

## The Call to Praise Pt. 8

### Psalm 34:1-10, CBC, Wednesday, November 15, 2023 ?????

I. **Personal Resolve to Praise** A. **In All Circumstances** this praise is heard B. **From My Mouth** <sup>1</sup> I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth; talking about praise . . . C. **Rooted in Heart's Posture** <sup>2</sup> My soul will make its boast in the LORD; psalmist's posture humbly focused on Lord as highest treasure

II. **Public Effect of Personal Praise** A. **It Encourages the Humble** The humble will hear it and rejoice. Those dependent, not independent, because know can't deliver themselves, can wait for God & see mercies from God/others and rejoice B. **It Draws a Line Between the Praisers and those who won't.** <sup>3</sup> O magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together. This heart that sees God as good/great and looks to Him finding much to thank Him for will seem foreign or possibly grate against those not seeing God good/great b/c focused on needs/desires/what seeking to get for themselves apart from God; what look place today that God would think you should praise Him for? Psalmist says, I'm glad to tell you! III. **Testimony Backing the Praise vv. 4-7** A. **Problem** I have troubles/need of deliverance, I'm in danger, need rescue, I'm not safe or secure, need freedom from fears B. **Disposition and Action in midst of the problem** though I'm afflicted/needy, weak, yet even in this miserable state, I Sought the Lord, one noted, faced fear with fear; (exchanges terror with reverential fear of Lord)—trust He over all, this NOT beyond His power—therefore look to Him, cry to Him C. **God's work He answered, Delivered, rescues** not merely from troubles, but addressed fears! God stood guard watching His own, angel of the Lord encamps D. **Other's Testimony Aligns with Mine v. 5** <sup>5</sup> They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces will never be ashamed. whenever faithful/humble turn to Lord, faces lightened; never be ashamed, something greater than fear, terror, gloom—NOT just change of circumstances, but eternal perspective where willing to wait to find goodness of Lord in circumstances; conclude from v. 5 that the object of your faith changes you, psalmist finds this in God alone! 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 MUST look like 3. not willing to do work to cultivate encouragement from God worldview here? fearing/reverencing God implies seeking help from God—THIS leads to deliverance; practically, Spurgeon to be heard of God is to be delivered, what does this mean for us? Work of not only prayer, but studying His provision—big quotes, Spurgeon quoted William Gurnall v. 4 "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." v. 6 cried—want cannot blush Samuel Rutherford in Spurgeon—fervecy heard Lk. 18, Ps. 55:17, Is. 38:14 David Smith, "The more we can think upon our Lord and the less upon ourselves, the better. 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 through the deep waters of affliction." p. 129 this is psalmist's personal testimony—be encouraged! "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 Phil. 3:13-14 Gave couple of examples last week of they looked to Him and were radiant/faces never ashamed; Edward Payson "what a blessed thing it is to lose one's will. Since I have lost my will I have found happiness. There can be no such things as disappointment to me, for I have no desires but that God's will might be accomplished. Christians might avoid much trouble if they would only believe what they profess, viz., that God is able to make them happy without anything but Himself. They imagine that if it is such a dear friend were to die, or such and such a blessing removed, they should be miserable, whereas God can make them a thousand times happier without them. To mention my own case, God has been depriving me of one blessing after another, but as every one was removed He has come in a filled up its place, and now, when I am a cripple and unable to move, I am happier than ever I was in my life before or expected to be, and if I had believed this twenty years ago I might have been spared much anxiety." P. 9 THIS is the disposition of psalmist; listen, he is calling for us to experience his joy from God IV. **Continued Appeal to Join in Praise vv. 8-10** A. **Desirable Results for Those Who Follow My Testimony to God** <sup>8</sup> O taste and see that the Lord is good; All want to be around someone who is good—for as much as we talk about not building life on feelings and experiences, here, called to feel/experience—notice what accompanies that taste How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! <sup>9</sup> O fear the Lord, you His saints; For to those who fear Him there is no want. Taste, see, fear work together—action required; we have worked SO HARD to say that salvation not by works and to trust in what God has done that neglect work of trusting God—work of yielding to Spirit in process of sanctification; David Powlison How Does Sanctification Work? Pp. 53-55 "Sanctification essentially involves the activity of remembering, believing, and resting on justification. Rehearsal of Jesus's substitutionary death for your sins is the key dynamic driving our sanctification. Self-salvation through our efforts is the sin of sins. The attempt at self-justification through performance is the deepest, most persistent, and most significant problem hindering and necessitating sanctification. When the Bible says to 'make every effort,' the struggle of the Christian life is about the work of remembering that we are justified and accepted by what Christ has done. Sanctification is not about our behavior, but about clinging to Christ's mercy." P. 54 restated more modestly these read, "Sometimes you are sanctified by pointedly remembering that God justifies you on the basis of Christ's righteousness, atoning sacrifice, and resurrection. Basing your relationship with God on your performance is one common problem that both calls for sanctification and hinders sanctification. Sometimes it is a struggle to remember that you are justified by Christ's work—and it is worth struggling to get that foundation clear." P. 55 must take action to join psalmist; what action? First, taste and see--in order to taste/see (believe for self, experience) as good, have to be around Him—see Him Spurgeon "Faith is the soul's taste" p. 124 therefore, How/ where are you showing faith in God today/now? (where does God say He is seen that we might overlook? What is required to see Him there? take refuge—wise taste BY coming for safety (funeral trip, bombed my brother's house—beds filled, showered, towels/sheets used, food eaten, walked away—how did we know safe, proper—how go to sleep? Relationship—know something about—been with, experienced—FEAR the Lord—what is involved in biblical fear? Reverence/respect, not terror unless – "There is nothing more unfriendly to true piety than its degenerating into irreverence and familiarity with God." Plumer, p. 419 What does irreverence and familiarity with God include?

Psalm 55:17 Evening and morning and at noon, I will complain and murmur, And He will hear my voice.

Isaiah 38:14 "Like a swallow, like a crane, so I twitter; I moan like a dove; My eyes look wistfully to the heights; O Lord, I am oppressed, be my security.

Matthew 6:31-34 "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.

Philippians 3:13-14 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, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 6:4-6 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.

1 Peter 2:1-5 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, <sup>2</sup> like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, <sup>3</sup> if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord. <sup>4</sup> 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, <sup>5</sup> 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.