The Call to Praise Pt. 9

Psalm 34:1-10

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

- Personal Resolve to Praise v. 1
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- C. Rooted In Heart's Posture

- . Personal Resolve to Praise v. 1, 2a
- A. In All Circumstances
- B. From My Mouth
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- II. Public Effect of Personal Praise vv. 2b-3
 - A./Encourages the Humble

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 - B. Draws a Line Between Those Who Praise and Those Who Don't

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

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 - A./Problem
 - Q./ Disposition and Action in the Midst of the Problem

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 - God's Work

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 - Other's Testimony Aligns with Mine

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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

Where does God say He is seen that we might overlook? What is required to see Him there?

- The heavens and creation
- Provision shelter, food, church
- Work of meditating + recording who God is and what is promised
- Ps. 5 abundant loving-kindness to draw near to God and worship
- Strength to do His will
- Seeing Him in the ordinary (mundane)
- Meditating on promises of God intentionally throughout the day
- Watch missing God as we read His word (relationship drives our hearts as we study)
- s. 119:67,75,71 learn through affliction

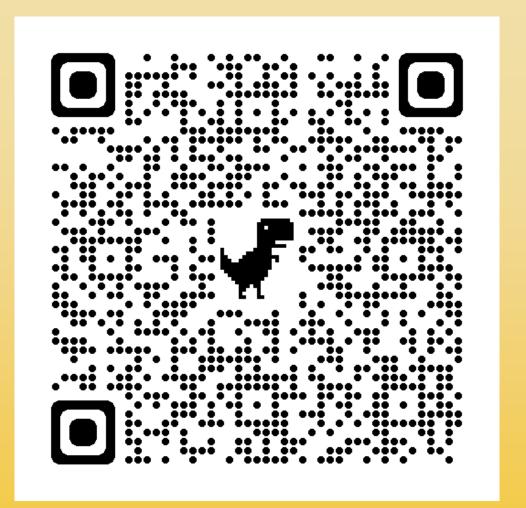
What is included in biblical fear?

- Respect
- Awe
- Know His character
- Loving His commandments
- Ps. 63 seek earnestly, seen you in the sanctuary
- Recognizing position God over us
- Psalm 119: 63, 74, 79 ties believers together which leads to rejoicing
- Ps. 34:11 teach fear seek peace + pursue, eternal God is more than enough,
 doing what is needed so I can serve Him today
 - V/.14 depart from evil
 - Wisdom starts with Him

How to Fear God Wrongly

Owen Strachan, Grace & Truth Podcast, November 16, 2023

"True Biblical Christianity in sum is not about negative fear. It is about worshipful engagement of a good God."



"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?

- Pushing boundaries or neglecting them all together
- Not acknowledging God for goodness, authority, love
- God looking like us so projecting our likes/values on to Him
- Not meditating on His Holiness
- Running away from Him, not valuing His presence
- Lack of obedience in face of stated consequences, lack of willingness to persevere through suffering or loneliness

"They devour the gifts of God without relishing them, or through a vitiated loathing ungratefully conceal them."

John Calvin

Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, 2 like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, 3 if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord. 4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1

Peter 2:1–5

What accompanies tasting in this passage?

- Mplies something favorable
- Starting with fresh slate (cleansed palette)
 - Open to something new appetite what for more of this new kind
 - Seeing value of what others have rejected & willing to sacrifice for it
 - Sin becomes more distasteful
 - Phil 4:11-13 shows contentment with what received from God
- Something precious in relationship with God

For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.

Hebrews 6:4-6

"There are some things, especially in the depths of the religious life, which can only be understood by being experienced, and which even then are incapable of being adequately embodied in words. 'O taste and see that the Lord is good.' The enjoyment must come before the illumination; or rather the enjoyment is the illumination. There are things that must be loved before we can know them to be worthy of our love; things to be believed before we can understand them to be worthy of belief. And even after this—after we are conscious of a distinct apprehension of some spiritual truth, we can only, perhaps, answer, if required to explain it, in the words of e philosopher to whom the question was put, 'What is God?' 'I know, if I n not asked.'" Thomas Binney

What does this quote tell us about tasting/seeing/fearing—about the nature of saving faith?

- More we taste/see, more we want
- We are often too easily please (i.e. mud pies in slum vs. day at shore, Plato's cave)
- True fear of Lord motivates for more 2 Cor. 5, love of Christ
- Go and find for yourself
- Want to know God through word, but experience is part of healthy relationship

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

"Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' 32 "For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. 34 "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:31-34

What would make us choose to be like the lions rather than to seek the Lord?

- Impatience
- Settling for less rather than the best
- Thinking I can do it better (deluded)
- Incomplete understanding of who God is

"Sometimes I tried to pray, but this only increased my distress and made me cry out for annihilation to free me from the agony which seemed unsupportable . . . It was in vain that I sought the Lord in any of the lofty pathways through which my heart wished to go. At last I found it impossible to carry on the struggle any longer alone. I would gladly have put myself at the feet of a little child, if by so doing I could have found peace. I felt so guilty and the character of God appeared so perfect in its purity and holiness that I knew not which way to turn.

The sin which distressed me most of all was the rejection of the Saviour. This haunted me constantly, and made me fly first to one thing and then another, in the hope of finding somewhere the peace which I would not accept from Him. It was at this time that I kept reading over the first twelve chapters of Doddridge's 'Rise and Progress' . . . So great was my agony that I can only wonder at the goodness of Him who held my life in His hands, and would not permit me in the height of my despair to throw myself away."

Elizabeth Prentiss

"While listening to [sermon on 'Christ's ability to save to the uttermost] my weary spirit rested itself, and I thought 'Surely it cannot be wrong to think of the Sayiour, although He is not mine'. With this conclusion I gave myself up to admire, to love and to praise Him, and to wonder why I had never done so before, and to hope that all the great congregation around me were joining with me in acknowledging Him to be chief among ten thousand and the One altogether lovely . . . From this time my mind went slowly onward, examining the way step by step, trembling and afraid, yet filled with a calm contentment which made all the dealings of God with me appear just right. I know myself to be perfectly helpless. I can not promise do or to be anything; but I do want to put everything else aside, and to devote myself entirely to the service of Christ." Elizabeth Prentiss

What crosses your mind as you listen?

- God won't let His own Go
- Eyes off of me and focused on Him

"All that the believer can attain of spiritual consolation in this life is but a taste."

David Dickson

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"Among all the redeemed in glory there is not one who looks back and sees that on earth there was any mistake in the divine conduct towards him."

W. S. Plumer