all through the Bible. Incredible stuff. One of the best studies you will ever take. If you want to get some inside information, **Arthur W. Pink wrote a book called "The Life of David"**. That, in my mind, is probably the best work you will ever find on it. It is a really good book.

David, in so many ways, will be a New Testament example for us in the Old Testament, just like John in the New Testament is a picture for us as a Christian. The Bible says in 1 Kings 15:5, that he did what was right all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.

5. Because David did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, and turned not aside from any thing that he commanded him all the days of his life, save only in the matter of Uriah the Hittite. 1 King 15:5

When you stop and look at that, that will get your attention. In his whole life, God said there is only one thing that he did wrong, and that was with Uriah, Bathsheba, and that story back there. It says he did what was right all the days of his life, except in that one matter. But you know what? That was not true. There were plenty of times David did not do what was right. I remember a time when he was away from God and Saul was chasing him, and he was at the gate, and the guy was there to kill him, and he started foaming at the mouth and pretending he was mad so the guy would not kill him. Why did God say that he did what was right all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite, when he did not? You know what you have there? You have an incredible study on our relationship with God. A great study on grace that God gives to us like He gave to David. It is a great study on what God sees in our heart even though we struggle in the flesh. It is an incredible study, and I wish I had time to even develop that this morning, but I do not.

The next thing you find is David has a love for the Word of God that set him apart from every other man probably in the Bible, and that would be Psalm 119. I do not even know what I am going to do when I get to Psalm 119. It is just unbelievable. 176 verses of what the Word of God will do for you if you love it, written by David. He is called in Acts 13:22, God Himself said, "David, the man after God's own heart."

22. And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will. Acts 13:22

Another thing that you see in his life that gives us an understanding of where we are at, is did you know that David and his family are the only men in the Old Testament that get God's eternal security? I know the difference between salvation in the Old Testament; there was no eternal security in the Old Testament. There is eternal security in the New Testament. God said in Acts 13:34, Isaiah 55:3, and Psalms 89:28, that God gave to David and his offspring the sure mercies of David.

*34. And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, **I will give you the sure mercies of David.** Acts 13:34*

*3. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, **even the sure mercies of David.** Isaiah 55:3*

*28. **My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.** Psalms 89:28*

You know what that is? That is a picture of our eternal security in the New Testament given to a man in the Old Testament that is one of the greatest examples of what we should be with God in the New Testament. It is incredible. So when we come to places like Psalms 30 today, hopefully we can see ourselves because there are some great lessons here, my dear friend, for every one of us.

III. Psalms 30

Now let us read together Psalms chapter 30. We will read the chapter and then we will examine it. We will cross back and forth from the doctrinal, the historical, and most importantly for you and for me, the inspirational. But here is what he says.

- 1. I will extol thee, O LORD; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.*
- 2. O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.*
- 3. O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.*
- 4. Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.*
- 5. For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.*
- 6. And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.*
- 7. LORD, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong: thou didst hide thy face, and I was troubled.*

8. *I cried to thee, O LORD; and unto the LORD I made supplication.*

9. *What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?*

10. *Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me: LORD, be thou my helper.*

11. *Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness.*

12. *To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.*

IV. Five Things David Thanks God for in Psalms 30

First off, I want to look at this from a historical standpoint to kind of give us a foundation of what we want to look at here. When we come down and read this, you will find that God has done five things for David, and he is looking back in his life and he is thanking God for what God has done.

1. God has lifted him up.
2. God has not allowed his enemies to have victory over him.
3. God has healed him.
4. God has given him a prosperous physical life.
5. He has kept him from going down to the pit or from going to hell.

If you remember that when David committed the act of adultery and murder with Bathsheba and Uriah the Hittite, those are the only two sins in the Bible where there is no sacrifice for, and the only price that needs to be paid is the giving of your own life. God spared him from that, gave him the sure mercies of David. There is a reason why God did that. We do not have time for that either.

V. Psalms 30 - Doctrinally

Doctrinally, we will see this will be a millennial psalm. Israel is now in the millennium and looking back and seeing how the hand of God worked through their nation. When you go through something, you do not always see it the way that God is doing it. Many times, after the fact, when you go through something, you get a little wisdom and insight, and you look back and then you can see the hand of God. Right now, Israel has no clue of what God is interacting in their nation and their people. But when they get into the millennium, they are going to look back at this time right now, all the way down through history, and they will better understand the hand of God. Verses 1 through 11 speak of all their struggles within history, the tribulation, and now they are back in fellowship with God and how they are giving the glory to God now forever. It is an idea and it is a picture of how God is going to restore the nation of Israel.

When David got the sure mercies of David, he got the eternal security for him and his family. But at the same time, Israel too as a nation gets a promise of salvation and a security in that

salvation where the Bible says in Romans 11:29, that the gifts and calling of God to Israel are without repentance.

29. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. Romans 11:29

A lot of people take that word "repentance" to mean that Israel does not continually do wrong and does not have to repent. That is not what he is talking about. The word "repentance" has nothing to do with you or your sin. The word "repentance" has to do with you changing directions and going another way. What he is saying in Romans 11 is that God made some promises to the nation of Israel. He made those promises through Abraham. He made those promises through the prophets in the Old Testament. He gave them promises, and even though Israel does not do what is right, even though Israel today is a long way from God, God is going to keep those promises for Israel, going to bring them back, going to restore them, and put them in the millennium. Israel too is going to get those promises. When they are in the millennium, they are going to look back, and they are going to see what God really did to get them where He wanted them to be.

VI. Psalms 30 – Inspirational

Psalms chapter 30 is also a picture, **inspirationally**, of our eternal security for the New Testament believer. As I said, right now we go through tough times. Sometimes we get out of fellowship. Sometimes we do this or do that, or we just go through some struggles in life. We do not see the hand of God in it when we are going through it. But in time, when you look back, you see what God was doing. You do not always see it. That is where faith and trusting God's promises will get you through everything that you have to go through.

When I look at Psalms chapter 30, I am teaching it to you today from my perspective, what it means to me. Hopefully it will mean the same thing to you. There are places in the Bible where I can have, "I believe it says this and you believe it says that", and everything is fine and we do not really know for sure. Not here. This is something that every child of God, if you are saved this morning can through the life of David—I know I find myself like David stopping and considering all that God has done for me. This is a great reflection chapter. If you remember, the Bible says that we as God's people, we have three infirmities. One of those three infirmities is simply forgetting everything that God has done for us. As I look at this and I see David looking at God and his relationship and seeing God's hand in his life, I cannot help but see in my own life God's hand in my life. His, like we talked about in Psalms 28, his saving strength.

VII. Seven Valuable Truths Found in Psalms 30

I break this Psalms down for me, into seven valuable truths that I find in my own life, and if you look hard enough, you should find them too.

➤ God Healed Me of the Disease of Sin. (Verse 2-3)

In verse 2-3 it says David cried unto the Lord and He healed him. Then it says He brought my soul up from the grave, and then it says He kept me from going down to the pit.

For me, that is the day God saved me. That is the day that God healed me of my disease of sin. The Bible says that, and this is the great passage on the crucifixion over there in Isaiah chapter 53, when He was on that cross and He died in my place, it says in Isaiah 53:5, "with His stripes we are healed."

*5. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and **with his stripes we are healed.** Isaiah 53:5*

That healing is the infection that we had of sin because of Adam's fall. That passed upon all men that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. I know that sin is not a physical disease, but sin is a spiritual disease. In Psalm 40:1-3, I have quoted it to you many, many times, you will find that the horrible pit that He saved me from.

1. I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.

*2. **He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.***

3. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. Psalms 40:1-3

Yet when I go through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and I have told you this before, every man, every woman in those gospels that has a disease—a woman with an issue of blood, blind Bartimaeus, the man who was halt and lame, the man who had unclean spirits—every one of those represents my condition before the Lord healed me. I had an issue with my blood. I was blinded to the things of God. I was halt and lame and had no walk with God, and I was under the influence of every demonic thing that was out there. But God healed me of my disease, what the world at the crucifixion called Him in mocking, having no idea that it was a true statement, the Great Physician.

➤ Weeping May Endure for a Night (Verse 5)

Another thing I see, and I will tell you again, I cannot speak for you here. I am preaching this to me. Then in verse 5, the second thing, a great promise and principle for my life. It says, "*weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.*"

You know, for the child of God, this world and everything in it, it will never be your friend. I look at God's people that I believe are truly saved. They go back to the world and they walk away from God. They walk away from the Bible. They walk away from church. They walk away from everything God had for them. I look at that and I ask myself; what in the world can the world do for you that is better than what God could do for you? I mean, honestly, what enticement does the devil have? What reward does he have? **What does the world have to offer you that could take the place of what God and that book will do in your life?**

For the child of God, the world and everything in it will never be your friend. Life will be a veil of tears, my dear friend. Life will be filled with disappointment, broken families, broken

marriages, broken dreams, sorrow. You see, when sin came into the world in Genesis 3, sin and the curse that sin brings with it fell on all men, saved and lost. In this world, even if you are saved, there is going to be heartache. There is going to be death. You are going to have to say goodbye to someone special in your life. There will be disease. There will be tough times. There will be trials in this life. I think that God's people do not understand that salvation will not take away the tough times. I grew up in churches where pastors stood in a pulpit and they told people, if you got saved, that it would solve every problem in your life and people would get saved based on that. I get that, but that is not true. **When you got saved, it solved all your problems as far as eternity is concerned. But life is a veil of tears**, my dear friend. God's people will still get cancer. They will still have strokes. They will still have heart attacks. They will die in car accidents. Some will drown. Some will get some terrible disease. Some terrible accident will befall them. Some will commit suicide, saved people. Some will drink themselves to death, drug themselves to death. Some will shoot themselves, hang themselves. This life has nothing for you. Why God's people insist that living a life in this world is better than a life with God, I will never understand. **I am telling you, dear folks, now listen to me, God's hand in your life will never get you past those things. But His hand in your life will get you through those things. God's saving strength.**

Verse 5 says, "*weeping may endure for a night.*" That is the church age. If you know anything about your Bible at all, you know that in Daniel chapter 7, 1 Thessalonians chapter 5, and Romans chapter 13, paints the picture of the church age as the nighttime. It is during this time that the church age is the nighttime. It is during this time that we are living in this world that our weeping may endure for a night. But 2 Peter 1:19 says, that when the day star rises in our heart with healing in His wings, there is a day coming when weeping may endure for a night, but joy does come in the morning.

19. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:
2 Peter 1:19

That will be 1 Corinthians chapter 15, 1 Thessalonians chapter 4, Song of Solomon chapter 2. That will be the day that God comes down to rapture His bride out of the darkness of this night with all of its heartache, with all of its problems, that yes, weeping may endure for a night, but joy does come in the morning. **That morning, as I said last week, when you hear that clap of thunder and in that, "Come up hither!"**

I think one of the things most of God's people never see and understand will be based on the suffering in life that we have to go through in the context of Christ's suffering in life that He suffered on the cross. You see, He suffered for me so He could pay my sin debt and then set me free and healed me. So now in this life, He has asked me to suffer for Him. Nowhere compared to His suffering for me. But He suffered for me to pay my sin debt, and now in this life I need to suffer for Him to give Him the honor and the glory that He so deserves. 2 Timothy 2:12 is a great verse that says, if we suffer with Him, we shall also reign with Him: but if we deny Him, He also will deny us.

12. If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: 2 Timothy 2:12

Guys take that out of context and say, "See there, if you deny Him, that means you are going to lose your salvation." No, keep it in the context, bugwit. If we suffer, we will also reign with Him. But if we deny Him, He will deny us. You know what us denying Him is? Suffering. Then you know what He denies us? The reign. There it is.

Romans 8: 28 says, *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."* I do not understand everything that happens in the Christian world with people. Yes, I see people who love God, love the Word of God, did everything right, and they get some terrible disease, and some scumbag out there that is worthless seems to get a free pass or it seems like that as he goes through life. Sometimes we look at that and we do not understand. The only thing I can tell you when I do not understand things like that, I do understand this: He suffered for me, I need to suffer for Him. It is just that simple. The things that will get me through the nighttime is my love and looking forward to the morning.

➤ Joy Cometh in the Morning (Verse 5)

In the Bible, there are five crowns that you could get. The crowns show up at the judgment seat of Christ. It looks like they are thrown at the feet of Jesus at some point. Those five crowns are different than your millennial inheritance in the Bible. But you know, when you look at those five crowns, one of them, which I think is the easiest one to get, is found in 2 Timothy 4:8. It is called the crown of righteousness.

8. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. 2 Timothy 2:8

You know what that crown is? It is the crown that God gives us because we look forward and love the appearing of Him at the rapture of the church. You do not have to do anything. You do not have to win anybody to Christ. You do not have to... You just simply in your heart know you are in the nighttime. Know that there is absolutely no friend to you in this world. Then your heart looking forward to Him coming back and taking you out of this in the morning. It is the easiest crown. But I will tell you right now, it is probably the one that most of God's people will never get. We are too busy looking at everything else. We are too busy setting our affections on everything else. I understand I will not get past the suffering, but looking to His coming for me will get me through it. Every child of God should look forward to the day, that morning when He comes to take us home. Because Romans 8:18 tells us, *"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."*

It is hard to grasp that when you are going through something. Simply, He paid the price for me, and now I will pay the price for Him, whatever that may be. If my life is in the hand of God and

His hand is in mine, I may not understand why God deals me the cards He does, but it is a hand I am going to play. I will get through the night because my joy comes in the morning.

John 16:21 tells the story of a woman who is in travail, who is going to have a baby, and it talks about that, and it is making a likeness to Israel, but we can use it too.

21. A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. John 16:21

While she is going through that travail, going to deliver that baby, she is in all kinds of pain and agony. Obviously, men cannot have babies, but if you went into their delivery room with your wife, you know that it is a very tough time. But then the Bible says after she goes through the pain of labor, after she goes through the pain of delivery, she holds that little baby in her arms, she forgets all about the pain she went through. I am going to tell you; weeping may endure for a night. You may have some heartache, you may have some struggles, you may have some things that you never figured out that you have got to go through but I am telling you, fifteen seconds when you are on the other side, you will have forgotten all about it. That is what will get you through. That is what God does for us.

➤ In My Prosperity (Verse 6)

Then verse 6, what a great verse. “*And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.*” We all know people who are good people, who leave God, they leave the Bible, they leave churches and simply go back to the world. I am sure that you see that. I have seen it for years and for a long time, I did not understand it, but in time you grow, you understand those things. The reason why they do that is because there is no real spiritual prosperity in their life. Their Christian life just goes along. I have seen some of them that were into terrible churches that were very legalistic, or very this or very that, and they got burned out on it, and when they saw the real truth of it, they just could not make the separation.

I grew up in the 70s when the lottery just started, and all the Baptist preachers, oh you should have heard them back in the day. It was gambling and they preached against the lottery. You know how God fixes guys' wagons like that? There was a church up in someplace in Cleveland, or someplace where the pastor, who was just a normal guy, he was just tearing it up, like my pastor was in Canton. “You should not do the lottery, the lottery is of the devil, da da da da da da. You are gambling, you are gambling, da da da da da da.” Then somebody in his church won ten million dollars. You know what the dilemma was? The guy wanted to tithe off what the devil's winnings was and the pastor took it. If he really had been true to his convictions, he would have said, “I am not taking that tithe,” but he took it.

But you know, aside from that, most of you I would hope, you older folks anyhow, are preparing for retirement. So, you get a 401K, or you get whatever they are, you know, those kinds of deals. If you work someplace that is a quality place, they set one up for you. Most of you young kids do not think about that, but I am telling you, you should. You are 20 and 30 right now, and you think it is no big deal. Blink your eyes real quick, and you will be 60. Then you will learn to blink a lot

slower. But you know, as well as I do, if you say, "Well, I got \$10,000 here, I am going to put it in a Roth IRA, or I am going to put it in a 401K," and you just leave it there. Thirty, forty years from now, you are going to make some money on it, but you are not going to have enough to live on. You know what you have got to do when you make an initial investment? You have got to add to that investment. You made an initial investment the day you got saved. The prosperity of the Christian life starts with your initial investment, and then you are adding to it. When you do not add anything to it, that is what happens. It is just that simple.

Now, I cannot speak for you, only myself today. I make my share of bad choices and do stupid things just like everybody else. I am a rotten, godless sinner just saved by God's grace. I understand that all I deserve is the lake of fire. I get it. But I am going to tell you something. In spite of all of that, I will never be moved off the rock that God set my feet on. His Word, His calling. I may have my problems, and I may have my issues, but I am not going back to the world. I know some of God's people struggle so much with that. I tell you, I look at that and I see guys and gals who struggle in and out and in and out, and somebody will say, "Why is that?" There is no investment. There is no prosperity in your life.

➤ I said, I Shall Never be Moved (Verse 6)

Listen, Psalm 40:2, when I got saved, He set my feet upon a rock and established my going, and I will not be moved off that rock.

2. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. Psalms 40:2

Yes, I will do some dumb things. You say, "Bob, that was the stupidest thing I ever saw in my life." Amen. But you know what? There is a Christian song that we used to sing at camp all the time. It is simply, "*I Shall Not Be Moved.*" and it says it all. It started out with "*Satan had me bound, but Jesus saved me*" and then everybody sings in the chorus, "*I shall not be moved.*" "*Like a tree planted by the river waters,*" and then everybody says, "*I shall not be moved.*" "*The church of God is marching forward.*" Everybody says, "*And I shall not be moved.*" *And now I am on my way to heaven, forgiven. And I shall not be moved.*

You want to know why I will never be moved, why you should never be moved? It is in verse 6. "*In my prosperity, I said, I shall never be moved.*" Seeing the hand of God in my life, all that He has done for me. I cannot speak for you. I am not preaching to you. I am preaching to me this morning. All He has done for me, my family, my ministry. I have a lot of problems. You think because I am up here preaching that I do not have any problems. You are wrong. I have as many problems as anybody else can have in life. But one problem I do not have. I will confess to every other one of them, but I do not have this one. That is the sin of ingratitude. I have a lesson in life that I follow rigorously: always take care of those who take care of you, and that goes with the Lord. I have learned in my Christian life, and all the dumb, wicked, stupid things that I am and I have done, I will never bite the hand that feeds me. I will never be moved off the rock He placed my feet on and established my going. I am telling you, there is nothing in this world. I do not care what relationship you are in. I do not care how many people you know, how popular you

are. I do not care how much money you got. The old song says it. "*No one ever cared for me, like Jesus.*"

There was a magazine that came out and talked about the ten richest men in America. Millionaires, billionaires. I read stuff like that, and I just laugh. You see guys like Bill Gates, man, who probably has got so much money that he could buy everything and everybody here. Elon Musk, are you kidding me? George Soros? Come on, man. I look at that stuff, and I see somebody like Patrick Mahomes, who plays great football, and I am not fighting it. I mean, yeah, I mean, you get crunched up pretty good there. Like what, \$350, \$400 million? That is incredible. But I look at all that and I just laugh. You know why I laugh? I am the richest man in the world. I cannot speak for you. Bill Gates, Elon Musk, George Soros, you couldn't touch my wealth. I stand before you today, the richest man on planet Earth. First off, I have the treasure of my salvation hidden inside my heart. I have the treasure of my Bible. I have the treasure of my family. I have the treasure of my ministry. I have the treasure of my church, and I have my treasure in the relationship I have with the Lord. Not always the best, it is far from perfect. But in my prosperity, I shall not be moved. In my prosperity, He invested in me. He did not have to, did not need to. Actually, He should not have, but He did. Because He invested in me, do not get it wrong, man. You need to understand, because of His investment in me, it is the only reason I am willing to invest what He gave me into you. Because that is the way it is supposed to work. **Who are you invested in?** You see, when I understood my prosperity, when I understood what He had given me, and I shall not be moved, I had to say to myself, He made the investment in me. I need to be the best return on that investment for Him that I can be. In my prosperity, all He has invested in me. Stop and think, all God has given us, compared to what the world wanted to give us. I look at that and I ask myself, why do so many of God's people think that serving the devil in the world will be better than serving God and His prosperity? I will never understand it, other than the fact: there is no investment.

➤ My Mourning Turned into Dancing (Verse 11)

Now, look at verse 11, and I love this. "*Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness.*" I was taught for years and years and years that Baptists do not dance. I am a terrible dancer. It is one of those things where some of you have some moves. But here, this is like in 2 Samuel 6:14, this is David dancing before the Lord, not before the world.

14. And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. 2 Samuel 6:14

And let me say in the context, you have every right to dance your dogs off. When you think about what is going to happen to you, when the Lord comes back and then when you compare it to what was going to happen to you before He saved you.

What am I about to say, I am not fighting anybody. I like my goofy stuff. You like your goofy stuff. My goofy stuff is just different than your goofy stuff. America is captivated with these things that they put on TV. American Idol. I know some of you cannot wait to watch it. The best part of American Idol is the beginning when they get all these really terrible singers on there.

You know what? They all have a common thread. They all think they are great singers. This is why I tell you young guys, when you start to preach, you need to get in front of them here, put a tape player on, and preach your sermon, and then listen to it, and you will find out, you will do what they should have done, and that is to sing and then listen to their own singing. But some people get so captivated by somebody wanting to be an American Idol. You know what is wrong with America already? We have got too many idols. I am not fighting it. Some of you would like to sit down there and listen to it, watch them. Some of them have made it all through. It is exciting. I get it. I am just making a point. I am not saying you should not do it. I am getting ready to make another point. Some of you like Dancing with the Stars. I am okay with that, because I dance with the stars every day. You just dance with the wrong ones. My stars are found in Revelation 9:1.

1. And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. Revelation 9:1

My stars are the ones that hang over the manger in Jerusalem. You see, the world has its stars that you dance with. God has His stars that you dance with. I do not care if you watch it. I mean, you are going to shimmy sham that stuff all you want, so I do not care.

➤ Put off My Sackcloth and Girded Me With Gladness (Verse 11)

Then he says "*thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness.*" Now if we jump over to the New Testament, this will be Colossians chapter 3: 9-10.

9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10. And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Colossians 3:9-10

Verse 9 says, "*ye have put off the old man with his deeds.*" There is the sackcloth gone. Verse 10, "*have put on the new man,*" there is the gladness, "*which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.*" You see, before salvation, we were alone in this world of darkness. I was without hope. I was without God. I had all kinds of plans in life that actually would have just led to the lake of fire. But now, we are a child of God. God is your Father, Christ is my Savior. In Romans 8:17 says that someday I am going to be a joint heir with Jesus Christ.

17. And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. Romans 8:17

I love what he says there when he says, "*girded me with gladness.*" That is Ephesians 6:13-14, that your loins, the strength of a man, girded about with truth.

13. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; Ephesians 6:13-14

Your gladness and joy will only be found in the Word of God, girded. A girder is something that is steel and strong that holds things together.

➤ Why Did God do this for Me? (Verse 12)

Now, here it comes. I preached everything I preached to get to this point right here. Here it comes, why? Why did God do all this for me? I would like to say, why did God do all this for me and you? But I cannot speak for you. Why? Everything I have laid out to you, why did God do this for me? Do what David did, stop, reflect in our lives and ask ourselves, why me? The answer is in verse 12.

12. To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever. Psalms 30:12

My job taking you as a church, as individuals, building you, training you, giving you the Word of God is to get you to this end. Because Christ told us in Acts 1:8, that He wanted us to be witnesses unto Him in Jerusalem and Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the world.

8. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8

David said in Psalms 107:2

2. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy.

I cannot speak for you, but in Christianity today, the silent majority of Christianity, as far as God is concerned, is a disgrace to God and the Holy Bible. I am not talking about going out and passing out tracts or preaching here or doing this, I am talking about the living sacrifice of your life. Listen, the chief end of every one of us, any child of God, is to glorify God. To glorify God and enjoy the fellowship of His presence forever.

Years ago, I heard a preacher preach on self-sacrifice, all the things that we should be doing, and he said this, and I never forgot it. **If you are not living a sacrificial life and glorifying God through your life, that you were denying and defeated God's purpose in creating you in the first place.** No truer words were ever spoken. If we are not a living sacrifice and our lives glorify God through our lives, then we are defeating God's purpose in creating us in the first place. Why did He do it? Listen, I do not know a lot of things in life, but I know why God saved me. Like Christ, I can say, when Christ said it in John 18:37, Jesus said, and He understood it too, He said, for this cause came I into the world.

*37. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and **for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth.** Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice. John 18:37*

I know why God saved me. He saved me to glorify Him. I wished I would have done a better job than I have done. But through my life, my family, my job, my friends, my enemies, He saved me to brag about His Son. He saved me to talk about Him. He saved me to proclaim Him to a lost world, to go wherever He would send me to go. He saved me to, as Psalm 68:11 says,

11. The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it. Psalms 68:11

He saved me to publish the Word of God. Wherever I go, He saved me to bring the light into a dark world. John 17:17 says that my job was to "*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*" If I may speak frankly, aside from us doing that, I have no business even to be here. I have no business even to be alive. If the initial reason that God saved me was to glorify Him, and I am going to take everything that God has given me, everything that I have, and glorify somebody or something else, I have no business even being alive, and neither do you. It is not about my house, it is not about my hobbies, not about my car, my job, my money, or all of the things that we all love to do and there is nothing wrong with it. We all need those little breaks in life, but it never should take the place of glorifying Him.

VIII. Summary

Verse 12 says this, and I end with this, "***to the end.***" **How dare I ever quit?** How dare I ever give up? How dare I could ever go back to the world? David is sitting there and he is writing this psalm, and he is remembering, he is reflecting. He is looking back at everything that God has done for him. The prosperity that He has given him and David knows it as much as I know it in my life. David did not deserve it any more than I do or any more than you do. In Matthew 24:13, and this is the doctrinal answer to the end. In Matthew 24:13 in the tribulation period, the Jew has to endure unto the end to be saved.

13. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. Matthew 24:13

But so do I in Psalms 30 verse 12. I do not have to endure to the end to be saved. **But I need to endure to the end because I am saved.** That is the difference. Looking back and seeing the hand of God in your life, understanding why God saved you.

This year, as we move closer, after what God has given us this last year, and then our conference, I am going to redouble my efforts and everything I can do to make the investment in you based on the investment He made in me. So, your spiritual 401K can keep up to date, and you experience the prosperity of God, in your family, in your personal life. In everything that you do, you see the hand of God, and you too, like David, could look back and say, no, you are not perfect. No, we have all made our mistakes. It is hard for any of us to point our finger at anybody else and say, "Look at this," when all you have got. You may point, but as somebody said, you point your finger at somebody, you have got three fingers pointing back to you. In spite of that, the hand of God in our life. **Why? For the end result, "*to the end, that my glory may sing praises to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.*"**