

## Psalm 30 David's Walk with God

by Pastor Roy Hogan

This Psalm is filled with praise unto the good and almighty LORD of Glory. The word LORD is found ten times in this short chapter of twelve verses. There are several other references to the LORD in the form of pronouns.

The title most often given to this chapter is “A Psalm and Song at the Dedication of the House of David.” Hiram, king of Tyre, helped to build David a house as recorded in II Samuel 5:11 *And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David an house.* Likely, this was an attempt by Hiram to befriend David who was king of a nation more powerful than his kingdom. Other Bible commentators think this house in II Samuel 5:11 is a house other than David's personal house. Whatever the place may have been is not so important. What is most important is that the Scripture itself may glorify God and uplift all who will take it to heart.

30:1-3

*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.*

David could rightly be called the “man with many enemies.” He had a great heart, but that did not stop him from having enemies. He was a wonderful king, but that did not stop enemies from attacking him. King Saul was his enemy. He hid from Saul for years. He had enemies among friends, namely, Shimei. He had enemies in his household. His son Absalom once tried to take the throne of Israel from his father. Despite the many enemies, The LORD almighty lifted David above all opposition. Thus, great praise falls from the lips of David in these three verses.

How often do we win favor and blessings from God only to go our way and forget what God has done for us? We are all guilty. How can we ever praise him enough? If all God had done for me is to save me and deliver me from my former master, the Devil, I could not, in my lifetime, praise him enough. God performs miracles in my life, and I go onward taking Him for granted. I am thankful for Heaven in many ways, but the greatest desire I have for Heaven is when I get there, I will praise the LORD forever and forever.

In verse 1, David extols the LORD for what he had done for him. To extol is to *glorify* and *exalt*, to *lift up*. Due to all the affliction David suffered from his many enemies, the first and foremost matter he thanks the Lord for is deliverance from enemies. He praises the LORD not for a new home, but for deliverance from enemies. Freedom is a great thing. I just completed reading a war story of the doctor who delivered me into this world, Dr. Van Gorda. He served as a doctor in World War II. The price he paid, as described in the reading, broke my heart. My father was twice wounded on the front lines in Germany. He paid a great price. He suffered all his life from those wounds.

One early morning, Jesus Christ, the prince of Glory, walked up a small hill outside Jerusalem carrying a rugged cross. He was beaten. He was scorned. He was mocked. He was nailed to the cross and hoisted above the earth. He died a few hours later that same day. All this was to set men free from the grip of sin and Satan. Let us extol the LORD, as did David, for we have deliverance. We are new creatures. We are free men and women. We are out of bondage. Let us lift up the LORD! Let us glorify the LORD! We, like David, have been delivered.

Please note the primary message of verse 2 and 3- *we should never forget where God brought us from*. Verse 2 points to the healing of his physical body, and verse 3 points to the deliverance of his soul, that is, his spirit. We do not find that David was ever physically sick when we read of his life in the Old Testament. Yet, some of the Psalms seem to tell us he did experience physical sickness. Likely, there has never been a man or woman who lived that did not have at

least one experience with physical sickness. David remembered the time, or times, he was physically sick, and the LORD placed his hand of healing on him.

In verse 3, David remembers the time his spirit was wounded. His soul was hurting. Has your soul ever been wounded? If not, I predict it will be one day. At some time, or times, in his life, David's soul was in the grave. He felt spiritually dead. His heart was cut from his bosom. How would one's soul feel if it had been treated as disrespectfully as son Absalom treated his father David? David's spirit was so low he felt dead, useless, and no longer a human being. He spirit was in the *grave*. Oh, the pain and dread of a killed spirit! I have been there. It seems to hurt worse than does physical sickness. The death of my father killed my spirit. I was upright in body, but my soul was dead. A hurting heart even seems to hurt in one's sleep.

Once again it must be stated that we should never forget what God has brought us through. As human beings, this in one of our worst failures- forgetting from whence we came.

30:4

*Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.*

In verse 4, David breaks into singing. He sings praises for God's character. God is *holy*. We often we thank him for his grace and mercy, but seldom do we applaud his *holy* character. His *holiness* is as a consuming fire. The seraphim of heaven hid behind their own wings when they came close to holy God as recorded in Isaiah 6. Their only words to celebrate God were "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord."

God's holiness is the basis of all punishment. Why does this nation have a judicial system? Why does our country have jails and prisons? Why are fines levied for law-breaking? All of these things are predicated on the fact that God is Holy, Holy, Holy!

30:5

*For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.*

What a great blessing we find in verse 5! As holy as God is, he is equally compassionate. If this were not the case, there would be no world as we know it. When Adam and Eve sinned, this world would have gone up in flames. Psalm 7:11 *God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day.* Thankfully, his anger is only for a moment. I am grateful for this truth. I often kiddingly tell folk that one of the requirements for living in this county is to have been mad a someone for a minimum of 20 years. God is upset at me only for a moment. Why is this? This is because his favor, his delight, his desire, is *life*. The only reason God has ever been angry at anyone is their *sin*. Most all of us have heard the term “get over it!” How does God “get over it” when he is angry regarding the sin of mankind? He sent his son to die on the cross as a propitiation for the sin of mankind. The only recourse any human being has in reconciling his sin with God is the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Hebrews 9:22 *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.* I seem never to be able to forget the simple message I heard from a missionary a few years ago. The Message was entitled “God is for us; he is not against us.”

Weeping is a traveler. Weeping has come by my house for a night’s stay more than one time. I am quite sure he has also come by your house. Weeping never sends a notice that he is coming. All seems to be going well, and then, a knock comes to the door. I go to the door, and, oh no, it is *weeping*. He wants to spend the night. He will not take “no” for an answer. The night seems so long. Minutes seem as hours. Puddles form in the hollow of our ears as we lie on our back weeping as we look heavenward. We have the promise daylight will come, but we sure wish it would hurry. What is that I see? Gradually, light begins to appear through the window. The tears begin to cease. Could the night that seemed never to pass finally be ending? A noise is heard. It is weeping packing his belongings in his suitcase. Morning has arrived! A knock comes to the door. I go to

the door, and I cannot believe what I am seeing. It is none other than joy who says “good morning, may I come in?”

After joy have been in the house five minute, we have forgotten weeping was ever there. Only God can do such a thing. *Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.* One day, because I am saved by God’s grace, I will be in a land where there is no night. *Weeping* is not comfortable or welcome there. He is a night person. Isn’t God good?

30:6-7

*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.*

I wish life was a buffet. I could then pick what I like. I would pass over such things as separation. I would pass over the container containing death. I would pass over conflict. I would choose a serving of joy, peace, and good health. In general, I would fill my plate with prosperity.

Life is not a buffet. Life does not let us pick and choose. Being humans, we make a grave mistake. That mistake is that when we are in a time of prosperity, we think it will last forever! We tend to forget God. This is a shame, and I lift my hand that I am guilty of being lax toward God when times are good. David was in good times. His troops had prevailed. The enemy was subdued. The bills were paid. No one in his family was experiencing sickness. *I shall never be moved*, he boasted. But, wait a moment. God has a way of getting any man’s attention. The last part of verse 7, God hid his face from David. “Okay, David, I will whether or not you are immoveable.” So, all the bills are paid, everyone is in good health, and we think we don’t need God. This is a recipe for tragedy.

The worst chastisement I have ever endured in my life is not God taking my health. It is not financial strain. It is those times God seemed to turn his head away from me. Just the absence of his

presence will drive a true child of God crazy. It is the most troubling feeling one can experience.

30:8-10

*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.*

David learned his lesson. He **did** need God after all. Having the enemy subdued, the bills paid, and food to eat is not enough to satisfy a child of God. There is no substitute for God's presence.

In life, we sometime snub someone even unintentionally. We did not praise them at a moment when they should be praised, and they are offended. We did not remember their birthday, and it ruffled their feathers. A few years later, they get over it. I am glad God is not that way. David *cried* unto the Lord. He made *supplication* unto the Lord. He admitted he was wrong to think of himself as invincible, one who *shall not be moved*. He pleaded for God's mercy. Please, God, *be thou my helper*.

It seems that with God's presence hidden, David thought he may die: *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.* Walk through a cemetery, and see how many corpses are praising God. David promised God if he would once again reveal his presence, he would praise him. God does not want your money. God does not want the deed to your home. God's greatest desire toward his people is that they praise him. Of all the characters in the word of God, no one could praise and worship god like David could.

30:11-12

*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.*

David had revival. Every time the heart of a child of God has revival, the first thing out of their mouth is praise to God and his Son. What is this thing called silent worship? Where is that in the Bible? Here we see David's pledge to refrain from silence. I know Psalm is in the Old Testament. So, did I miss the Scripture in the New Testament that says worship the Lord silently in your heart?

The Pentecostals have silenced us. We are afraid we Baptist will be labeled Pentecostals. Well, the crowd at Pentecost were believed to be drunk. So what if someone thinks you are a nut? Let everything that has breath praise the Lord, praise ye the Lord.