The Call to Praise Pt. 6

Psalm 34:1-10

- Personal Resolve to Praise v. 1
- A. In All Circumstances
- B. From My Mouth

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- C. Rooted In Heart's Posture

Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

Hebrews 13:15

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 - A./Encourages the Humble

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- 1. Testimony backing the praise vv. 4-7
- A./Problem

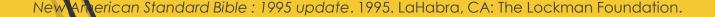
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 - Other's Testimony Aligns with Mine

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:18



What keeps us from finding hope and encouragement from this testimony?

- Shrinking world that looks to ourselves or elsewhere for relief
- Compare with us and our situation
- When focus is on uncertainties around rather that certainties of God when they loom larger than God
- Fear's émotions dominate conscious effort after this initial
- Too much of outcome relies on us also recognizing not prepared
- Living something different than what we say we believe
- The God we look to
 - We want to see or understand all by ourselves (We don't want to change)
- Looking for resolution not the God who saves
- His testimony not connected to our situation in a "real/alive" way i.e. spiritual warfare reality, not the metaphor

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Heightened perceptions of bias and discrimination are robustly associated with mental anguish, social strain, and adverse physical outcomes," according to an examination of the data in American Affairs. "The more people perceive themselves to be surrounded by others who harbor bias or hostility against them, and the more they view their life prospects as hostage to a system that is fundamentally rigged against them, the more likely they become to experience anxiety, depression, [and] psychogenic and psychosomatic health problems."

Janie Cheaney Put this in English

- Victim people against me & makes me sick & depressed
- More gare about what what others think/culture says, less have coveted individuality
- Since all against me, have no way forward, if these things not true, my life would have been so much better
- Perception of what connected with affects emotions & physical experience
- Social media seems to amplify our voice, emotions and sense of reality so that almost unbelievable
- Prople falling into these categories place burden of "fixing it" on others
- Lock of purpose & identify from God
- Parhaps created (perception, subjective)

What keeps us from finding hope and encouragement from this testimony?

- 1. Feel that the weight of our own sin disqualifies us from encouragement from God
- 2. Too focused on self and what deliverance looks like
- 3. Not willing to do the work to cultivate encouragement from God

"Meditation is like the lawyer's studying the case in order to his pleading at the bar: when, therefore, thou hast viewed the promise, and affected thy heart with the riches of it, then fly thee to the throne of grace, and spread it before the Lord."

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In my distress I called upon the LORD, And cried to my God for help; He heard my voice out of His temple, And my cry for help before Him came into His ears. Psalm 18:6

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"Like a swallow, like a crane, so I twitter; I moan like a dove; My eyes ook wistfully to the heights; O Lord, I am oppressed, be my security.

Isaiah 38:14

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"The more we can think upon our Lord and the less upon ourselves, the petter. Looking to him, as he is seated upon the right hand of the throne of god, will keep our heads, and especially our hearts, steady when going though the deep waters of affliction." David Smith

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13–14

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Philippians 3:13–14

"There is a goal, and a prize, and an upward call. Do we reach for the prize, or circle around our grievances until they suck us right down the drain?"

Janie Cheaney

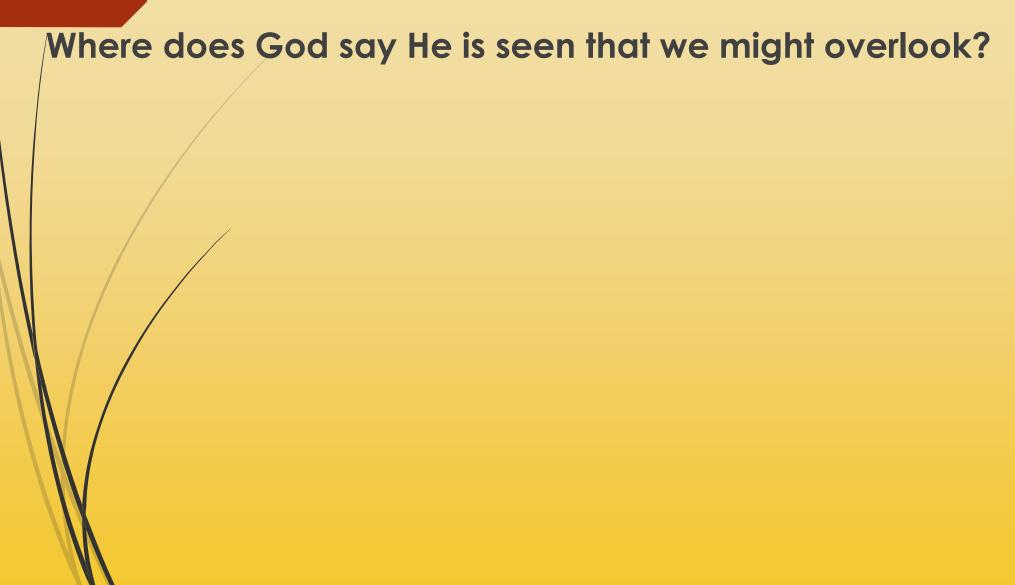
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- IV\Continued Appeal to Join in Praise vv. 8-10
 - A Desirable Results for Those Who Follow My Testimony to God

What accompanies this tasting that we must include if we would hope to experience the goodness of the Lord and join the psalmist in praise?



What is included in biblical fear?

"There is nothing more unfriendly to true piety than its degenerating into irreverence and familiarity with God." W. S. Plumer What does irreverence and familiarity with God include?