



Survey of Psalms Part II

by
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Survey of Psalms - Part II

**A study of the book of Psalms - Part II for
Small Group or Personal Bible Study**

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Survey of Psalms - Part II

Small Group or Personal Study Course

Introduction

This is a small group Bible study course to help you grow in your understanding of the book of Psalms - Part II. This study will be most effective as you get together with a small group to share the answers that each of you has written in your personal study. This can also be used as a personal study course to help you grow in your understanding of the book of Psalms - Part II. This course is designed to help you grow in three ways. Throughout the course you will read a paragraph to help you grow in your knowledge of the verses that you will be reading. After each paragraph you will usually have three questions. These three questions will focus on three things: Knowledge, Understanding and Application.

The first question will ask you to find the answer to some question in the verses that you are reading. This question is to help you pick out a key fact in those verses to help you grow in your knowledge of those verses. The answer to this question will usually be found in the verses as you read them.

The second question will ask you a question that will help you to think through the verses to understand the meaning of the group of verses being discussed. As you read this question, pray that the Lord will give you understanding of the passage as well as knowledge of the facts.

The third question will ask you a question that will help you to apply what you have learned from those verses both to your own life and to your service for Christ. It is as we understand and apply the Scripture to our lives that the Lord really begins to change and transform our lives.

At the end of each lesson there will be an opportunity to write down something that you have learned for your own life through the study of those verses. Our prayer is that as you work through these lessons that three things will happen in your life:

1. First, you will grow in your knowledge of the Bible.
2. Second, you will grow in your understanding of the verses that you have studied.
3. Third, you will learn how to apply the Word of God to your life.

The basic material in each of these lessons was originally written in one of six Bible Survey texts written between 1969 and 1974 that cover the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. We are making this material available in this new form to help you grow in your knowledge, understanding and application of the Bible to your life. The Lord willing, we will continue to make other books available as we have time to prepare them in this new form.

May the Lord bless you as you learn His Word.

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Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #19
Psalms 73:1-76:12

Today we are beginning our study of the third book or section of the five books of Psalms. Most of the Psalms that we will be studying in our next three lessons were written by Asaph. Asaph was one of the main musicians in Israel during the time that David was the king of Israel. Two other musicians that lived during the time of David were Heman and Ethan. Each of these men also wrote one of the Psalms that are found in this third book of Psalms. We will be studying the Psalms written by these two men in a few lessons.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what you learn about the riches of the wicked.
- Explain what you learn about the cry of people to God for help.
- Explain what you learn about the final victory of the righteous.
- Explain what you learn about the power of God in these Psalms.

In Psalm 73 we see that Asaph talked about the fact that the wicked become rich and are not judged immediately. Asaph could understand how the Lord could bless those people that had a clean heart. However, he could not understand how the Lord could bless the wicked and not judge them immediately. This caused him to have a great problem trying to understand the ways of God in his thinking. In fact Asaph almost decided to follow the ways of evil men because he had become envious of the riches of evil men. It seemed to Asaph that death did not come to the wicked. They were strong. Everyone was afraid to bother them. Their pride was like a coat of protection to them. It seemed to Asaph that they were blessed in every way.

1. Read Psalm 73:1-28 and write what Asaph said about the amount of riches that the rich had in their possessions.
2. Explain why people can become envious of the riches of evil people when they do not think about the final end of such people.
3. Explain why you think that many people have been tempted to follow the ways of the wicked because they think only about their riches.

Here we see that through their evil actions, these men had become very rich. They continued to gain more riches by corruption. They spoke with great pride. They even spoke against God in heaven. At the same time they also spoke against other people. Through their actions they caused other people to be filled with sorrow. They boasted and said that God did not know what they were doing. This is a description of what the ungodly are like that are growing rich with worldly possessions. They continue to become richer. It almost seemed to Asaph that it was useless to live a holy life.

4. Read Psalm 73:1-28 and write what was happening to Asaph all day long.
5. Explain why the rich often do not think about the sorrow and suffering that they are causing to others by their words and actions.
6. Explain why you think that God allows the evil actions of the rich to help them gain more riches through their corruption.

It seemed to Asaph that the wicked were prospering and experiencing a life of luxury while the life of Asaph was filled with problems. Everything that he thought or did was painful. This continued to bother Asaph until he went to the temple and prayed about his problems and asked the Lord to give him understanding. Suddenly his life was filled with peace because he understood the final end of all of those who continue to reject God. Evil men can carry on their evil actions for a long time. However, destruction will come upon them suddenly. As Asaph received understanding from the Lord, his heart was filled with sorrow because he had even allowed thoughts to enter his mind about following the ways of the wicked.

7. Read Psalm 73:1-28 and write what Asaph said he was like when he realized the foolishness and ignorance of his thinking.

8. Explain why understanding the final end of the wicked suddenly caused Asaph to be filled with peace.

9. Explain why you think that it is important for you to pray and ask the Lord for understanding when you cannot understand why evil people are prospering.

After the Lord gave this understanding to Asaph, he realized the importance of being in continual fellowship with the Lord. The Lord is the One that holds us up. He is the One that guides us and promises us a future in heaven. The Lord is the only One that we should desire. When we fall, we need to look to the Lord for strength because He is the One that will provide us with strength. He will be with us forever. Those who have continued to reject the Lord will be destroyed. If we will draw near to the Lord and have our trust in Him, we will be able to declare His works.

10. Read Psalm 73:1-28 and write what Asaph said that it was good for him to do after he thought about the final end of the wicked.

11. Explain why we also need to talk to the Lord when we cannot understand why evil men are around us are being blessed.

12. Explain why you think that walking in fellowship with the Lord will cause us to have a greater understanding of the things that are happening in the world around us.

Psalm 74 is a cry of the people of God for help in a time when they were enduring great suffering. It seemed to the people that they had been completely forgotten by the Lord. The writer of this Psalm asked the Lord to remember the people that He had chosen long before. God had given His people the land of Israel as an inheritance. He had redeemed them and lived among them. Suddenly it seemed that all of this had changed. The enemy had come into the land and had done evil to the sanctuary of the Lord. The enemies had placed their own banners in the sanctuary. They had taken their axes and their hammers and had destroyed the fancy carved work in the sanctuary.

13. Read Psalm 74:1-23 and write what they had cast into the sanctuary of the Lord.

14. Explain why the writer of this Psalm asked the Lord to help the people of Israel as they went through this time of great suffering.

15. Explain why you think that the Lord had allowed the enemies of Israel to damage the sanctuary of the Lord.

Here we see that the enemy was not satisfied to just damage the sanctuary of the Lord. After destroying everything inside of the sanctuary, the enemy had burned the sanctuary to the

ground. The enemy had decided to destroy the entire nation. As a result, they had also burned up all of the synagogues that were in the land. Now the writer wanted to know how long the Lord would continue to allow the name of God to be blasphemed. It seemed like God had just withdrawn His hand and was going to allow the enemy to do whatever the enemy chose to do to the nation of Israel. The enemy seemed to be doing just as it wanted to do and God did not seem to be doing anything.

16. Read Psalm 74:1-23 and write how long God had been the King of the writer.

17. Explain why God would allow the enemies of Israel to continue to blaspheme the name of the Lord.

18. Explain why you think that it often seems like evil people can do what they want and no one seems to stop them.

The writer had served the Lord for a long time. He had seen the power of the Lord. He realized that the Lord was able to give salvation. He knew that the Lord had divided the sea by His strength. God was the One that had supplied food for His people for forty years in the wilderness. God was the One that had caused the floods and dried up the rivers. He was the One that controlled the day and the night. He had made the sun and the other lights. God was the one that had set the seasons so that the people experienced summer and winter.

19. Read Psalm 74:1-23 and write whose cause the writer asked God to plead.

20. Explain why the Lord is the One that allows suffering to His people even though He has all power.

21. Explain why you think that it is important to remember what the Lord has done in the past when you are going through a difficult time in your life.

Suddenly the writer changed his argument. He asked the Lord to remember that the enemy was blaspheming the name of God. They were not just persecuting the nation of Israel. They were also speaking against the Lord. On the basis of this fact, the writer asked God to remember His people. He asked the Lord to remember the covenant that He had made with His people. The desire of the writer was that the people would once again be able to praise the name of the Lord. He asked God to plead His own cause because the enemy was speaking against God every day.

22. Read Psalm 74:1-23 and write what the writer asked God not to forget.

23. Explain why the writer felt that it was important for God to plead His own cause because of the fact that the enemy was speaking against God.

24. Explain why you think that God is patient even with the people that are speaking evil of Him and blaspheming His name.

As we begin Psalm 75, we see that it is a Psalm of thanks and praise to the Lord. The writer said that he and the people of the nation of Israel wanted to give their thanks to the Lord. Here we see a great example for us as it should also be our desire to give thanks to Him for what He has done for us in our lives. The writer said that the wondrous works of the Lord were an indication to the people that the Lord had chosen them. At the appointed time God will take His place as the judge. Then God will judge the world in the way that it should be judged. He will judge the people of the earth in righteousness. At that time the earth and all of the people on it will be judged.

25. Read Psalm 75:1-10 and write what the writer said to the fools.

26. Explain why it is important for every Christian to develop a thankful attitude toward the Lord for all of the wondrous works of the Lord.

27. Explain why you think that God has set an appointed time when He will judge the world and that He has great patience as He waits until that time to judge the wicked.

Since the Lord is the One that is the Righteous Judge, we need to warn the foolish and the wicked to turn from their evil ways. Such people are filled with pride. We need to warn them not to continue in their pride or they will be judged for their pride. These people will not be able to look to rulers from the east, the west, the south or any other directions to protect them when the Lord judges the people. The Lord is the One that raises up one person and destroys another. This is why people need to get right with the Lord instead of following the ways of pride.

28. Read Psalm 75:1-10 and write what God will do when He judges the people of the earth.

29. Explain why we all need to recognize that God is the One that is the Righteous Judge.

30. Explain why you think that it is important to warn the proud that they will be judged if they do not turn from their pride.

Because the Lord is the One that is the judge, He is also the One that is able to satisfy the needs of those who place their trust in Him. At the same time He is able to pour out judgment on those who reject Him. The wicked will receive this judgment and there is no way that they can escape it if they refuse to place their trust in Christ, the sacrifice for sin that the Father has provided. Since we know that the Lord is going to judge the wicked, we can sing praises to the Lord. He is the One that we will praise forever because He is the One that will exalt the horns of the righteous.

31. Read Psalm 75:1-10 and write what God will do to the horns of the wicked.

32. Explain why the wicked will not be able to escape the judgment of the Lord if they continue to reject Christ.

33. Explain why you think that the Father chose to provide Christ as the sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of all people.

Psalm 76 is another Psalm of praise to the Lord for his great power. The name of God is known in Judah. In fact His name is great throughout the entire nation of Israel. The city of Jerusalem was the place where the tabernacle was located. This was the place where the Lord met with His people. The Lord is the One that has all power and He lives among His people. He is the One that is able to break all of the weapons of the enemy. The Lord is the One to whom all glory belongs because He is the One that has demonstrated His power.

34. Read Psalm 76:1-12 and write what God has done to the stouthearted.

35. Explain why it is important for Christians to know today that the Lord lives with us today just as He lived among His people at the time this Psalm was written.

36. Explain why you think that the Lord has placed the Holy Spirit in your life because of His desire to be with you as a Christian.

Because the Lord has all power, even the strongest enemies that come against His people are destroyed by God. None of them can find the strength in their hands to fight against God. The Lord only needed to speak the word in that day and the horses and chariots of the enemies that came against Israel were destroyed. This is still the reason why people need to fear the Lord rather than fear other people. Once the anger of the Lord has been stirred up, no one is able to stand against Him. People experience the judgment of God which comes from His throne.

37. Read Psalm 76:1-12 and write what people the Lord will save when He arises to judge.
38. Explain why no person is able to escape the judgment of the Lord when that person has rejected Him.
39. Explain why you think that it is important for people to learn to fear the Lord instead of fearing other people.

The entire earth is filled with fear when God brings judgment to people or nations. At the same time God provides His salvation to all of those that are meek. Even the anger of men can be used to bring praise to God because men are amazed when God judges because they experience His wrath against sin. That is why when we make a vow to the Lord that we need to keep that vow. We need to bring our presents to Him to show that we fear and honor Him. The Lord will continue to bring judgment to all those who reject Him and follow their own ways. For that reason that Lord is the One that brings fear to all of the kings of the earth.

40. Read Psalm 76:1-12 and write what God does to the princes.
41. Explain why it is necessary for the Lord to bring judgment to all those who reject Him and follow their own ways.
42. Explain why you think that the Lord is anxious to provide His salvation to all those who are meek.

Now reread Psalm 73:1-76:112 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #20
Psalm 77:1-79:13

Many times we forget the greatness of God and fail to realize how great He is. In our lesson today we will be reminded again of the greatness of the Lord. God is the One that has done many things both on this earth and throughout the universe. Many of those great works of God had been done for the nation that God had chosen to be His own. That nation was the nation of Israel. When the people forgot God, He allowed them to experience His judgment but He continued to show His greatness to them. In our study today we will learn about some of the great works that the Lord did for the nation of Israel.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why we should also remember the works of the Lord.
- Explain how God delivered Israel from the nation of Egypt.
- Explain the choice that the people of God faced.
- Explain why the Psalmist asked God to judge.

Psalm 77 begins with a cry to the Lord. We see as we begin that the Lord hears when His people cry to Him. For that reason we also know that God opens His ears to us. When we are in trouble, we can call to the Lord. At this particular time when the writer cried to the Lord, it seemed to him that no one heard his prayer. He could not find comfort in his sorrow. Then He remembered God and complained to Him. It seemed like his problems were almost more than his spirit could bear. He was so troubled that he could not even sleep. In fact he could not even speak. It was while he was in this condition that he began to think about the past. He remembered how he used to have a song in his heart at night because of the blessing of the Lord in his life.

1. Read Psalm 77:1-20 and write what the author of this Psalm communed with.
2. Explain why as Christians we can also have times in our lives when we have lost the song that we had in our hearts.
3. Explain why you think that it is important for you to pray to the Lord when you are troubled in your life and cannot sleep.

As the writer thought about the past, he began to ask certain questions. He wondered if the Lord had permanently forgotten him as it seemed to him at that time. It seemed to the writer like God was no longer showing mercy to him in his life. It seemed like the Lord was no longer remembering His promises. In fact it seemed to the writer that God had forgotten to be gracious. Suddenly the mood of the writer changed as he made the decision that he would remember the years when he had been blessed by the Lord. He decided that he would remember the works of the Lord. As the same time he would begin to meditate and think about all of the things that the Lord had done for him. He also began to speak of all that God had done.

4. Read Psalm 77:1-20 and write what the writer said about the greatness of God as he meditated.

5. Explain why it is important to meditate and think about all of the things that the Lord has done for us when we think that God has forgotten us.
6. Explain why you think that it will greatly change your thinking when you begin to think about all that the Lord has done for you.

The writer complained as long as he thought about his present condition. However, as soon as he started thinking about the works of the Lord, he was filled with joy. He realized that God is the One that does wonders and shows His strength among the people. The wonders of the Lord are seen in the seas and the oceans. His wonders are also displayed in the clouds as they pour out their rain. The thunder and lightning also demonstrate the wonders of the Lord. God is the One that makes a way through the water. God is the One that leads His people.

7. Read Psalm 77:1-20 and write who God had used to lead His people like a flock of sheep.
8. Explain why we should think about all of the wonders of the Lord and the things that He has done when we feel depressed.
9. Explain why you think that reviewing the wonders of the Lord will also change your discouragement or depression to joy.

Psalm 78 illustrates two things to us. First this Psalm illustrates the goodness of God to the nation of Israel. Second it illustrates the rebellion of Israel against the Lord in spite of His goodness to Israel. Now we see that this Psalm encouraged the people to listen to the writer and listen to the words that had been passed down from the fathers. The writer wanted the people to teach their children what God had done so that the children would also praise and serve the Lord. God established His Word with Jacob and instructed the fathers to teach their children and provide an example for them to follow when they placed their trust in the Lord.

10. Read Psalm 78:1-39 and write what tribe did not keep the covenant of God.
11. Explain why it is important for all people to teach their children about the things that the Lord has done.
12. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to help your children understand what the Lord has done in the past.

The rebellion of Ephraim is mentioned particularly because this rebellion was the reason why Christ came from the family of Judah rather than from the family of Ephraim. The entire nation rebelled against the Lord many times. They forgot how God had led them out of Egypt and through the Red Sea. They forgot how God had led them both day and night. They forgot how the Lord had split open the rocks in the wilderness to provide enough water for the entire nation. However, the people continued to sin and rebel against the Lord. They complained to God because He did not provide food. This showed that they did not really trust in the Lord and believe that the Lord would supply all of their needs.

13. Read Psalm 78:1-39 and write what God provided to feed His people while they were in the wilderness.
14. Explain why people will complain and forget what the Lord has done when they fail to trust in the Lord.
15. Explain why you think that Israel had rebelled against the Lord many times even after all of the works that the Lord had done to bring them from Egypt to the land of promise.

God caused the manna to come down from heaven like rain each morning to provide food for

Israel. God also caused the wind to blow. This wind brought quail so that the quail were all around the camp of Israel and as thick as the sand of the sea. God caused these birds to fall in and around the camp so that they were easy for the people to gather. The people ate until they were satisfied because God gave the people the desire of their hearts. However, the people failed to thank God for supplying their needs. Instead they continued to have rebellion in their hearts.

16. Read Psalm 78:1-39 and write what God did to the men of Israel because of this rebellious attitude.

17. Explain why God continued to supply food to the people of Israel even though their hearts were filled with rebellion.

18. Explain why you think that the people of Israel continued to rebel in their hearts in spite of the fact that the Lord was supplying their needs each day.

Even when God judged the chosen men of Israel, the rest of the people did not really repent of their sin and rebellion. The people realized that God was the One that they needed to trust. They saw many miracles as God brought them through the wilderness. As a result, they spoke words of thanks to God. However, these words were lies because the people did not speak these words from their hearts and God knew their hearts. In spite of all this, God continued to show His love to the nation of Israel even though He knew that the people were rebellious in their hearts.

19. Read Psalm 78:1-39 and write why God did not destroy Israel in the wilderness in spite of their rebellion.

20. Explain why it is possible for people to praise God with their lips and still have a rebellious heart.

21. Explain why you think God still continued to show love to Israel even when He knew that they were rebellious in their hearts.

The people tested God many times in the wilderness by their rebellious attitudes. This rebellious attitude limited what God was able to do to the nation of Israel. When we have rebellion in our hearts, we also limit the work of God in our own lives. The people had quickly forgotten all of the plagues that the Lord had sent on the nation of Egypt in order to deliver the nation of Israel from the land of Egypt. God used a total of ten plagues to destroy Egypt. The rivers were turned to blood. This judgment was so complete that the people had difficulty finding water to drink. The land was also filled at various times with flies, frogs and locusts.

22. Read Psalm 78:40-72 and write what destroyed the vines and the cattle of the land of Egypt.

23. Explain why we will limit the work of God in our own lives if we allow rebellion to remain in our hearts.

24. Explain why you think that people quickly forget what the Lord has done when they are not walking in fellowship with Him.

The Lord destroyed the cattle and the flocks of Egypt by the hail and the lightning. When Pharaoh still refused to allow the people of Israel to leave the land of Egypt, God finally sent the angel of death through the land to destroy the oldest child in each of the Egyptian families. Only after this final plague did Pharaoh allow the people of Israel to leave the land of Egypt. Then God led the nation of Israel like sheep through the wilderness. They were guided by God in safety so that they did not need to be afraid. Then God used the sea to destroy the Egyptians.

God also gave Israel victory over the nations that lived in the land of Canaan.

25. Read Psalm 78:40-72 and write what the people did after seeing all of these things.

26. Explain why God led Israel through the wilderness like a flock of sheep in spite of the rebellion in their hearts.

27. Explain why you think that God allowed the people of Israel to see how completely He judged Egypt for their rebellion.

The people of Israel saw all of the things that the Lord had done to Egypt. They also saw the things that He did for them both in Egypt and in the wilderness. However, the people still refused to follow the Lord. Instead the people rejected the Word of God and followed the evil ways of their fathers. They began to worship idols in the high places and make carved images. The people had lived in rebellion against God when they were in the wilderness. Their children had continued this same rebellion after they had entered the land. Finally God brought judgment on the nation of Israel. He allowed the enemies of the surrounding nations to kill many of the people.

28. Read Psalm 78:40-72 and write what God did when the tabernacle was at Shiloh.

29. Explain what you learn about the results of rebellion in the life of the nation of Israel.

30. Explain why you think that God finally allowed the people of Israel to experience judgment when they continued to rebel against Him.

Although Israel was a very rebellious nation, God did not forget the needs of that nation. He destroyed the nations that had made Israel suffer. Then God chose the tribe of Judah to be the tribe from which a king would come to rule the nation of Israel. That king was David. God then allowed the temple to be built in Jerusalem during the time of Solomon. God had chosen David to be the future king of Israel while he was a shepherd following the sheep. From leading the sheep of his flock, the Lord brought David to lead the entire nation of Israel. God led David to feed Israel according to the integrity of his heart and guide them by the skillfulness of his hand.

31. Read Psalm 78:40-72 and write how the Lord fed the nation of Israel.

32. Explain why God chose David to lead the people of Israel because of His concern for the people of Israel.

33. Explain why you think that God wanted a leader that had integrity in his heart and was able to guide others by the skillfulness of his hand.

Psalm 79 was written after a great judgment had come upon the city of Jerusalem. As a result, this Psalm is a cry to God to judge the nations that had destroyed Jerusalem. The nations had come against Jerusalem and completely destroyed it. The temple had been defiled by their actions. The buildings of the city had also been destroyed. So many people had been killed in the destruction of the city that the birds and the wild animals were eating their bodies because there was no one left to bury the bodies. The blood was so plentiful that it was as common as water.

34. Read Psalm 79:1-13 and write what the people of Israel had become in the sight of their neighbors.

35. Explain why the Lord had allowed a very great judgment to come on the city of Jerusalem.

36. Explain why you think that God allowed nations that were very evil to bring judgment on Jerusalem because of the sins of the people of Jerusalem.

The people of the surrounding nations were laughing and making fun because of the destruction that had come upon the city of Jerusalem. Now the writer wanted to know how long the people of Jerusalem would continue to experience the judgment of the Lord. He asked the Lord to pour out His judgment on the nations that had not known the Lord. This judgment was requested because of what these nations had done to the people of Israel. At the same time this Psalm asked the Lord to forgive the sins of the people of Israel and show mercy to them instead.

37. Read Psalm 79:1-13 and write how the writer described the people of the city of Jerusalem.

38. Explain why sin must be confessed before judgment will be stopped.

39. Explain why you think that the people of the surrounding nations were so quick to laugh and make fun at the destruction that had come on Jerusalem.

When we have confessed our sin, then we can ask the Lord for help. He will hear and answer our prayer for the sake of His own name. The desire of the writer was that the Lord would judge the nations so that they would not continue to speak against God. The writer knew that the Lord could show that He is the One that has all power by judging the nations that had destroyed Jerusalem. God is asked to hear the request of the prisoner and preserve all those who were appointed to die. This would cause those who were making fun of the people of God to be silenced.

40. Read Psalm 79:1-13 and write what other name is given to the people of God in this Psalm.

41. Explain why the Lord will one day judge all nations so that they will not continue to speak against Him.

42. Explain why you think that the Lord is willing to hear the prayer of the prisoner and preserve those who are appointed to die.

Now reread Psalm 77:1-79:13 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #21
Psalm 80:1-84:12

Today we will be studying several Psalms about very different topics. As a part of the study of these Psalms we will learn about the importance of serving the Lord. When we turn away from the Lord, it becomes necessary for the God to bring judgment on our lives. As a result, we will be studying a plea to the Lord to again show kindness after it had been necessary for the Lord to bring judgment because of sin. We will also learn some important lessons about the attitudes that we should have as we worship and serve the Lord.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what we should do when we are experiencing judgment.
- Explain what we learn about worshiping the Lord.
- Explain why we can leave the judgment of our enemies to the Lord.
- Explain what our attitude should be as we worship the Lord.

As we begin Psalm 80, we see that this Psalm is a request for help from the Lord during a time of judgment. This is a request that God would remember the tribes that came from Rachel. These tribes are often used to represent the tribes that became the northern kingdom of Israel as separate from the entire kingdom of Israel that included the tribes of the south. It was the desire of those who trusted in the Lord in the northern kingdom that God would restore His people to a place of blessing and cause His face to shine upon them. At that time the people were experiencing the anger of the Lord. The people had been filled with sorrow and tears. The enemies that surrounded the people of these tribes were laughing at them.

1. Read Psalm 80:1-19 and write what would happen to the people if God caused His face to shine upon them.
2. Explain why the people in the north that trusted in the Lord were asking the Lord to help them as they went through this time of judgment.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord chose to show His anger against sin by allowing judgment to come on the tribes of the north.

The nation of Israel had been brought out of Egypt when it was like a young vine. God brought the nation from Egypt to the land of Canaan. Then God destroyed the nations that were in the land and planted Israel in the land that God had promised to them. God had caused the nation to take deep root so that the nation filled the land. The hills were filled with the people of Israel. Then the people stretched out from the hills to the river and the sea. Now everything was changed. Instead of the nation being like a fruitful vine, the nation had become like a broken hedge that the nations around it were destroying.

4. Read Psalm 80:1-19 and write from where God was asked to look at His vine.
5. Explain why the Lord had allowed the nation to change from being a fruitful vine to becoming like a broken hedge.
6. Explain why you think that the Lord had greatly blessed the people of Israel when He first brought them into the land.

The people of Israel asked God to remember the vine that He had chosen. This was the vine that He had planted with His own hand. God was the One that had made the nation of Israel a strong nation. Now it was like a vine that had been cut down and burned with fire. The people asked God to lay His hand upon them again and show kindness to them once more. They said that they would not turn away from God again if He would remember them once more. Instead they would call upon the name of the Lord and begin to serve Him again.

7. Read Psalm 80:1-19 and write why the people of Israel asked the Lord to restore them.

8. Explain what you learn from this Psalm that we should do when we are experiencing judgment for sin.

9. Explain why you think that the people promised that they would not turn away from God again if He would remember them once more.

In Psalm 81 the people of Israel are invited to worship God. We see that it also teaches us some important lessons about worshiping the Lord. We need to sing aloud to God because He is our strength. God was the One that had chosen the nation of Israel and so the people were invited to bring their instruments and sing praises to the Lord on the feast day. God had told the people of Israel that there were certain feasts when all of the people were to gather together before the Lord. The Lord had given these instructions when He gave the law to the nation of Israel after the people had come out of the land of Egypt. While the people were in the land of Egypt, they did not have opportunities to get together to serve the Lord.

10. Read Psalm 81:1-16 and write what the Lord had removed from the shoulder of the nation of Israel.

11. Explain why the people of Israel were invited to bring their instruments when they gathered together to praise the Lord.

12. Explain why you think that the Lord wanted the entire nation of Israel to gather together for certain feasts each year.

The people of Israel had been slaves in Egypt. Then the Lord had brought them out of the land of Egypt and had given them freedom. When the people had called to the Lord in their trouble, He had delivered them from their suffering. He had answered them when they called to Him for help. This is a reminder of the fact that God will also listen to us when we call to Him for help. God had asked His people to listen to Him. Then the Lord had told them that they were not to make foreign gods or worship them. Instead the people of Israel were to realize that the Lord was the One that had brought them out of the land of Egypt. God promised that He would fill the mouth of the people if the people would open their mouths wide to receive the blessing that the Lord wanted to give them.

13. Read Psalm 81:1-16 and write what the people would not do even though the Lord had given them this wonderful promise.

14. Explain why it was the desire of the Lord to give great blessing to the people of Israel if they would listen to Him.

15. Explain why you think that the Lord will also listen to you when you call to Him from your heart.

The Lord did many things for His people but the people of Israel failed to listen to God when He spoke to them. They wanted nothing to do with God. As a result, God had given them up to

follow their own desires. The people had walked in their own ways. However, the desire of the Lord continued to be for the people to follow Him. Then God would have quickly destroyed their enemies. If the people would have submitted to the Lord, He would have given them eternal life. He would have fed them with the finest of foods. However, the people failed to follow the Lord and chose to rebel instead.

16. Read Psalm 81:1-16 and write what God said He would have brought out of the rock to satisfy the people of Israel if they would have followed Him.

17. Explain why we should also worship the Lord from our hearts instead of turning away from Him.

18. Explain why you think that the Lord gave the people of Israel up to follow their own sinful desires.

Psalm 82 is a Psalm about judges that are unjust. The Lord is the One that stands as the true judge. He is the One that will judge the judges that are unjust. God asked these unjust judges how long they would continue to judge unjustly. He wanted them to tell when they would stop favoring evil men. God makes it clear that instead of helping evil men, all judges have a responsibility to protect the poor and the fatherless. They have a responsibility to show justice to those who cannot protect themselves. In fact they are given the responsibility of delivering the needy out of the hands of the wicked instead of favoring the wicked.

19. Read Psalm 82:1-8 and write why the wicked do not understand.

20. Explain why God said that all judges have a responsibility to protect the poor and the fatherless.

21. Explain why you think that God said that another responsibility of the judges is to deliver the needy out of the hands of the wicked.

Here we see that the wicked are so evil that they do not know what is right. They do not understand the truth. The reason that they do not know these things is due to the fact that they are walking in darkness. These judges had been given the responsibility to bring justice as the representatives of God. However, the judges had failed to bring justice or act as the sons of God. As a result, God said that they would be judged along with the evil men for whom they were twisting justice. This would happen because God is the true judge of the entire earth.

22. Read Psalm 82:1-8 and write what God will inherit.

23. Explain why God said that the judges would be judged along with evil men because they had twisted justice.

24. Explain why you think that it is impossible for the wicked to really understand the truth of the Word of God.

Psalm 83 is a prayer to the Lord for protection against the enemies of Israel. At the time that this Psalm was written, the nation of Israel had many enemies surrounding them. God was asked to show His power against these enemies because they are called the enemies of God. The reason they are called the enemies of God is due to the fact that they had lifted themselves up against the people of God. All of these nations had planned together to come against Israel and destroy it. These nations were so certain of their power that they thought that Israel could be completely destroyed so that no one would even remember the nation. Here we see a picture of the thinking of people that have chosen to reject the Lord.

25. Read Psalm 83:1-18 and write how these nations had consulted together.

26. Explain why those who choose to lift themselves up against the people of God are called the enemies of God.

27. Explain why you think that people that lift themselves up against the people of God think that they have great power.

Here we see that these nations had planned together to completely destroy the nation of Israel. It is the descendants of these same nations that have been planning to completely destroy the nation of Israel in more recent years. Several of these nations are related to the nation of Israel. Edom was from the family of Esau. Moab and Ammon were from the family of Lot. The prayer of the people of Israel was that the Lord would judge these nations just as He had judged other nations in the past that had tried to destroy the nation of Israel.

28. Read 83:1-18 and write why the writer of this Psalm asked the Lord to fill the faces of the enemies with shame.

29. Explain why those people and nations that try to destroy the people of God are actually rebelling against God.

30. Explain why you think that it was people that were related to the nation of Israel that were some of their greatest enemies.

These nations thought that they could destroy Israel and take the land and houses of Israel as a possession. The Lord is asked to judge these nations like stubble before the wind. Stubble cannot stand before the strength of the wind. The request of the writer of this Psalm was that this judgment would be a great judgment. The purpose of this judgment was to cause these people to seek the name of the Lord. Here we see the choice that all people face. Either they must place their trust in Christ or the day will come when they will face judgment.

31. Read Psalm 83:1-18 and write what men will know about the Lord as a result.

32. Explain why the writer of this Psalm said that the enemies of Israel would be like stubble before the wind.

33. Explain why you think that the writer of this Psalm thought that judgment by God would cause the enemies to seek the name of the Lord.

Psalm 84 is a Psalm of a person that has a desire to worship in the house of the Lord. Here we see that the writer was eagerly looking forward to the opportunity to gather together with others to worship the Lord. The entire body of the writer cried out to be in the presence of the living God. He thought about the advantage that the birds had that lived in the courtyard surrounding the temple. They had been able to make their nests in the very place where the Lord met with His people. The priests that lived in the area around the temple also had this great privilege.

34. Read Psalm 84:1-12 and write what man is blessed according to this Psalm.

35. Explain why all Christians should look forward to the opportunity to gather together with others to worship the Lord.

36. Explain why you think that it is also important in your life to enjoy the presence of the living God.

Here we see the real secret for spiritual strength. Our strength must be the Lord and not in ourselves. The Lord is the One that provides true strength to those who have their trust in Him. Those who have their trust in the Lord do not need to worry about losing the strength that God gives. The Lord continues to add strength to strength to those who trust in Him. The Lord

hears the prayer of all those who are depending on Him for daily strength in their lives.

37. Read Psalm 84:1-12 and write what a day in the courts of the house of the Lord was like to the writer.

38. Explain what this Psalm teaches about depending on the Lord for strength as we go through our lives.

39. Explain why you think that the Lord will also help you to go from strength to strength when you have your trust in Him.

In addition to providing strength to those who trust in Him, the Lord is also a shield of protection to the people that have their trust in Him. He watches over all of the people that He has chosen. The writer goes on to point out the fact that there is great joy when a person is in the presence of the Lord. The writer said that he would rather be a servant in the presence of the Lord than to be a person that lived in the tents of the rich because of wickedness. The Lord is the One that provides light and protection. He gives grace and glory. He does not keep back anything good thing from those who have placed their trust in Him.

40. Read Psalm 84:1-12 and write what man is promised blessing.

41. Explain why our lives will be filled with joy when we are walking in the presence of the Lord.

42. Explain why it is important to you to know that the Lord is both your strength and your shield.

Now reread Psalm 80:1-84:12 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #22
Psalm 85:1-88:18

There are many times in the life of every person when we feel as though we are all alone. However, we do not need to experience these feelings if our trust is in the Lord. We can call out to the Lord when we feel needy or alone and He will never leave us alone. If we have sinned and that is the reason why we feel alone, the Lord is ready to forgive us and restore our fellowship with Him when we confess our sins. He will show His mercy to us and preserve us. As a result, we know that we can always rejoice in the Lord regardless of how we feel. At the same time we can ask the Lord to teach us and guide us. He will help us to understand His works.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Tell about the prayer of those who were returning from captivity.
- Explain why we should pray to the Lord when we need help.
- Explain what you learn about the city of God.
- Explain the value of being able to cry to the Lord when we are suffering.

As we come to Psalm 85, we see that the Lord is the only One that is able to bring back His people from their captivity. There were many times in the history of the nation of Israel that the people were forced to serve other nations as a result of the sins of the people. Then the people would cry out to the Lord and ask Him to forgive their sin. Once the people asked God for forgiveness, God immediately forgave their sins and covered them. Then God was able to deal with His people in love instead of in anger. In this Psalm we come to another time in the history of Israel when the people had turned away from the Lord again. As a result, this Psalm is a prayer asking the Lord to restore Israel to a place of blessing.

1. Read Psalm 85:1-13 and write how long this Psalm asked God if He would be angry.
2. Explain why it is important that God will deal with His people in love once their sins are forgiven.
3. Explain why you are thankful to know that God deals with us as Christians in love because our sins are both forgiven and taken away.

It seemed to the people at the time that this Psalm was written that they had been experiencing the anger of the Lord for a long time. This was due to the fact that the people had continued in their sin and rebellion for a long time. The Lord is always waiting for His people to repent so that He can revive them and show His mercy to them again. He is always ready to give salvation to those who will trust in Him. This is the reason why we also need to be listening to the words that the Lord has for us. The Lord always has a message of peace for those who trust in Him. God wants to give this peace to His people. That is the reason why He warns His people not to return to their sin.

4. Read Psalm 85:1-13 and write to whom the salvation of the Lord is near.
5. Explain why the fact that Israel had continued in their sin and rebellion for a long time meant that they had been experiencing the anger of God against sin for a long time.

6. Explain why you think that is important to listen to and obey the Word of God so that you can experience the peace of God in your life.

The Lord is ready to give His salvation to all those who will place their trust in Him. God is eager to show His mercy when we accept His truth. He is ready to show His righteousness and give us peace in our hearts. Then we are able to speak truth to others because God has shown His righteousness to us. Even when the people of Israel were being judged for their sin, God was eagerly looking forward to the time when He could show His goodness to the nation of Israel. God wanted to bless the land. He wanted to see the people accept His righteousness and follow in His steps.

7. Read Psalm 85:1-13 and write from where the writer of this Psalm said righteousness would look.

8. Explain why God always wants to deal with His people in love and righteousness.

9. Explain why you think that God is eager to show His goodness to His people when His people are walking in fellowship with Him.

Psalm 86 is a request to the Lord to hear the prayer of the writer. As a result, it gives us an example of the way that we can bring our requests to the Lord when we want Him to hear our prayers. Here we see that the writer asked the Lord to hear their prayers because they were poor and needy. We can ask the Lord to hear us for the same reason. We need to realize that we can be spiritually poor and needy even though we may have large amounts of money. We can expect the Lord to preserve our souls because of the fact that we have our trust in the Lord. We know that the Lord will show mercy to us because of the fact that we come to Him daily in prayer. At the same time we can expect the Lord to fill our lives with rejoicing because of the fact that we have our trust in Him.

10. Read Psalm 86:1-17 and write what the Lord is like to those who call upon Him.

11. Explain why all those who have their trust in the Lord can expect the Lord to preserve their souls.

12. Explain what you think that it means for a person to be spiritually poor and needy in their life.

Because God is a God of love, He is ready to forgive and show His mercy to all of those who will come to Him and ask Him for help. This is the reason why we know that the Lord will answer our prayer. We know that He will hear our voice when we cry to Him for help. This is why we do not need to be afraid when we face trouble in our lives. The Lord will answer when we call to Him. There are no false gods that can compare with the true and living God. No false gods are able to do any of the works that the Lord is able to do for us in our lives.

13. Read Psalm 86:1-17 and write what all of the nations will do one day in the future.

14. Explain why the fact that the Lord will answer the prayers of those who have their trust in Him means that no Christian needs to live in fear.

15. Explain why you think that the Lord is eager to forgive and show mercy to all those who will come to Him in repentance.

The day will come in the future when the people of all nations will worship the Lord and give glory to Him. The Lord is great. He is able to do things that are completely beyond our understanding. God is the only God and there is no one that can compare with Him. This is the

reason why we need to ask the Lord to teach us His ways. Our desire should be to walk in His truth. When we have allowed the Lord to change our hearts, then we will fear and honor His name. Our desire will be to give praise to the Lord with our whole heart.

16. Read Psalm 86:1-17 and write how long we should want to glorify the name of the Lord.

17. Explain why it is important for every person to understand that there is no god that can be compared to the true and living God.

18. Explain why you think that it is important for you in your own life to ask the Lord to teach you how to walk in His ways.

God shows great mercy to all those who place their trust in Him. For one thing, all of those that had trusted in the Lord had been delivered from the eternal judgment. We do not need to be afraid when the people that are controlled by pride rise up against us. Such people do not have their trust in the Lord. In contrast, we know that our trust is in the Lord and He is full of love and compassion. The Lord will cause those who hate us to be ashamed. He is the One that helps and comforts us.

19. Read Psalm 86:1-17 and write how the writer of this Psalm describes the character of God.

20. Explain why we can be thankful that we can cry to the Lord when we need help from those who are controlled by pride.

21. Explain why you think that God reminds us so many times in the book of Psalms that we can turn to Him when people rise up against us.

Psalm 87 is a Psalm of praise about the city of Zion. Zion was originally a small fortlike area. Later this name was expanded to include the entire city of Jerusalem. It was in the original area that was called Zion that the temple was built by Solomon. In the future we see that Zion is the place from which Christ will rule when He comes back to rule for a thousand years. It is for these reasons as well as many others that the name of Zion had a very important place in the Bible. Here we see that the foundation of Zion is in the holy mountains. These were called the holy mountains due to the fact that the location of Zion had been chosen by the Lord.

22. Read Psalm 87:1-7 and write how much God loves Zion.

23. Explain why it is important to understand that Zion is the place that the Lord has chosen to rule when He comes back to rule this earth.

24. Explain why you think that the meaning of Zion was expanded from just the location of the temple to include the entire city of Jerusalem.

Here we see that the city of Zion is the favorite place of the Lord. It is more favored than any other city in the entire nation of Israel. This is the reason why Christ has chosen the city of Zion as the place where He will rule when He rules the earth for a thousand years. This is the city about which great things are spoken. It is the city of God. During the time when Christ rules the earth, people will come from all nations to worship Him in Zion. Some of those nations from which people will come to worship Christ are mentioned in this Psalm.

25. Read Psalm 87:1-7 and write why the Lord will write that certain people were born in Zion.

26. Explain why the Lord says that there will be both singers and players of instruments in Zion.

27. Explain why you think that God says that glorious things will be spoken about the city of Zion.

The writer of this Psalm was one of that people that had been born in the city of Jerusalem. He spoke of the fact that the people of other nations that will come to worship Christ will also speak of the city of Jerusalem as the place of their birth because the fact that it is called the city of God. This will be true because it is the Lord that has established the city of Zion. In His register of the nations, God will write the place of birth of the people of those nations as Zion. It will also be a city where those who sing praises to God will be located.

28. Read Psalm 87:1-7 and write why the Lord will establish Zion.

29. Explain what you learn about the city of Zion from this Psalm.

30. Explain why you think that it will be important for Zion to be filled with music when the Lord rules the entire earth from Zion.

Psalm 88 is the prayer of one that is enduring great suffering as he comes close to death. As a result, the writer records feelings that we may experience if we endure great suffering during the time that we are dying. The writer made his request to the God of his salvation. This was the One to whom he had addressed his prayer both day and night. His desire was that God would hear his prayer and answer his cry. His soul was filled with sorrow and trouble. He could see that death was approaching very rapidly. He said that he would soon be counted with those who go to the grave.

31. Read Psalm 88:1-19 and write what kind of a man the writer of this Psalm said he was like.

32. Explain why the writer of this Psalm expressed what he felt in his life as he felt that death would soon come to his life.

33. Explain why you think that many people have similar feelings when they are suffering and think that they will soon die.

Here we see that the writer had come to the point where he felt that all of his strength was gone. Soon he would be among the dead. Then the writer expressed the real reason for his fear. He was afraid that he would be forgotten by God once he died. The people that lived before the death and resurrection of Christ did not have the promise that they would immediately enter into the presence of Christ. This caused them to fear rather than have the confident hope that we can now experience that we will immediately be in the presence of Christ when we die. Christians that do not understand the Scriptures may have this same fear. As the writer faced death, it seemed like the wrath of God was coming on him.

34. Read Psalm 88:1-18 and write what had happened to his acquaintances.

35. Explain why it is important to help every Christian understand that he or she will be with the Lord immediately at the time of death.

36. Explain why you think that Christians who do not understand that they go to heaven immediately when they die could be filled with fear as they face death.

In addition to facing death, the writer felt that he had been forsaken by his friends and relatives. His eyes had been filled with tears as he made his prayer to the Lord each day. Now he wanted to know if the Lord would show His mercy to a person that was as good as dead. He realized that he could not speak of the loving-kindness of the Lord once he went to the grave. The faithfulness and wonders of the Lord would not be mentioned there either. This was the reason why he was addressing his cry and prayer to the Lord as he waited for death to come.

37. Read Psalm 88:1-18 and write when the writer said that he would pray to the Lord.

38. Explain how understanding the results of the death and resurrection of Christ can change our view of death.

39. Explain why you think that it should be our desire to speak for the Lord right now and not wait until we come close to the time of our death to begin speaking for Him.

Even when we are suffering from sorrow, we can bring our requests in prayer to the Lord each day. The Lord will not cast us away when we have placed our trust in Him. He will not hide His face from us. Even when we are suffering and it seems like we are ready to die, the Lord is watching over us. We do not need to be filled with terror because we think that the Lord is pouring out His anger on us. If we fail to depend on the Lord, the terrors around us will seem like a flood that is ready to destroy us. However, when we have placed our faith and trust in Christ, the Lord will help us to understand that nothing can separate us from His love.

40. Read Psalm 88:1-18 and write what had happened to the friends of the writer that made him feel so alone.

41. Explain why all Christians can be thankful because we know that the Lord is watching over us.

42. Explain why it is important for you to know that you can bring your requests to the Lord in prayer even if you are experiencing sorrow or suffering.

Now reread Psalm 85:1-88:18 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #23
Psalm 89:1-91:16

Today we will be finishing the third book or section of Psalm and beginning the fourth book of Psalms. Many of the Psalms that we have studied so far have been cries to the Lord during times when the writers were experiencing great trials or times of suffering in their lives. The main emphasis of most of the rest of the Psalms is praise to the Lord and worship of Him. In our lesson today we will have a review of the way that the Lord has been our help in the past. Since the Lord is unchangeable, we know that He will also be our help in the present and in the future. We can trust the Lord and be secure in Him at all times.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how the Lord has shown His faithfulness in the past.
- Explain the value of the covenant that God made with David.
- Explain the importance of the fact that God is eternal.
- Tell about the security that we have in the Lord.

Psalm 89 is the Psalm that speaks of the covenant that the Lord made with David. Three things are emphasized in this Psalm. These three things are the mercy of God, the faithfulness of God and the covenant of God. Our desire should be to sing of the mercies of the Lord forever. It should be our desire to tell others about His faithfulness. It is the mercy of God and His faithfulness that form the foundation of the covenant that the Lord made with David. In that covenant, the Lord promised David that his descendents or seed would be established forever. This meant that one from his family would be the eternal king that would rule forever. Of course that covenant will be fulfilled in Christ as He rules forever.

1. Read Psalm 89:1-18 and write what will praise the wonders of the Lord.
2. Explain why the covenant that God made with David is so important for all people of all nations.
3. Explain why you think that it is important for you in your own life to understand both the mercy of God and also the faithfulness of God.

The heavens praise the wonders of the Lord because there is nothing in the heavens that can be compared with the greatness of God. Even the one that is the mightiest in the universe cannot be compared with the Lord in any way. The Lord is the One that we are to fear and respect. He is the One that is faithful and has all strength. The Lord has complete control over the sea even in the worst storm. The Lord was the One that broke the strength of Egypt and brought Israel out of Egypt with a strong arm. The heavens and the earth all belong to the Lord because He is the One that has created them.

4. Read Psalm 89:1-18 and write what will give praise to the wonders of the Lord.
5. Explain why even the heavens and the earth all point to the fact of the greatness of the Lord.
6. Explain why you think that it is important in your life to have a godly fear and respect for the Lord.

God is the Creator of both the north and the south. He created the mountains that rejoice at His name. The Lord is the one that has a strong and mighty arm. He is the One that rules with righteousness and justice. He is the One that shows mercy and speaks truth. Those who place their trust in the Lord are able to rejoice in His righteousness throughout the day. The Lord is the One that provides strength to the righteous. Because of all of these things, all glory belongs to Him. The Lord is also our protection and the One that we should recognize as the ruler of our lives.

7. Read Psalm 89:1-18 and write what people are called the blessed people.
8. Explain what this Psalm teaches you about the faithfulness of the Lord.
9. Explain why it is important for you in your life to recognize that the Lord is the One that you should let lead you in your life.

We go on to read about the covenant that the Lord made with David. God had chosen David and had anointed him to become the king of Israel. It was with David that the Lord had established His covenant. God had also said that He would strengthen David so that his enemies would not be able to defeat him. God promised that He would judge all of those that hated David. At the same time the Lord promised to extend His faithfulness and mercy to David and cause him to be exalted. God said that He would do this because He knew that David would cry to Him for help. God said that the covenant with David would stand fast and last forever.

10. Read Psalm 89:19-52 and write how long God said that the seed of David would endure.
11. Explain why God said that the covenant that He made with David would stand fast and last forever.
12. Explain why you think that God chose to tell David that He would strengthen David so that his enemies would not be able to defeat him.

God said that He had chosen to show mercy to the family of David forever. If the children of David turned away from the Lord, then God would bring judgment upon them. However, God said that He would never completely destroy the family of David because of the covenant that He had made with David. God said that He would never break or change the promise that had gone out from His lips. Because God is holy, He will not lie and His promise to David is unchangeable. The seed of David will endure forever. The throne of David will be established like the sun and there is no one that can break that covenant.

13. Read Psalm 89:19-52 and write what the writer felt that God had done after the Lord had made all of these promises.
14. Explain why God said that He would never completely destroy the family of David even though He did have to judge those members of the family that turned away from the Lord.
15. Explain why you think that God said that He would never break or change the promise that He had made to David.

After making all of these promises to David, it suddenly seemed like God had completely forgotten these promises. The family of David had been removed from the throne of Israel. The crown of the king had been cast to the ground. Everyone that passed by the nation of Israel did his part to destroy the nation. The enemies that surrounded the nation of Israel were filled with joy as they saw Israel destroyed. Instead of being victorious in battle, the army of Israel

had not been able to stand against its enemies. Instead the enemies were the ones that were winning the victories as they came to fight against the nation of Israel. The nation of Israel had been filled with shame.

16. Read Psalm 89:13-52 and write the question that the writer asked the Lord about the length of this judgment.

17. Explain why the nations that surrounded the nation of Israel were filled with joy as they saw Israel being destroyed.

18. Explain why you know that God will keep His promise to David even though it seemed like God had forgotten it when He allowed judgment to come on Israel.

Here we see that the writer wanted to know how long it would be until the Lord would remember the covenant that He had made with David. The writer realized that his life was very short on the earth. Like all other men he would soon face death. As a result, the writer wanted the Lord to show him the same loving-kindness that He had promised to David. He asked the Lord to consider the suffering of His people. The enemies were mocking the people of God and speaking evil of God. This was the reason why the writer was looking forward to the time when God would fulfill the covenant that He had made with David.

19. Read Psalm 89:19-52 and write how long the writer of this Psalm said that the Lord would be blessed.

20. Explain what this Psalm teaches about the covenant that the Lord had made with David.

21. Explain why you think that the promises to David in this Psalm mean that the Lord is still concerned about the nation of Israel.

As we come to Psalm 90, we have the eternal life of the Lord compared with the shortness of life of people. The Lord is the One that has existed through all of the history on this earth. In fact God is everlasting and had no beginning. He has always existed. He is the One that has control over the length of life of all people. Because of the fact that God everlasting, a thousand years to the Lord is just like one day. The years come and then they are gone. The years are like the cut grass. The grass grows very well in the morning before it is cut. However, once the grass is cut down, it quickly dries out before the evening.

22. Read Psalm 90:1-17 and write what God does with our secret sins.

23. Explain why God compares the difference between the existence of God and the length of life of the people on this earth to the grass.

24. Explain why you think that in the viewpoint of God a thousand years is just like a day to Him.

Because we are only human beings, we cannot hide our sins from God. The Lord knows all of the secrets of our hearts. As a result, we feel the judgment of God for the sins that we are trying to hide from Him. We need to realize that our life is very short in comparison to God. Normal life is only seventy years. Even if we live for eighty years or even more, those years have much suffering and sorrow. Then our lives are gone. For this reason we need to realize that the number of our days is short and we are wise to use those days for the Lord.

25. Read Psalm 90:1-17 and write to what we need to apply our hearts.

26. Explain why it is important to make wise use of the time that we have here on this earth since our days are very short.

27. Explain why you feel that the Lord has a specific purpose for your life even though your length of life is short.

Since we realize that our days on this earth are short, we need to ask the Lord to give us His wisdom so that we will know how to use those days most effectively. We need to look to the Lord for His mercy. Then we will be filled with joy throughout our lives. The Lord can fill our lives so full of joy that we will even forget those former years of suffering. We will see the works of the Lord if we are looking to Him for guidance. Our lives will experience the beauty of the Lord. We will also see the Lord establish the work of our hands.

28. Read Psalm 90:1-17 and write what we need to ask the Lord to teach us to number.
29. Explain the importance of the fact that God is everlasting and has no beginning and no end.
30. Explain why you think that it is important to ask the Lord to give you wisdom so that you know how to use the days that the Lord gives you most effectively.

Psalm 91 gives us a beautiful picture of the trust that we can have in the Lord for protection. When we have our trust in the Lord, we are able to experience His rest in the protection that He provides. The Lord is our protection and strong fort. We are safe when we have our trust in Him. We know that the Lord is able to deliver us from all of the traps of the devil. There is nothing that happens in our lives that the Lord does not know is happening. As a result, we do not need to experience fear in our lives because the Lord spreads His protection over us.

- Regardless of what happens to us, we know that we have eternal life. We can trust in the protection of the Lord because we know that the Lord is the One that always speaks the truth.
31. Read Psalm 91:1-16 and write what we do not need to allow to trouble our lives at night.
 32. Explain why it is important to know that the Lord is able to deliver us from all of the traps of the devil.
 33. Explain why you think that it is important for every Christian to understand that the Lord knows each thing that happens in their lives.

An early Jewish commentary suggests that this Psalm is a promise of protection from demon influences. When we have placed our trust in Christ, we do not need to be afraid of demon influence either at night or during the day. There is no way that we can be touched by the power of demon influence when our trust is in the Lord because the One who is in our lives is greater than the one that is in the world. Regardless of how many other people around us are fearful, we do not need to be afraid because the evil influence of the devil cannot come near us. We will see the reward of the wicked but we will not experience it.

34. Read Psalm 91:1-16 and write who watches over us to protect us from the powers of evil.
35. Explain why it is important for all Christians to understand that they do not need to be afraid of Satan or his demons.
36. Explain why you are thankful that you know that greater is the One that is in your life than any demon including Satan himself.

The verse that answered question 34 is a verse that was misquoted by the devil when he was trying to tempt Christ in the wilderness. The devil used this verse to try and get Christ to obey him. Here we see that this verse is actually a promise of protection from the demons that follow Satan. The Lord is the One that is our refuge. He is able to protect us from all evil influences. We do not need to fear any demon influence because demons become powerless when they meet the power of Christ.

37. Read Psalm 91:1-16 and write why the Lord has chosen to show His protection to all those that trust in Him.

38. Explain how these verses show us that those who have placed their faith and trust in Christ are protected from all demon influence.

39. Explain why it means to you in your own life to know that the Lord is the One that is your refuge and protection.

We see that the protection that the angels provide for us keeps us from stumbling and falling into the traps of the devil. Even though Satan may come as a lion or a snake, the Lord is able to completely defeat his power. When we have our trust in the Lord, we know that the Lord will always deliver us from the power of Satan. God promises that He will answer us when we call upon Him. He will be with us at all times including the times when we are facing any trouble. The Lord will provide deliverance to us because we have our trust in Him.

40. Read Psalm 91:1-16 and write what kind of life the Lord will give us.

41. Explain why it is important for Christians to understand that Christ will defeat the power of Satan regardless of what form he uses to try and show his power.

42. Explain why you know that the fact that the Lord is with you at all times means that the Lord will give you deliverance regardless of what Satan may try to do.

Now reread Psalm 89:1-91:16 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #24
Psalm 92:1-95:11

Today we will be studying about some of the reasons why we should give thanks and praise to the Lord. The Lord has done many wonderful things for us in our lives. The things that the Lord has done for us should give us a desire to offer our praise to Him. At the same time the things for which we give the Lord praise also remind us of the greatness of God. Since we realize that the Lord is so great, we are reminded that we need to leave all judgment to the Lord and let Him be the One that judges others. He is the One that is the true Judge that judges according to righteousness. That is why we should not try to take judgment into our own hands.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why we should give praise to the Lord.
- Explain what you learn about the greatness of God.
- Explain why we should leave all judgment to the Lord.
- Explain why we are encouraged to worship God.

As we come to Psalm 92, we see that it is a good thing to give praise and thanks to the Lord. The Lord has done many things for us which should cause us to want to thank Him. He gives us many reasons to sing praises to His name. We see the loving-kindness of the Lord every morning. We experience His faithfulness every night. In order to express our praise to God more adequately, we should feel free to use musical instruments to accompany our singing to the Lord. The Lord is the One that has filled us with gladness because of the way that He has worked in our lives. As a result, we can rejoice in the works of the Lord.

1. Read Psalm 92:1-15 and write how the works of the Lord are described.
2. Explain why it should be our desire to give praise and thanks to the Lord for His faithfulness.
3. Explain why you think that God encourages us to use musical instruments to give thanks and praise to Him.

The works of the Lord are very great. His thoughts are so deep that they are totally beyond our human understanding. It is impossible for the person without Christ to understand the thoughts of God. This is true because of the fact that a natural man without Christ is unable to understand spiritual things. Only the people that have spiritual understanding can understand spiritual things. At times it seems things are really going great for the wicked. It seems like the things that they do are all being blessed. However, the things that such people are doing will not last.

4. Read Psalm 92:1-15 and write how such people will be destroyed.
5. Explain why it is important to understand that the natural man cannot understand spiritual things.
6. Explain why you think that God wants all true followers of Him to grow in their spiritual understanding.

Here we see that evil people may prosper for a short time. However, eternal judgment will one day come upon them. The Lord will cause all those who are His enemies to be destroyed and experience eternal judgment. All of the people that are evil workers will be scattered. At the same time that God judges those who continue to do evil, the Lord will also lift up those who have chosen to follow Him. The Lord will anoint them with fresh oil so that their faces will shine in the presence of their enemies. Instead of fearing the danger of being destroyed by evil men, we will see the eternal judgment of the Lord carried out in their lives.

7. Read Psalm 92:1-15 and write how God says that the righteous will be blessed.

8. Explain why the Lord wants the faces of those who follow Him to shine in the presence of their enemies.

9. Explain why you think that it is important to focus on eternal values instead of following the ways of evil men that focus only on life on this earth.

Here we see that we are given a number of additional reasons why we should give praise to the Lord. The Lord will bless our lives and cause us to grow like a palm tree or a cedar tree. We will be blessed as we enter into the presence of the Lord. We see that even in our old age that we will be blessed by the Lord so that our lives will be able to continue to produce fruit for Him. The Lord will continually bless us. As a result, we will be able to speak of the fact that the Lord is the One that is upright. He is the Rock that is our foundation so we know that we will be able to stand firm as we stand on the foundation that He provides for our lives. We know that there is no unrighteousness in the Lord and that He can give us His strength to do righteousness also.

10. Read Psalm 92:1-15 and write how long the Lord says that those who follow Him will be able to bring forth fruit.

11. Explain why this Psalm teaches that it is a good thing to give praise to the Lord.

12. Explain why it is important to you in your life to know that the Lord is able to make you fruitful throughout your life.

Psalm 93 is a Psalm that speaks of the way that the Lord is able to rule. He is the One that is the ruler over all of the earth. When people become the rulers of the various nations of the earth, they need to realize that the Lord is the One that has placed them in that position of leadership. He is the One that is the actual ruler and such leaders need to recognize the rule of the Lord in their own lives and in the nations that they rule. As the Lord rules over the earth, we see that He is clothed with the majesty that belongs to a great king. The Lord is also the One that has all strength. As a result, He rules according to His strength. His strength is the strength that established the world and brought the world into existence.

13. Read Psalm 93:1-5 and write what cannot happen to the strength of God.

14. Explain why it is important for all those in any form of leadership to recognize that the Lord is the One that has placed them in that position.

15. Explain why you think that it is important to exercise any leadership that you exercise under the leadership of the Lord.

The strength of the Lord is so great that no person can move His strength or break His strength. Just as the Lord has all strength, He is also the One that has been in control of all things. God is the One that has always existed. His life has been from everlasting. As we think of His

strength and power, one of the great examples of His strength is the flood. The flood is able to lift and move great things with its strength. Even the voice of the flood is often very loud. The waves of the flood are also able to cause great destruction.

16. Read Psalm 93:12-5 and write how the Lord is compared to the flood.

17. Explain why it important for people to realize the greatness of the strength of the Lord.

18. Explain why you think that God says that the flood provides one example of the greatness of His strength.

The flood is very powerful. However, the strength of the flood is nothing when it is compared with the strength of the Lord. Even the most powerful waves of the sea are nothing in comparison to the Lord. The words of the Lord are very certain. There is nothing that can change the Word of God. God is also a holy God. His holiness is His most important attribute. All of the other attributes of the Lord are based on His holiness. The Lord is the One that will rule forever.

19. Read Psalm 93:1-5 and write what the testimonies of the Lord are like.

20. Explain what this Psalm teaches you about the power and rule of God.

21. Explain why you think that it is important for you to explain to others that nothing can change the Word of God.

Psalm 94 is a Psalm that recognizes that vengeance belongs to the Lord. Many times when someone does something wrong to us we are tempted to try and get even with the other person. Such an attitude is wrong because we do not have a right to take revenge. Instead we need to recognize that the Lord is the One that is the judge of the earth. He will reward people according to their deeds if people do not accept the payment of Christ for their sin. The writer asked several questions about the time when the Lord will judge. He wanted to know how long evil men would be allowed to continue on in their evil ways. Such people were speaking evil and boasting about all of the things that they were going to do.

22. Read Psalm 94:1-23 and write what these evil men were doing to those who were widows.

23. Explain why it is important to realize that the Lord will only allow evil people to continue to boast and do evil for a short period of time.

24. Explain why you think that it is important to leave all judgment to the Lord and let Him take vengeance on those who do evil to you.

The writer knew men that were murdering people that were innocent. These men thought that the Lord would not know what they were doing. They thought that God could not know the things that they were doing in secret. Such an attitude shows the foolishness of those who practice evil. God is the One that made our ears. Certainly He will hear what we say. Since the Lord made our eyes, He will certainly see what we do. The Lord is the One that teaches the nations because He is the One that knows all of the thoughts of men. In fact God knows that the thoughts of people are vanity and show the sinful condition of the hearts of people.

25. Read Psalm 94:1-23 and write what man is blessed by the Lord.

26. Explain why God knows all of the thoughts of evil men and He knows that their thoughts are emptiness.

27. Explain why you are thankful that no evil person can hide their evil from the Lord even though they may be able to deceive people.

The Lord disciplines and teaches people because of His love for them. He disciplines them now so that it will not be necessary for Him to punish them with eternal judgment. The Lord will not forget the people that He has chosen. He will judge those who are doing evil to the people that have placed their trust in Him. This is the reason why the people of God can rejoice even when they are being disciplined by the Lord. We do not need to depend on our own efforts to destroy those who do evil. Instead we can depend on the Lord to be our help in any situation.

28. Read Psalm 94:1-23 and write what the writer said held him up when his foot slipped.

29. Explain why we should learn to depend on the Lord to judge rather than taking revenge ourselves.

30. Explain why you understand that the Lord disciplines and teaches you because of His love for you.

The Lord is the One that helps us. When we start to slip, God shows His mercy to us by holding us up so that we do not fall. When we keep our thoughts on the Lord, we can look forward to the fact that He will comfort and encourage our soul. Those who do evil do not have fellowship with the Lord. Instead they work against the Lord. They gather themselves together against those who are righteous. They destroy those who are innocent. However, the Lord is the One that is our refuge against evil men. The Lord is the One that will judge the sins of evil men.

31. Read Psalm 94:1-23 and write how God will cut off the evil men that commit such sins against others.

32. Explain why Christians can know that the Lord will comfort and encourage us as we keep our thoughts on Him.

33. Explain why it is important to know that when you start to slip that you can cry to the Lord and He will hold you up so that you do not fall.

Psalm 95 is a Psalm encouraging the people to worship the Lord. We are encouraged to sing together to the Lord. We need to be making a joyful noise because of the fact that Christ is our foundation and the One that provides us with salvation. As we come into the presence of the Lord, we should come with thanksgiving to the Lord for all of the things that He has done for us. We are encouraged to use the Psalms as we give thanksgiving to the Lord. We need to be reminded over and over of the greatness of the Lord that we serve.

34. Read Psalm 95:1-11 and write how the true and living God is compared to other gods.

35. Explain why we are encouraged to use the words of the Psalms as we express our thanksgiving to the Lord.

36. Explain why you think that is important for you to understand that the Lord is your foundation.

The false gods that people worship cannot even be compared to the living God that we worship and serve. Every part of the earth is in the hand of God and is controlled by Him. The Lord is the One that formed the sea and the dry land. All of the lands and the seas are the works of His hands. When we realize the greatness of God, we realize why we should bow down before Him. We see why we should kneel when we come before the Lord with our prayers. God is the One that we worship. He is the One that provides us with the food that we need to strengthen our bodies.

37. Read Psalm 95:1-11 and write what God says that we are as His people.

38. Explain why we should bow down and kneel before the Lord when we come to Him with our prayers.

39. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to worship the Lord and bow down before Him.

We are also given a warning if we fail to listen to the words of the Lord. The nation of Israel failed to listen to the Lord during the time that they were traveling through the wilderness. For forty years the people of Israel saw the works of the Lord in the wilderness. However, we see that the people rebelled against the Lord instead of recognizing His works. These people walked in their own ways instead of following the ways of the Lord. They even refused to enter into the land after the evil report of part of the spies. Finally God said that the people of Israel must be judged for their rebellion and sin against Him.

40. Read Psalm 95:1-11 and write what God said that these people would not do because of their rebellion.

41. Explain why God warns all people about the danger of hardening their hearts.

42. Explain why you think that the people of Israel hardened their hearts even though they saw all of the works of the Lord.

Now reread Psalm 92:1-95:11 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #25
Psalm 96:1-100:5

Today we will be studying several Psalms of praise to the Lord for who He is and for what He has done. As we have said before in our study of Psalms, all praise belongs to Him. In these Psalms we will be studying several different reasons why we should give praise to the Lord. As we begin this lesson, we see that we should praise the Lord for His greatness and His glory. We also read that we need to praise the Lord for His power. He is the One that we can trust and we know that He has all power over all idols. We can also praise the Lord for His holiness.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why we should praise the Lord for His greatness and glory.
- Explain what you learn about the power of the Lord.
- Explain some of the ways that we can praise the Lord.
- Explain why we should express our thanksgiving to the Lord.

Psalm 96 is a Psalm of praise for the greatness and glory of the Lord. We are encouraged to sing a new song to the Lord. The purpose of this song is to express the greatness of the Lord throughout the earth. In fact our responsibility is to share Christ with people from throughout the entire earth so that all people will have the opportunity to sing praises to the Lord. We need to realize that the Lord gives us the opportunity to speak of the Lord and show His salvation to the world around us each day. This is the only thing that will make it possible for people of all nations to join us in singing praises to the Lord. We need to declare the glory of the Lord to all people. His wonders should be known by all people. The Lord is very great and deserves all praise.

1. Read Psalm 96:1-13 and write how God is to be feared in comparison to the other gods of the world.
2. Explain why it is the plan of God that we would speak for Him to people throughout the earth so that all people can have the opportunity to praise Him.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord has given each Christian the opportunity to share with others what Christ has done.

Today the people of the world are serving many gods. These people think that their gods can help them. However, we see that the Lord deserves all of our fear and worship. The true and living God is the One that is great. The idols that people make are only the works of their own hands. The people that make these idols have to help their idols and move them from place to place instead of the idols helping them. In contrast, God is the One that made the heavens and the earth. He is the One that deserves all honor and glory. The Lord is the One that is the source of all strength and beauty. As a result, we are instructed to give praise for certain things to the Lord.

4. Read Psalm 96:1-13 and write the first thing for which we are told to give praise to the Lord.
5. Explain why the people that worship idols need to realize that the fact that they have to carry their idols should show them that their idols cannot help them.

6. Explain why you think that it is important to help people understand that the true God is the Creator of all things.

When we place our trust in the Lord, there are many things that we desire to give to the Lord. We want to give praise to Him for His glory and strength. We should also want to give Him the full honor and glory that are due to Him. Many times it is easy to take honor and credit for the things that the Lord gives us the opportunity to do instead of giving all credit to the Lord for the privilege that He gives us to serve Him. One way that we can also worship the Lord and express our thanks to Him is by bringing our offerings to the Lord. As we worship the Lord in these and other ways, we need to recognize that the Lord is holy. All the people of the earth need to hear about the Lord so that they also have the opportunity to fear and serve Him.

7. Read Psalm 96:1-13 and write what needs to be said among the nations.

8. Explain why we need to give all honor and glory to the Lord for the privilege that He gives us to serve Him.

9. Explain why you think that it is a great privilege to have the opportunity to serve the Lord.

As we study Psalm 96, we see that this Psalm takes us forward to the time when Christ will rule over all of the nations. When the Lord rules the earth, He will rule the earth in righteousness. When Christ comes to rule, the heavens and the earth will be filled with joy. Even the sea will express its praise to the Lord. The fields and everything in them will also rejoice. Even the trees of the forest will be filled with joy because of the fact that the Lord rules. When Christ comes to rule, He will judge the entire earth with righteousness. His judgment of the people of the earth will be according to truth.

10. Read Psalm 96:1-13 and write what the Lord is going to do when He comes to the earth.

11. Explain what you learn about the time when Christ will rule of the earth from this Psalm.

12. Explain why the created things on the earth will even be filled with joy when the Lord comes to rule.

Psalm 97 goes on to teach us more about the rule of Christ on this earth. Again we see that the earth will rejoice when Christ comes to rule. All of the islands will join in that rejoicing. Righteousness and justice are the two things that will be emphasized on the earth when Christ rules. The Lord is the One that is righteous so that is why He is able to rule in righteousness. The enemies that rebel against the judgment of Christ will be destroyed by fire. We are also reminded that the lightning gives light as it flashes above the earth. At the same time it causes people to become fearful because it is a demonstration of the power of God.

13. Read Psalm 97:1-12 and write what the hills will do in the presence of the Lord.

14. Explain why righteousness and justice will be the two things that will be emphasized when Christ comes to rule on the earth.

15. Explain why you think that it will be possible for Christ to emphasize justice and righteousness when He comes to rule the earth.

This Psalm shows us that the presence of the Lord ruling on the earth will have a great effect on the entire earth. Even the hills will be changed by His presence. The heavens will also speak of the righteousness of the Lord. All of the people will see the glory of the Lord when He comes to rule. In that day all of those who have worshiped idols will be confused. Such people will have been boasting about the power of their idols. However, those gods will not be able to help

their followers in the day that they and their followers are destroyed. Here we are reminded again of the fact that idols do not have any power because they have no life in themselves.

16. Read Psalm 97:1-13 and write what the daughters of Judah will do when they see the judgments of the Lord.

17. Explain why those who follow idols will have no help from their gods when Christ comes to rule.

18. Explain why you think that the Lord reminds us many times that idols have no power to help their followers.

The people that serve the Lord will be filled with joy as they see the Lord judge the earth with righteousness. The Lord is the One that is over all things. He is the One whose name is exalted above all of the false gods. The Lord preserves those who trust in Him. He will deliver them from those who do evil. The Lord will give light and gladness to those who are upright in heart. It is in the Lord that we can rejoice. The people will be able to give thanks to the Lord as they remember the fact that the Lord is the One that is holy.

19. Read Psalm 97:1-12 and write what the Lord does to the souls of His saints.

20. Explain what this Psalm teaches about the way that the rule of Christ will affect the earth.

21. Explain why you are thankful that you can trust in the Lord to preserve you and deliver you from those that do evil.

Psalm 98 goes on to tell us some additional things about Christ, the King. As we begin this Psalm, we are invited to sing a new song. Our desire should be to sing a new song because of the fact that Christ has done marvelous things in the past and will do marvelous things in the future. The Lord has victory because of the fact that His strength is based on His holiness. The Lord is the One that makes His salvation known to mankind. The Lord shows His righteousness openly so that all of the nations can see it. At the same time the Lord continues to remember the nation of Israel and will show mercy and truth to that nation.

22. Read Psalm 98:1-9 and write what has seen the salvation of God.

23. Explain why it is important for all people to understand that the strength of the Lord is based on His holiness.

24. Explain why you think that many people fail to realize that God is a holy God and that is why He chose to provide salvation for mankind.

The entire earth will see how God provides salvation for His people. As a result, the entire earth will make a joyful noise to the Lord. This loud noise will be the noise of rejoicing and singing praises to the Lord. We also see that we can express our praise to the Lord with various musical instruments. Harps, trumpets and cornets are all mentioned as instruments that we can use to praise the Lord. Praise can also be given to the Lord with many other instruments. We see that all instruments will be used to praise the Lord when He comes to this earth to rule as the King.

25. Read Psalm 98:1-9 and write what expresses its praise to the Lord by its roaring.

26. Explain why all of the instruments on the earth will be used to give praise to the Lord when He comes to rule as the King.

27. Explain why you think that the earth will be filled with rejoicing when Christ comes to rule on this earth.

In addition to all of the people of the earth praising the Lord for His rule, the earth itself will be filled with praise. As we listen to the roar of the ocean, we should be reminded that we need to express our praise to the Lord. The sea, the earth, the flood and the hills all express their praise to the Lord. The creation of God will be filled with joy because of the fact that Christ personally will be the ruler on the earth. The Lord will judge the earth with righteousness as He judges. He will not show favor to certain people and cheat others as He judges.

28. Read Psalm 98:1-9 and write how the Lord will judge the earth when He comes to be the ruler.

29. Explain why the entire creation of God will offer praise to the Lord.

30. Explain why you think that it is important to understand that the entire creation is looking forward to the rule of Christ.

Psalm 99 speaks of the holiness of God. Again we see that the Lord is the One that is the ruler. All people will tremble before the Lord either now or in the future. These verses speak of the fact that God is seated between the cherubim. That was the place where God met man in the Old Testament. Zion is the place where Christ will rule when He is the King of the earth. Here we see that both the past and the future are brought together in the holiness of God. God has always been holy and will always be holy. We also see that God is the One that loves justice.

31. Read Psalm 99:1-9 and write the first place where we are told to worship the Lord.

32. Explain why those who fail to tremble before the Lord and put their trust in Him will tremble before Him in the future.

33. Explain why you think that it is important for every person to understand that God is a holy God that loves justice.

Because the Lord is holy, our desire should be to worship Him at His feet. We are told that God will answer our prayers just as He answered the prayers of Moses, Aaron and Samuel if we will worship Him. When these men cried to the Lord, the Lord answered them. He instructed them from the cloud and they obeyed His commandments. God also answers our prayers. He forgives our sins when we confess them to Him. At the same time the Lord judges those who fail to confess their sins to Him. This is another reason why we need to praise the Lord. He is the One that is holy.

34. Read Psalm 99:1-9 and write the final place that is mentioned in the chapter where we are told to worship the Lord.

35. Explain why the Lord is anxious to answer the prayers of all those that obey Him just as He answered the prayers of Moses, Aaron and Samuel.

36. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord forgives the sins of all those who confess their sins to Him.

Psalm 100 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord. As this Psalm begins, we see that all nations are encouraged to make a joyful noise to the Lord. Our desire should be to serve the Lord with gladness in our hearts. If we have joy in our hearts, then we will be singing as we come before the presence of the Lord. As we realize that God is the One that made us, we recognize again that He is God. We are the people of God. This means that the Lord is the One that feeds us like a shepherd feeds his sheep.

37. Read Psalm 100:1-5 and write how we are told to enter into the gates of the Lord.

38. Explain why every follower of the Lord should want to serve the Lord with gladness.

39. Explain why you think that the Lord wants you to know that He is the One that feeds you like a shepherd feeds his sheep.

When we serve the Lord and have our trust in Him, we are able to enter right into His very presence. As we come into the presence of the Lord, our desire should be to come with thanksgiving. Here we see the attitude that we should have as we pray. We are able to thank the Lord for everything including the problems that face us because of the fact that we know that He is the One that is able to give us wisdom so that we know how to deal with those problems. There are also many others reasons why we should want to thank the Lord. The Lord is the One that is good. We receive the blessing of that goodness. In addition, we know that the mercy of the Lord will last forever.

40. Read Psalm 100:1-5 and write what the truth of the Lord is like.

41. Explain why it is important for people to come with a thankful attitude when they come to the Lord in prayer.

42. Explain why you are thankful that you can come into the very presence of the Lord when you come to Him in prayer.

Now reread Psalm 96:1-100:5 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #26
Psalm 101:1-104:35

As Christians, we realize that we have many reasons to praise the Lord. However, there are times in our lives when we forget some of the reasons why we should praise the Lord. In our lesson today we will be reminded of a number of the reasons why it should be our desire to have the opportunity to give praise to the Lord. Once we have studied these reasons for praising the Lord, we should continue to think about them so that we will not forget to offer thanks and praise to the Lord for all of the things that He has done for us. As we praise the Lord, we will be filled with joy.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson you should be able to:

- Explain why we should want a perfect heart.
- Explain why we can know that God will hear our prayers when we cry to Him.
- Explain some of the reasons why we should give praise to the Lord.
- Explain why we should praise the Lord for His creation.

Psalm 101 is a Psalm that was written by David. In this Psalm David made a vow to the Lord about the way that he would rule the nation of Israel under the leadership of the Lord. As a result, this Psalm gives us a beautiful picture of the attitude that each of us should have as Christians especially when we are in any type of leadership situation. Our desire should be to sing of mercy and justice. Just as the Lord has shown mercy to us, we should want to show mercy to others. Our desire should also be to show justice as we lead others. At the same time our songs of praise should be directed to the Lord. However, such attitudes are not the attitudes of the world. We have to make certain changes in our lives in order to have such attitudes.

1. Read Psalm 101:1-8 and write how we should choose to act if we want to develop such attitudes in our lives.
2. Explain how the vow of David gives us an example for our lives when we are in any position of leadership.
3. Explain why you think that it is important to show mercy and justice to others when we are in leadership.

There is only one way that we can behave in a perfect way and have the attitudes that are mentioned in this Psalm. Those attitudes will only be present as we yield the control of our lives to the control of the Holy Spirit. Then the Holy Spirit can give us His strength to walk through the day with a perfect heart. When we are yielding to the Holy Spirit, He convicts us of our sins so that we can confess our sins immediately and continue our walk in fellowship with the Lord. In order to walk in this way, we must choose to allow the Holy Spirit to renew our thoughts. This is why we should not want to put any wicked things before our eyes.

4. Read Psalm 101:1-8 and write what kind of a heart we should desire to avoid.
5. Explain why it is necessary to yield the control of our lives to the Holy Spirit so that He can give us the strength to walk with a perfect heart.

6. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to yield the control of your life to the Holy Spirit so that you can walk with a perfect heart.

When our thoughts are being guided and controlled by the Holy Spirit, our attitudes will also be controlled by Him. As a result, we will not want to follow an evil person. We will not want to slander our neighbors or have a proud heart. Instead our desire will be to help others become faithful servants of the Lord that walk in the ways of the Lord. We will not want to allow deceivers or liars to become our counselors because they will guide us in the wrong way. Here we see an example of why it is important to allow Christ to be the leader of our life if we want to be an effective leader of others.

7. Read Psalm 101:1-8 and write who will not dwell in the house of the Lord.

8. Explain why we must yield our minds and our hearts to the Lord in order to be effective leaders of others.

9. Explain why you think that when you are guided by the Holy Spirit that He gives you a desire to help others become faithful servants of the Lord.

Psalm 102 gives us a picture of the rejection and humiliation of Christ. Christ left the beauty of heaven to suffer and die a horrible death on this earth. As Christ hung on the cross, He asked His Father why He had forsaken Him. The reason that the Father had to forsake Christ and hide His face from Christ between the sixth and the ninth hours was due to the fact that Christ had our sin placed on Him and the Father could not look with approval at sin. As a result of what Christ did for us that day, we know that the Father can now look at us through the blood of Christ. As a result, we know that He will hear our prayer when we cry to Him. When Christ was crucified, His body endured great suffering. At the same time His enemies were mocking Him. Christ was bearing the wrath of God against all of the sins of mankind.

10. Read Psalm 102:1-28 and write what the days of Christ were like.

11. Explain why Christ was willing to experience separation from the Father as He paid for our sins on the cross.

12. Explain why you realize that it is very important that the Father can look at you through the blood of Christ.

Here we see that the life of ministry of Christ on this earth lasted for a very short period of time. However, Christ completed the purpose of His Father in that short time. Although the life of Christ on this earth was short, He will live forever. People of all generations will hear what Christ did to provide salvation, forgiveness of sins and eternal life. One day Christ will also show His mercy to the city of Zion. The Lord has already set the time when that will happen. This is the time for which the Jewish people have hoped through the centuries. In that day all of the nations of the entire earth will recognize Christ as their ruler and king.

13. Read Psalm 102:1-28 and write how Christ will appear in that day.

14. Explain why it is important to give people of every nation an opportunity to hear what Christ did to provide salvation and make forgiveness of sins possible.

15. Explain why you think that the Jews can still look forward to the time when the Lord will show His mercy to the city of Zion.

When Christ comes to rule on this earth, every eye shall see His glory. Christ will listen to the prayer of the needy and He will not despise them. In that day all of the people of the earth will

praise the Lord. We also read that the Lord looks down at people and sees their needs. He hears the groaning of the prisoner. He is able to free those who have been sentenced to death. This is the reason why the people of all nations will praise the Lord when He comes to rule. In that day the people will speak of the name of the Lord and praise Him in Jerusalem. From Jerusalem that praise will also extend to the ends of the earth. This will happen because all men will serve Christ when He begins His rule.

16. Read Psalm 102:1-28 and write what the people will do in that day when they gather together.

17. Explain why we know that the day will come when praise to the Lord will begin at Jerusalem and extend out to the ends of the earth.

18. Explain why it is important to you to know that Christ will listen to the prayer of the needy and will not despise them.

When Christ returns to this earth to rule, the people of all nations will serve Him. Because Christ is the One that rules all things both present and future, we can depend on Christ day by day. It was Christ that laid the foundation of the earth. The heavens are also the work of the hands of Christ. One day the heavens and the earth will become old like a worn out piece of clothing. However, Christ remains the same. He is unchangeable and nothing can change Him. As a result, those who trust in the Lord will continue. They will not be destroyed.

19. Read Psalm 102:1-28 and write what will endure when the heavens perish.

20. Explain what this Psalm teaches you about Christ.

21. Explain why you look forward to the day when the heavens and the earth will become old like a worn out piece of clothing and be replaced with new heavens and a new earth.

Psalm 103 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord for all of the things that He has done for us. As we see all that the Lord has done for us, our desire should be to bless Him with our whole soul and spirit. We should remember the many ways that the Lord has benefited us. He is the One that forgives our sins and brings physical and spiritual healing to our lives. The Lord redeemed us at the time when we were facing destruction because of our sin. He showed His mercy to us at that time. Now the Lord satisfies us when we are in need and renews our strength. The Lord carries out righteousness and judgment for all those who are oppressed.

22. Read Psalm 103:1-22 and write to whom God made His acts known.

23. Explain why we can ask the Lord to bless our soul because of the fact that He has forgiven all of our sins.

24. Explain why you think that the Lord continues to meet our needs and renew our strength.

We read that the Lord made His acts known to His people. He shows His mercy by being slow to anger. God will not continue to be angry with those who sin. In fact He is eagerly looking for opportunities to forgive them. God has not judged us according to our sins or we would all be condemned. Instead God has shown very great mercy to all those who have placed their trust in Him. In fact God has removed our sins as far as the east is from the west. Aren't you glad that He did not say that He removed them as far as the north is from the south? In addition, He has shown pity for us just as a father shows pity for his children.

25. Read Psalm 103:1-22 and write what God knows and remembers about us.

26. Explain why it is important for every Christian to understand that the Lord has removed our sins as far as the east is from the west.

27. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord has chosen to show pity to you just as a father shows pity for his children.

God knows that He made us from the dust and He deals with us accordingly. In fact we are just like the grass. The grass grows up very quickly and then it is gone. In the same way, we will soon be forgotten by the world when we die. However, the mercy of the Lord is everlasting to all those who trust in Christ. He will always keep His promises to those who have placed their trust in Him. These are just a few of the reasons why we should bless the Lord. We should realize that just like the angels the Lord has called us to be His ministers to do His will.

28. Read Psalm 103:1-22 and write how long the mercy of the Lord will last for those who fear the Lord.

29. Explain what this Psalm teaches about the reasons why we should praise the Lord.

30. Explain why you are thankful that God remembers that He made man from the dust and knows that we are weak.

Psalm 104 is a Psalm of praise to God for His creation. The creation shows us the greatness of the Lord and helps us to understand why we should praise the Lord. The glory and majesty of God are very great. God is the One that stretched out the heavens. He created the clouds and the wind to carry out His purpose. The Lord also made the angels so that they could serve as His ministers. The Lord laid the foundation of the earth so that no one can move that foundation. God also placed the waters in their places both in the oceans and in the sky. God has set boundaries for the ocean which it cannot pass over.

31. Read Psalm 104:1-35 and write what God sends into the valleys.

32. Explain why it is important to know that the Lord has set the boundaries for the ocean and that it cannot pass over those boundaries.

33. Explain why you think that the creation of the Lord is one of the ways that you can see the greatness of the Lord.

One of the most important things in any land is water to make the crops grow. Without water we see that very little grows. Here we see that God sends the springs to water the hills and the valleys. In addition, these springs provide water for the birds and the animals. As the water flows from these springs, it causes the grass and other food to grow so that the animals and people may be satisfied. It is also the source for bread to strengthen the heart of mankind. God is also the source that causes the trees to grow. The high hills were also placed by God as a place of refuge for the wild animals.

34. Read Psalm 104:1-35 and write why God appointed the moon.

35. Explain why it is important that God placed springs of water on the hills and in the valleys of the earth.

36. Explain why you think that God created the earth in such a way that it would meet the needs of the birds and animals as well as the people.

God uses the sun and the moon to control the various seasons that come upon the earth. During the night the animals go about the earth to carry out their God appointed purposes. Then when the day comes these animals disappear. While the wild animals are sleeping, man goes out into the field to do his work. If we will consider these things, we will be amazed as we see the works of the Lord. God causes everything that happens in creation to happen according to His

wisdom. He created the animals in the sea and uses the sea to bring food to those animals.

37. Read Psalm 104:1-35 and write how long the glory of the Lord will endure.

38. Explain why God made the wild animals in such a way that they carry out their appointed purposes during the night instead of the day.

39. Explain why this Psalm helps you to understand that God has a purpose for everything that He has created on the earth.

All of the animals on the earth and in the sea are dependent upon God to provide for their needs so that their lives can continue. When the Lord provides for the animals, they are filled. When God stops their breath, they die and return to the dust. Things happen according to the plan of God. That plan is carried out under the direction of the Holy Spirit. The Lord is able to rejoice because the earth is the work of His hands. With this in mind, we should be reminded to sing praises to the Lord for the rest of our lives. Our thoughts will be sweet as we meditate on the Lord.

40. Read Psalm 104:1-35 and write who should bless and praise the Lord.

41. Explain why the plan of God for the earth is carried out through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

42. Explain why this Psalm helps you to understand that even the animals have an appointed time of death.

Now reread Psalm 101:1-104:35 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #27
Psalm 105:1-107:43

In our lesson today we will be studying about the faithfulness of God to His people. The Lord is the One that is always faithful. God has not forgotten the promises that He made to the nation of Israel. He will never forget the promises that He has made to those who have placed their trust in Him. That is a source of great encouragement for each of us that have placed our trust in Christ because we know that the Lord will not forget the promises that He promises to every person that turns from sin to Him. In our lesson today we will also be studying a prayer of some of the people of Israel as they confess their unfaithfulness to the Lord.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what you learn about the faithfulness of God to Israel.
- Tell about the confession of the people of Israel.
- Explain how God provides for the redeemed.

Psalm 105 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord for His faithfulness to the nation of Israel. We see that God promised the people of Israel that the hearts of those who seek the Lord will be filled with rejoicing. God wanted the people of Israel to be reminded of the great works that the Lord had done for the nation of Israel. The Lord was the One that chose Abraham and said that He would make a great nation from his family. Because He is the Lord, God will never forget the covenant that He made with Abraham because it is an everlasting covenant. Then God confirmed this covenant with Isaac and Jacob as well as the nation of Israel by telling them that the land of Israel would be their everlasting possession.

1. Read Psalm 105:1-45 and write when God confirmed His covenant with the people of Israel.
2. Explain why it is important that the covenant that the Lord made with Abraham was an everlasting covenant.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord is going to again bless the people of Israel in the future because of that everlasting covenant.

At the time that God made and confirmed His covenant with Israel, the number of men in that nation was very small. At that time they were still wandering from nation to nation. Even though these were just a small group of people, God did not permit the other nations to harm them. God also guided the future of Israel by causing a famine in the land of Canaan. However, the Lord provided for Israel by sending Joseph ahead of his family to Egypt as a servant. There Joseph was bound in chains and fetters until the time that God had set for Him to go free. In God's appointed time, Joseph was made the second ruler in Egypt. In that position he taught the leaders of Egypt.

4. Read Psalm 105:1-45 and write how the nation of Israel increased after God brought them into Egypt.
5. Explain why God allowed Joseph to suffer in the land of Egypt until the time that God had appointed for Joseph to become a leader in that land.
6. Explain why you think that God sent Joseph to Egypt many years ahead of his family so that God could protect his family.

God increased the people of Israel until they became stronger than the people of Egypt. Then God allowed the people of Egypt to hate Israel as part of His plan to bring Israel back into the land that God had promised to Abraham. In His perfect time plan, God sent Moses and Aaron to lead the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt. In order to bring the people out of Egypt, God worked great miracles in the land of Egypt. The water was turned to blood and killed the fish. Other plagues included frogs, flies, lice, hail, fire and locusts that came to eat what remained after the other plagues. When Pharaoh still refused to let Israel leave Egypt, God killed all of the firstborn children of the land of Egypt.

7. Read Psalm 105:1-45 and write what the people did not have when they went out of the land of Egypt.

8. Explain why God allowed the Pharaoh of Egypt to turn against the people of Israel as a part of carrying out His promise to Abraham.

9. Explain why you think that God chose to work great miracles in Egypt so that Pharaoh and the Egyptians would allow the people of Israel to leave Egypt.

Here we see that God gave good health to every single person in the entire nation of Israel. The Egyptians were so glad to see the people of Israel leave their land that they gave them silver and gold as they left. As the people traveled through the wilderness, God gave them a cloud that protected them from the heat of the day. It became a pillar of fire to give them light at night. He provided them with food and water as they traveled. The Lord did all of these things because He remembered His promise that He had given to Abraham. God also gave Israel the land that God had promised to Abraham many years before. It was the desire of the Lord that the people would obey His commandments as they possessed the land.

10. Read Psalm 105:1-45 and write one of the ways that God provided water for the people of Israel while they were in the wilderness.

11. Explain what this Psalm teaches about the faithfulness of God to the nation of Israel.

12. Explain why you think the Lord showed such great kindness to the people of Israel even though they were very rebellious in the wilderness.

Although God was faithful and kept His promises to Israel, Israel was not faithful to the Lord. This is shown in Psalm 106. The Lord is the One that is good and has shown mercy to His people. However, the people did not follow the Lord. Even the people that were living at the time that this Psalm was written had rejected the Lord just like their fathers. The people saw the miracles in Egypt but they refused to believe the Lord. As a result, they rebelled against God at the Red Sea. In spite of their rebellion, God saved them for the sake of His own name. He took them through the Red Sea and then destroyed the Egyptians.

13. Read Psalm 106:1-48 and write what the people quickly did after singing praises to the Lord.

14. Explain why God showed kindness even when Israel was rebellious for the sake of His own name.

15. Explain why you think that the people refused to believe the Lord and follow Him after all of the miracles that they had seen in Egypt and at the Red Sea.

The people of Israel gave praise to the Lord and then quickly forgot what God had done for them. Then they tested the Lord many times in the wilderness by rebelling. God gave them

their requests but sent leanness into their souls. Here we see that rebellion against the Lord leads to spiritual leanness. One time when some of the people rebelled, the Lord caused the earth to open up and swallow them. The people also showed their rebellion by making a golden calf. By doing this, they were actually changing the glory of God into an image made by man. Because of their rebellion, the Lord decided to destroy them.

16. Read Psalm 106:1-48 and write how the wrath of God was stopped.

17. Explain what would cause a nation to give praise to God and then quickly forget what the Lord had done.

18. Explain why you think that the Lord sent leanness to the souls of the people of Israel because of their rebellion against Him.

Moses stood before the Lord and pleaded with the Lord to save His people for the sake of His name. Instead of thanking the Lord for sparing their lives, the people continued their rebellion and refused to listen to the Lord. Then they began worshiping Baal and offering sacrifices for the dead. As a result, God sent a plague that began to destroy them. However, Phinehas was faithful to the Lord and judged the sin. Then God stopped the plague. The Lord said that the act of Phinehas would be recognized as righteousness forever. The people just continued their rebellion against the Lord. God told Israel to destroy the people of Canaan. Instead Israel mingled with the people of Canaan and began to follow their idols.

19. Read Psalm 106:1-48 and write to whom the people of Israel sacrificed their sons and their daughters.

20. Explain what you learn from this chapter about the rebellion of Israel against the Lord while they were in the wilderness.

21. Explain why you think that the Lord said that the act of Phinehas would be recognized as righteousness forever.

As the people of Israel mingled with the people of the land of Canaan, the people of Israel became so evil that they even began to sacrifice their children to demons and to the idols of Canaan. They polluted the land with blood. They also committed immorality. Then God allowed the nations that they hated to rule over them. These enemies caused great suffering to the people of Israel. This caused the people of Israel to cry to the Lord and He would deliver them. The Lord continued to show great mercy to His people because of the covenant that He had made with Abraham. This was the reason why the people of Israel could still call to the Lord for help and salvation.

22. Read Psalm 106:1-48 and write how long blessing should be given to the Lord.

23. Explain why God allowed the nations that hated Israel to rule over Israel and cause them great suffering.

24. Explain why you think that the way that God showed mercy to Israel shows that the Lord will never forget His covenant with Abraham.

As we come to Psalm 107, we come to the final book or section of the five books of Psalms. This Psalm is a Psalm of thanks to the Lord for all that the Lord has done. We read that the mercy of the Lord will last forever. The Lord is the One that has redeemed us from the hand of Satan. As a result, our desire should be to tell others about the redemption that the Lord provides. God also gathers those who trust in Him out of many lands. When the people of God were traveling in the wilderness, they became hungry, thirsty and discouraged. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble.

25. Read Psalm 107:1-21 and write what the Lord did when His people cried to Him.
26. Explain why the writer of this Psalm encouraged the people of Israel to give thanks to the Lord for what He had done.
27. Explain why you think that the Lord chose to come and pay the penalty for sin so that He could redeem people from the hand of Satan.

Here we see that the Lord is always ready to hear His people when they cry to Him for help. This is the reason that we can cry to the Lord when we need help. We know that the Lord will hear us. We know that the Lord will lead us in the right way and show us how to go. God is the One that satisfies the longing soul. In contrast, we see the condition of those who have rebelled against the Lord. Such people are sitting in darkness. Their only future is judgment and death. They are bound in their slavery to sin.

28. Read Psalm 107:1-21 and write what the Lord did when the people of Israel cried to Him in their trouble.
29. Explain why the redeemed of the Lord should tell about that redemption.
30. Explain why you think that it is the desire of the Lord to satisfy the longing soul.

People that are bound and are slaves to sin are in that condition because they have rebelled against the Word of God. As a result, God brings such people down and they have no one to help them. However, if they will cry to the Lord in their suffering, He will hear them and bring them out of their darkness. He will break the chains of sin that hold them in the spiritual darkness of sin. Such people are fools until they call out to the Lord for help. Many have come face to face with death. Then when they called to the Lord, He saved them and gave them His Word to deliver them and heal them from their sin.

31. Read Psalm 107:1-43 and write the verse that is repeated four times in this chapter.
32. Explain why it is important for all people to realize that the Lord is able to break the chains of sin that hold people in spiritual darkness.
33. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that the Lord chose to deliver you out of your spiritual darkness.

The Lord is the One that deserves all of our praise because of the wonderful works that He has shown to the people of this earth. Our desire should be to tell of the works of the Lord with thanksgiving and rejoicing. When people work on boats or do business that causes them to travel on the seas and the oceans, these people see the works of the Lord in the ocean. When God gives the command, the stormy wind causes the waves of the ocean to be lifted up. These waves are sometimes lifted up very high. Then they go back to the depths. The people on the ships reel to and fro during such a storm.

34. Read Psalm 107:21-43 and write how these waves move.
35. Explain why the people that travel on the oceans and on the seas get to see the works of the Lord in a different way than the people that are only on land.
36. Explain why you think that God can use even the storms to cause people to see His great works.

During a great storm, the waves of the ocean are so high that the people on the ships are unable to walk. They stagger from place to place. They wonder whether they will survive the storm. However, they can call to the Lord from the middle of the storm. The Lord will hear their

prayers and cause the storm to cease. Then the waves will become still. Those who have seen how the Lord has quieted the storm are filled with joy. They realize that the Lord is the One that is taking them in safety to the place where they are going. As a result, their desire will also be to praise the Lord for His goodness to them in the midst of the storm.

37. Read Psalm 107:21-43 and write how God sometimes chooses to change the land that is a wilderness.

38. Explain why this Psalm teaches us that we should give praise to the Lord for what He has done.

39. Explain why you think that God allows people to see His goodness when He preserves them during a storm.

If people fail to praise the Lord, we also see what happens. God has the power to cause the fruitful land to become empty or the empty land to become fruitful. However as people trust the Lord; the Lord will bless their crops. He will also cause their cattle to increase. Meanwhile those who reject the Lord will be brought low. They wander like people that are lost in the wilderness. God also remembers the poor and the needy at the same time. This causes those who trust in the Lord to rejoice as they see how the Lord provides for the poor and needy.

40. Read Psalm 107:21-43 and write who is able to understand the loving-kindness of the Lord.

41. Explain why the Lord chose to bless the crops of the people of Israel during the times that they were trusting in the Lord.

42. Explain why you think that God chooses to remember the poor and the needy.

Reread Psalm 105:1-107:43 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #28
Psalm 108:1-111:10

As we have been studying the book of Psalms, much emphasis has been placed on the importance of singing praise to the Lord. However, this theme will be emphasized even more throughout the rest of the book of Psalms. Today we will be given several reasons why we should give praise to the Lord. We are also told where to praise the Lord. Many times we are tempted to just praise the Lord for those things that make us happy at the moment those things happen. In our lesson today, we will see that it should be our desire to praise the Lord at all times.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain where we should praise the Lord.
- Explain why we should praise the Lord even when we are in any trouble.
- Explain what we learn about Christ.
- Explain what we learn about the source of wisdom.

Psalm 108 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord. As we begin our study of this Psalm, we see that the desire of the Lord for us is that we will learn to praise the Lord at all times regardless of what is happening in our lives at any moment. We see that our hearts should also be fixed in our desire to praise the Lord. The Lord is the One that guides our lives at all times so we should also be unchangeable in our desire to give praise to Him. We see that one of the ways that we can give praise to the Lord is through the use of music. Here we see that we are encouraged to use musical instruments to accompany our singing as we offer our praise to the Lord.

1. Read Psalm 108:1-13 and write where we should give praise to the Lord.
2. Explain why the Lord encourages people to give praise to Him with their musical instruments as well as their voices.
3. Explain why you think that it is important to give praise to the Lord both during the good times and also during the difficult times.

Here we see that we are encouraged to offer praise to the Lord among the peoples and among the nations. This reminds us of the fact that God is able to use praise that is given to Him to accomplish many different things. The offering of praise to the Lord is one of the ways that we can share the message of salvation with the people that do not know Christ. The mercy and truth of God are so great that it is impossible to give all of the praise that the Lord deserves. His glory stretches above the heavens and the earth. God also offers deliverance and salvation to all those who place their trust in Him. At the same time He stands ready to answer our prayers when we pray to Him. This reminds us that there many things for which we should praise the Lord.

4. Read Psalm 108:1-13 and write how God has spoken.
5. Explain why it is possible to share the message of salvation with people that do not know the Lord through songs of praise.

6. Explain why you think that it is important to recognize that the Lord reveals His glory in the heavens.

God speaks in His holiness because He is holy. This is another reason why we should be filled with rejoicing. God is the One that is in control of all of the nations. This is the reason why people must place their trust in the Lord instead of depending on their own strength for victory. God is the only One that we can trust for help when we are in trouble because the help of man is vain. However, we know that we can be victorious in our lives through the strength that the Lord gives. He can give us victory over all things. This means that as we learn to depend on Him and trust in Him that we will see Him complete His plan for us on this earth.

7. Read Psalm 108:1-13 and write what this Psalm says we are able to do when we trust the Lord.

8. Explain why it should be our desire to give praise to the Lord among the people of the nations.

9. Explain why you think that the Lord wants us to remember that we can depend on His strength for victory.

Psalm 109 begins by offering praise to the Lord even though the writer was in the middle of a time of great testing from his enemies. Evil men were speaking lies and evil words about the writer. These people were filled with hate as they spoke about the writer even though they had no cause to hate him. He had shown love and kindness to these people but they had responded to him with hate and evil. As a result, the writer here asked the Lord to judge these wicked men. He was certain that these men would be condemned if they were judged by the Lord. Here we see that the writer was able to give praise in advance because He knew that God is a Righteous Judge that will bring judgment on those who fail to repent and turn from their sin.

10. Read Psalm 109:1-31 and write how long the writer asked the Lord to allow these men to live.

11. Explain why the writer of this Psalm was able to give thanks to the Lord because of the fact that he knew that God is the Righteous Judge.

12. Explain why you think that it is important to ask the Lord to give you His strength to give praise even when you are going through a time of difficult testing.

In his great suffering, the writer wanted God to judge quickly. He asked the Lord to judge these wicked men with death so that their families would be left without a father or husband. In addition, we see that the writer asked the Lord to cause the children of these evil men to become beggars. He asked the Lord to give all of the possessions of the evil men to other people. Finally the writer asked the Lord to cut off the families of the wicked so that the families would no longer be remembered on the earth. Here we see that the writer is asking the Lord to destroy the entire families of evil men so that their children would not be able to follow the evil ways of their fathers.

13. Read Psalm 109:1-31 and write what David said that these evil men had failed to remember.

14. Explain why David asked the Lord to judge these evil men and their families so that they would not continue to follow the evil ways of their fathers.

15. Explain why you think that many people do end up following the evil ways of their fathers.

Instead of showing mercy, these wicked men had persecuted those who were poor and needy.

We see that these evil men loved cursing and hated blessing. In fact we read that their mouths were filled with cursing. Now David asked that the evil men would be given exactly as they had given to others. At the same time David asked the Lord to show mercy to him. David realized that he was poor and needy and unable to help himself. He realized that his life would soon come to an end if he continued on in his present condition. That was the reason why he knew that he must depend on the Lord for help.

16. Read Psalm 109:1-31 and write on what basis David asked the Lord to save him.

17. Explain why evil people will often choose to do evil to the people that are poor and needy.

18. Explain why you think that David asked the Lord to show mercy to him because he realized that his life could soon end.

David realized that in order for him to be saved that the Lord had to show him mercy. Here we see how we are also saved today. We are only saved because of the mercy of the Lord. It was also because of the mercy of the Lord that David asked the Lord to fill him with joy regardless of what his enemies tried to do to him. Instead of trying to judge his enemies, he said that he would leave all judgment to the Lord. Once we realize that we can leave judgment to the Lord, our lives can be filled with praise. We realize that God will judge in righteousness and in His time. Our desire will be to praise the Lord among the people. We know that the Lord will show mercy and provide salvation to all those who trust in Him.

19. Read Psalm 109:1-31 and write where David said that the Lord would be in relation to the poor.

20. Explain why we should also leave all judgment to the Lord.

21. Explain why you think that David asked the Lord to fill him with joy regardless of what his enemies were trying to do to him.

Psalm 110 is a Psalm that speaks of the fact that Christ is our Lord and great High Priest. As a result, parts of this Psalm are quoted many times in the New Testament. As we begin this Psalm, we see that this Psalm looks forward to the time when Christ will be the ruler over all things. The Father invites Christ to sit at His right hand. This helps us to realize the authority that Christ has. The Father also says that all of the enemies of Christ will be destroyed and will become a footstool upon which Christ can rest His feet. We see that Christ will exercise this rule from Zion so this points to the fact that this is talking about the time when Christ will rule on the earth for a thousand years.

22. Read Psalm 110:1-7 and write what Christ will be in the middle of His enemies.

23. Explain why it is important to understand what is meant when this Psalm says that Christ will rule from Zion.

24. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that Christ is your great High Priest.

Here we see that we are reading about the time when Christ will rule on the earth for a thousand years because the enemies of Christ will still be present. In eternity all enemies will be destroyed. The people that trust in the Lord will be filled with joy in the day when Christ rules. In that day people will recognize the holiness of Christ. The Father had made a great promise to Christ. He will never change that promise. This promise tells us about the fact that Christ is our priest before God. This promise is emphasized and explained in much greater detail in the book of Hebrews.

25. Read Psalm 110:1-7 and write what kind of a priest Christ will be like.

26. Explain why the Lord talks about the judgment of the enemies during the time of His rule on the earth.

27. Explain why you think that it is important for all people to come to the point where they recognize the holiness of Christ.

A priest is one who represents people before God. In the Old Testament the nation of Israel had a high priest that went into the holy of holies once each year to take blood as a covering for the sins of the people. The Old Testament priest had to take the blood into the holy of holies every year. He would first take in blood as a covering for his own sins and then he would go in a second time and take blood as a covering for the sins of the people. However, Christ shed His blood once to take away our sins. As a result, we can now come directly to God because of the fact that Christ is our Great High Priest who will be a priest forever.

28. Read Psalm 110:1-7 and write what the Lord will do among the nations when He comes to rule.

29. Explain why it is important for us to understand that Christ only had to offer Himself as a sacrifice for sin once.

30. Explain why you think that it was necessary for the high priest to take blood as a covering for his own sins before he took blood for the sins of the people.

When Christ comes to rule as King, He will judge the nations. All those who have rejected Him will be destroyed. In fact the land will be filled with the dead bodies of those who are destroyed. As we go on to Psalm 111, we see a Psalm of praise to the Lord for His wonderful works. As we give praise to the Lord, our desire should be to praise the Lord with our whole heart. One of the places where we can praise the Lord is in the congregation of the saints. There we can join in giving praise to the Lord with others that also have their trust in Him. Here we see one of the reasons why Christians gather together for worship. Their desire is to praise the Lord together for His wonderful works.

31. Read Psalm 111:1-10 and write what the works of the Lord are like.

32. Explain why it is important for Christians to praise the Lord for His wonderful works so that they are reminded of all that the Lord has done.

33. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to join together with others to give praise to the Lord.

Because the works of the Lord are great, those who serve Him want to see His works. All those who serve the Lord are filled with joy because of the works of the Lord. The works of the Lord are honorable and glorious because of the fact that Christ is the One that is righteous. The works of the Lord are so great that they are easily remembered by those who have their trust in the Lord. The Lord provides food to those who have their trust in Him. He never forgets the covenant that He made with His people back in the time of Abraham. At the same time the Lord never forgets the promises that He has made to us today.

34. Read Psalm 111:1-10 and write what God has shown His people.

35. Explain why it is important to know that the Lord never forgets any of the promises that He has made.

36. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to continually remember the works of the Lord.

The Lord is very powerful. His works demonstrate His power to the nation that He has chosen to be His people. It is through the power of the Lord that the Jews have remained as a people even though they have been scattered among the nations for more than 2500 years. The works of the Lord are also true and just. The commandments of the Lord are unchanging. They will stand fast forever and ever. Even though people refuse to obey the commandments of the Lord, they cannot destroy those commandments. Those commandments will stand firmly regardless of what people do.

37. Read Psalm 111:1-10 and write what this Psalm teaches is the source of wisdom.

38. Explain what you learn about the greatness of the works of the Lord from this Psalm.

39. Explain why you think that the Lord has preserved the Jews as a people even though they have been scattered for more than 2500 years.

We also learn about the source of wisdom from this chapter. We see that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. People without Christ may gain great knowledge through their studies. However, they can never gain godly wisdom through study. Wisdom is a gift that is given to us by the Lord. We begin to receive wisdom when we place our trust in the Lord so that it causes us to fear and worship Him. Wisdom is the ability to understand things from the viewpoint of God rather than from the viewpoint of man. That is why people without the Lord can never receive godly wisdom.

40. Read Psalm 111:1-10 and write what those who do the commandments of the Lord will receive.

41. Explain why it is important for every Christian to have a godly fear since the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

42. Explain how you would help another person understand what is meant by godly wisdom.

Now reread Psalm 108:1-111:10 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #29
Psalm 112:1-118:29

Today we will be studying several Psalms of praise to the Lord. These were Psalms that the people of Israel sang as they went together to the feasts of the Lord. As we study these Psalms, we will see several more reasons why we should want to praise the Lord. It is very easy for people to begin to praise their own strength and take the credit for the things that they do instead of realizing that the Lord is the One that makes all things possible. Often people without the Lord give praise to idols that cannot even hear them. However, we will learn in our study today why all praise and glory belongs only to the Lord.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why the Lord should be praised at all times.
- Explain what we learn about idols.
- Explain why the death of the saints is precious in the sight of the Lord.
- Explain what you learn about the loving-kindness of the Lord.

As we begin Psalm 112, we see that we will be studying about the man that is blessed by the Lord. The Lord blesses those who fear Him and obey His commandments. The family of the man that truly fears the Lord will be mighty upon the earth because of the fact that the father has trained his children to fear and serve the Lord. The Lord will also bless such a man by supplying all of his needs. At the same time the righteousness of that man will continue forever. God will be a light to the man that is upright. Such a man is gracious, full of compassion and righteous. Such a man is willing to show kindness and lend to those who are in need.

1. Read Psalm 112:1-10 and write how such a man will guide his affairs.
2. Explain why this Psalm says that the person that truly fears the Lord will be mighty upon the earth.
3. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to become a person that truly fears the Lord.

A man that has his trust in the Lord can guide his affairs with discretion because of the fact that he is depending on the Lord for guidance in his life. The righteousness of such a man will be remembered continually. Such a person does not need to be afraid of evil. Instead his heart is unchanging because he has his trust in the Lord. Such a man is not afraid because he trusts the Lord to take care of his enemies. We see that such a man also shares with the poor and the needy. As evil men see a man that has his trust in the Lord, evil men are filled with sorrow because they realize that they cannot get that man to follow their evil ways.

4. Read Psalm 111:1-113:9 and write how long the name of the Lord will be blessed.
5. Explain why people will see that the Lord gives them wisdom and discretion as they look to the Lord for guidance.
6. Explain why you think that it is important for you to seek the guidance of the Lord so that you know how to walk in your own life.

As we come to Psalm 113, we see that praise belongs to the Lord continually. The name of the Lord should be praised from morning until night because of the fact that His glory is above the heavens. There is no one that can be compared to the Lord. He lives in heaven but He humbled Himself so that He could meet the needs of those who live on the earth. God is concerned about the poor and the needy and raises them up out of their lowly places. Then He sets these lowly people among the princes. He also gives children to the woman that has no children. Here we see that the Lord remembers the people that most of the people on the earth forget.

7. Read Psalm 113:1-9 and write how long this Psalm says that the name of the Lord should be blessed.

8. Explain why this Psalm teaches that we should praise the Lord continually for the things that He does.

9. Explain why it is important to you in your own life that the Lord chose to humble Himself for your sake.

Psalm 114 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord for delivering the nation of Israel from the land of Egypt. While the people of Israel were in the land of Egypt, they had been under the control of a nation that spoke a strange language. However, when the Lord brought Israel out of the land of Egypt, God caused the Red Sea and the Jordan River to divide so that the people of Israel could pass through them on dry ground. This was a reminder to the people that God controls all things. The mountains and the seas are under the complete control of the Lord. They move at His command. They even tremble before His presence.

10. Read Psalm 114:1-8 and write what God did to the rock.

11. Explain why it was important that God caused both the Red Sea and the Jordan River to divide so that Israel could pass through on dry ground.

12. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to realize that the Lord has power over all things.

As we come to Psalm 115, we have a great comparison between God and idols. There actually is no comparison. This shows us why we should not take glory for ourselves or for the works of our hands. Instead it should be our desire to give all glory to the Lord. Glory belongs to God because of the mercy and truth that He shows in His dealings with mankind. Many times the people of the nations question whether God exists. However, we know that God is alive. He is able to do whatever He chooses. In contrast idols are nothing. The idols are made of silver and gold and they have no life. They are the works of the hands of man and are made in the image of man.

13. Read Psalm 115:1-18 and write what these idols cannot do even though they have mouths.

14. Explain why we should give all glory to God rather than to idols.

15. Explain why you think that when people make idols that they make those idols in their own image.

Here we have a description of idols that shows us the complete uselessness of idols. They cannot speak with their mouths. They cannot see with their eyes. They cannot hear with their ears. Although they have noses, those noses cannot smell. Their hands and their feet are also useless. In fact in every way these idols are totally useless. There is no way that these idols can be of any help to the people that have placed their trust in them. The people that make idols and

put their trust in them are just like the idols. These people choose to trust something that offers no help and no hope. This is the reason why people need to place their trust in the Lord.

16. Read Psalm 115:1-18 and write what the Lord is to those who place their trust in Him.

17. Explain why people need to realize that lifeless idols can provide neither help nor hope.

18. Explain why you think that many people in the world has chosen to follow lifeless idols and worship them.

The Lord is a help and a shield to all those who have chosen to place their trust in the Lord. The Lord demonstrated this help to the nation of Israel and He continues to demonstrate that help to us. The Lord will bless all those who fear Him whether those individuals are small or great. When we fear and serve the Lord, we will be blessed by the Lord who made the heavens and the earth. The Lord created the heavens and the earth and then He gave the earth to mankind as a place for mankind to live. As a result of all of the things that the Lord has done, our desire should be to give praise to the Lord forever.

19. Read Psalm 115:1-18 and write what people this Psalm says cannot give praise to the Lord.

20. Explain why it is important for all those who have placed their trust in the Lord to realize that He has promised to be their help and shield.

21. Explain why you think that the Lord chose to make the earth a place for mankind to live.

Psalm 116 tells us why the writer of this Psalm loved the Lord. He loved the Lord because the Lord heard his prayer and listened to him. In fact we see that the Lord has His ear open to all those who will call upon Him. As we think about the time when death will come either to us or to a close relative, it will be a time of trouble and sorrow if we do not have our trust in the Lord. However, when we have our trust in the Lord, we can call on Him in our time of sorrow and know that He will hear us. God is a merciful God and He is able to bring deliverance to our lives. The Lord is ready to help those who are brought low. The Lord preserves and protects those who are unable to protect themselves.

22. Read Psalm 116:1-19 and write how the Lord deals with those who have placed their trust in Him.

23. Explain why it is important for all Christians to realize that they call cry out to the Lord in their times of sorrow.

24. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that the Lord loves you and listens to your prayers.

The Lord is able to deliver us if He chooses even when it looks like we face certain death. He can remove the tears from our eyes and keep us from falling. We can walk before the Lord because He has given us life. Because we believe in the Lord and have placed our trust in Him, we can also speak for the Lord. It is only when we fail to trust in the Lord during our troubles that we will accuse other people of being liars. Instead of accusing others, we should realize all of the benefits that the Lord has given to us. We should put our trust the salvation that the Lord provides and call upon His name.

25. Read Psalm 116:1-19 and write where the writer of this Psalm said that he would pay his vows to the Lord.

26. Explain why it is important to turn to the Lord instead of accusing others during our times of trouble.

27. Explain why you think that the Lord wants to remove your tears and keep you from falling in your times of trouble.

Because the Lord has given us life, our desire should be to serve Him. Even when we face death, we should realize that the death of the saints is precious in the sight of the Lord. When we understand that the death of the saints is precious to the Lord, we will not fear death because we realize that we will immediately be with the Lord. We should realize that we are the servants of the Lord because He has freed us from the bondage of sin. This is the reason why we want to give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name. This is also the reason why we want to keep our promises to the Lord in the presence of His people.

28. Read Psalm 116:1-19 and write what kind of sacrifices the author of this Psalm said that he would give to the Lord.

29. Explain why it is important for us to keep any promises that we make to the Lord in our lives.

30. Explain why you think that this Psalm tells us that the death of the saints is precious to the Lord.

Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter in the Bible. However, it has a very important message for us even though it is very short. The desire of the Lord is for all of the nations and all of the people of the nations to give praise to the Lord. The reason why the nations should praise to the Lord is due to the fact that the mercy and kindness of the Lord toward mankind is very great. In addition, the truth of the Lord will last forever. The Lord is the One who is truth. His truth is unchanging and it will never end. Since His truth will not change, our desire should be to give praise to the Lord.

31. Read Psalm 117:1-118:29 and write how long the writer said that the mercy of the Lord will last.

32. Explain why it is the desire of the Lord for the people of all nations to be able to give praise to the Lord.

33. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that the Lord is truth and that His truth is unchanging.

Psalm 118 tells us that we are able to give thanks to the Lord because of the fact that His mercy endures forever. The Lord answers us when we call to Him in our times of distress. Because the Lord is on our side, we do not need to be afraid of what people will try to do to us. The Lord will be the One that will help us in our distress. This is the reason why it is important to trust the Lord rather than trusting men or even the leaders of men. Regardless of how people will rise up against us, the Lord will give us victory over all of them.

34. Read Psalm 118:1-29 and write how long the writer said that the Lord will give us victory over our enemies.

35. Explain why it is important for every Christian to know that the Lord will answer them when they cry to Him in their distress.

36. Explain why you realize that because the Lord is on your side that you do not need to be afraid of what people might try to do to you.

We do not even need to be afraid when our enemies gather around us like a swarm of bees. When they try to make us fall, the Lord will help us. The Lord is the One that provides us with strength. He has also provided our salvation. This is another reason why our voices should be filled with rejoicing. We do not need to fear death. Instead we know that the Lord will give us

life so that we can declare His works. The Lord will also open the gates of righteousness to us so that we can enter into them. All of those who stand in the righteousness of Christ will one day enter the gates of heaven.

37. Read Psalm 118:1-29 and write what happened to the stone that the builders refused when they were building the temple.

38. Explain why these verses teach us that we do not need to be afraid or fearful when people oppose us.

39. Explain why you think that you no longer need to be controlled by fear since the Lord promises that He will always help us.

As we come to the last part of this Psalm, we see an event that tells us about Christ. When the men were building the temple in the time of Solomon, a stone was brought to the building site that did not seem to fit so the workmen threw that stone away. Later it was discovered that the workmen had thrown away the cornerstone which was the most important stone of the building. This was a picture of the fact that people would reject Christ when He came. We know that Christ was the One that was rejected when He came in the name of the Lord. He is the One that came to give us light so that we would know the way to walk.

40. Read Psalm 118:1-29 and write why we should desire to give thanks to the Lord.

41. Explain what this Psalm teaches that the people would do to Christ when He came to this earth.

42. Explain why you think that the Lord caused the workmen that were building the temple to throw away the cornerstone.

Now reread Psalm 112:1-118:29 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #30
Psalm 119:1-88

Today we will be studying the first half of the longest chapter in the Bible. Psalm 119 is a Psalm that teaches us many things about the Word of God. In fact a word that refers to the Word of God is used in almost every verse. We will see that many different words are used to refer to the Word of God. These words included such words as: law, testimonies, ways, precepts, statutes, sayings, commandments, paths, judgments, words and ordinances. As you study this Psalm, whenever you see any of these words you know that those words refer to the Word of God as it is written in the Bible.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what this Psalm teaches about the way to experience cleansing.
- Explain what you learn about the need for guidance.
- Explain how the Word of God provides comfort.
- Explain why the Lord is able to use suffering for our good.

Each group of eight verses in this Psalm speaks especially of one topic. The first group of verses speaks about obedience while the second group speaks about cleansing from sin. As we begin this chapter, we see that there is blessing for those who walk in the law of the Lord. The Lord wants us to be obedient and seek Him with a whole heart. As we walk in the ways of the Lord, we will not be walking in the ways of sin at the same time. God has commanded us to be diligent about the way that we keep His commandments. As a result, our desire should be to keep and obey the statutes of the Lord. When we walk in the ways of the Lord, we have no reason to be ashamed.

1. Read Psalm 119:1-16 and how we should praise the Lord.
2. Explain why a person that chooses to obey the commandments of the Lord will have no reason to be ashamed.
3. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to be obedient to the Lord and to seek Him with your whole heart.

We can only offer true praise to the Lord when our hearts are right with the Lord. As a result, we must come to the Lord for cleansing from sin if we want to be obedient to the Lord. However, this immediately brings us to the question, How can we be cleansed from our sin? This question is answered for us as we see that we will experience the cleansing of the Lord as we take heed to the Word of God. This means that we have to seek the Lord with our whole heart and not just when we find it convenient. If we only seek the Lord when it is convenient, we will wander away from the commandments of the Lord.

4. Read Psalm 119:1-16 and write why we should memorize or hide the Word of God in our hearts.
5. Explain how the Lord uses the Word of God to bring cleansing to our lives when we have sinned.
6. Explain why you think that the Lord wants us to experience daily cleansing from sin in our lives.

Here we see one of many reasons why we should memorize the Word of God. We see that when we have the Word of God in our hearts that it helps to give us victory over the temptations that we face. We need to ask the Lord to teach us and give us understanding of His Word. Then we will be able to teach the Word to others. The Word of God will become more valuable to us than great riches. As we meditate upon the Word, we will know how to follow the ways of the Lord. The Word of God will also bring delight to our hearts as we think about the Word and follow it.

7. Read Psalm 119:1-16 and write what the writer of this Psalm said that he would not forget.
8. Explain what these verses teach us about the way to have cleansing from sin in our lives.
9. Explain why you think that having the Word of God in your heart will help you to have victory over temptation.

In order to receive true understanding of the Word of God, we need to realize that the Lord is the One that has given us life as well as all of the other things that we have received from Him. This causes us to realize that we need to ask Him to open our understanding so that we will be able to understand the Word of God. It is important to realize that the Lord is the source of all wisdom and understanding. We need to realize that our lives are short and we need to learn the Word of God while we have the opportunity. Our hearts should be filled with a longing for the Word of God at all times. The Lord is the One that rebukes those who speak against His words.

10. Read Psalm 119:17-40 and write what we should do when leaders sit together and speak evil against us.
11. Explain why it is important for all people to realize that the Lord is the One that has given them life.
12. Explain why you think that it is important for you to ask the Lord to give you understanding of the Word of God.

We do not need to get upset when people speak against us. Instead we can meditate upon the Word of God. The Word of God will fill us with delight as well as provide us with wisdom and counsel. We can experience the joy of the Lord daily as we meditate upon His Word. Even when we feel discouraged, the Word of God will revive us. As we speak of the ways of the Lord, we can ask Him to give us greater understanding. The Lord will answer our prayer for understanding so that we will be able to speak the wonderful works of the Lord.

13. Read Psalm 119:17-40 and write how we can be strengthened when our soul melts with heaviness.
14. Explain why it is important for all Christians to realize that the Word of God will give us wisdom and counsel.
15. Explain why you think that the Word of God will revive you during those times when you are discouraged.

The Word of God will always provide strength to us when we are in need of strength. It will also help us to walk in the ways of the Lord instead of following our own ways. It is very easy to follow our own way but our way will lead us into trouble. We are choosing the way of truth when we choose to follow the Word of the Lord. As we follow the Word of God, we will not be put to shame. Instead we will experience growth in our lives as we follow the ways of the Lord. This is the reason why we need to ask the Lord to teach us His ways so that we can follow His ways throughout our entire lives.

16. Read Psalm 119:17-40 and write what the writer promised to do if the Lord would give him understanding.
17. Explain why it is important for all Christians to ask the Lord to teach us to walk in the ways of the Lord.
18. Explain why you think that you will experience spiritual growth as you choose to follow the ways of the Lord.

Here we see that our desire should be that the Lord will give us understanding so that we are able to obey His Word with our whole heart. Then we will be able to go in the way that the Lord wants us to go. We need to pray that the Lord will help us to follow His Word rather than our own desires. We are often tempted to turn our eyes away from the Lord instead of keeping our eyes fixed on the Lord. This is why we need to pray that the Lord will give us such a longing for His Word that we will not be tempted to look at those things that will lead us away from the fear of the Lord.

19. Read Psalm 119:17-40 and write from what the writer of this Psalm asked the Lord to turn his eyes.
20. Explain why it is important in our lives to ask the Lord to give us understanding of His Word.
21. Explain why you think that we are often tempted to turn our eyes away from the Lord instead of keeping our eyes fixed on Him.

We go on to see that the Word of God prepares us to witness for the Lord. As we depend on the mercy of God and study the Word of God, the Lord will give us answers for those who speak against us. We can trust the Word of God for our answers. We need to have the Word of God in our mouth so that we are prepared to live and speak the Word at all times. As we follow the Word of the Lord, we are able to walk freely. At the same time we will not be afraid to speak for the Lord even before the leaders of nations. Again we see that we need to meditate on the Word of God if we want to be effective witnesses.

22. Read Psalm 119:41-64 and write what the Word of God causes the servants of the Lord to do.
23. Explain why the Lord will give us answers from the Word of God for those who choose to speak against us.
24. Explain why you think that you need to have the Word of God in your mouth so that you are prepared to share it at all times.

The Word of God also gives us hope and comfort when we are suffering. This is true because of the fact that the Word of God has given us life. Even though the proud may make fun of us, we do not need to be ashamed as we trust in the Word. The Lord will continue to bring comfort to our lives through His Word. Then the thing that will bring sorrow to our lives is seeing the fact that others choose to forsake the Word of God to lead and guide them in their own lives. During the time that we live on this earth, we see that the Word of God will give us a song in our hearts.

25. Read Psalm 119:41-64 and write how we should make requests and entreat the favor of the Lord.
26. Explain why we will have sorrow in our lives when we see that others choose to forsake the Word of God and not let it lead and guide them.

27. Explain why you think that the Word of God can give you a song in your heart as long as you live on this earth.

The Lord is the only One in whom we can have complete trust. We cannot always even trust our own hearts. This is the reason why we need to seek the Lord with our whole heart. We need to think about the ways of the Lord and follow those ways. We should not put off the keeping of the commandments of the Lord but choose to begin to follow His ways as quickly as we learn His ways from our study of the Bible. We can be thankful in the middle of the night for the commandments of the Lord. As a result, our desire should be that the Lord will teach us even more of His Word so that we are able to meditate upon it when we are awake in the night.

28. Read Psalm 119:41-64 and write what the writer of this Psalm said that he would do at midnight.

29. Explain why our desire should be to follow the commandments of the Lord as quickly as we learn about those commandments.

30. Explain why you think that the Lord will give you greater understanding as you meditate on the Word of God.

We also read that the Lord deals with us according to His Word. This is another reason why we should ask the Lord to teach us so that we will know what He desires for us in our lives.

Sometimes we complain about suffering. Here we see that we can be thankful for suffering because the Lord uses that suffering to cause us to return to the Lord when we have gone astray. Then we realize that the Lord is good and that He is helping us to have a joyful life because He is teaching us to understand His commandments. The result is that we do not need to worry about the things that evil people are saying about us when we are trusting in the Word of God.

31. Read Psalms 119:65-88 and write why it is a good thing for us to suffer and be afflicted.

32. Explain why this Psalm says that we can be thankful even during the times that we are experiencing suffering.

33. Explain why you think that your life will be filled with joy as you grow in your understanding and obedience to the commandments of the Lord.

Suffering usually causes us to turn to the Lord and to the Word of God for help. As we learn what the Lord says in His Word, it gives us encouragement to face the suffering. In this way we learn that the Word of God is worth more than great riches. The more we learn of the Word of God, the richer we become in our spiritual lives. As we think about the fact that the Lord is the One that has made us, our desire grows to have the Lord give us understanding of His commandments as we learn His Word. Those who trust in the Lord will be filled with joy as they see how the Lord is working in their lives and the lives of others through His Word.

34. Read Psalm 119:65-88 and write what the writer said about the judgments of the Lord.

35. Explain why Christians need to realize that spiritual riches are of much greater value than earthly riches.

36. Explain why you think that the Lord will cause your spiritual life to become richer as you grow in your understanding of the Word of God.

The Lord knows what we need to develop right attitudes in our lives and so He allows suffering in our lives for our own good. As a result, we realize the need to look to the mercy of the Lord for comfort rather than getting upset when we suffer. Even when evil men deal roughly with us

for no reason we will be comforted as we meditate on the Word of God. The Word of God will fill us with joy in the middle of suffering as we meditate upon that Word. The Word of God will also produce soundness and maturity in our lives so that we do not need to be ashamed.

37. Read Psalm 119:65-88 and write why the writer of this Psalm asked the Lord to revive or quicken him.

38. Explain how the Word of God gives comfort to us when we are suffering in our lives.

39. Explain why you think that suffering in our lives often helps us to develop good attitudes that are pleasing to the lord.

We can easily become faint and discouraged if we forget the Word of God and begin to depend on our own thoughts. However, as we begin to think about the Word of God again, that Word gives us hope. It is a source of comfort regardless of what is happening around us. Again we see the importance of keeping our thoughts on the Word of God. We may be surrounded by enemies that are trying to destroy us. They may be persecuting us for no cause. It is at times like this when we realize how much the Lord comforts us through His Word.

40. Read Psalm 119:65-88 and write what the writer said he would have in his mouth as he experienced the loving-kindness of the Lord.

41. Explain why thinking and meditating on the Word of God are things that cause Christians to be filled with hope.

42. Explain why you think the Word of God is a great source of comfort when you are going through difficult times.

Now reread Psalm 119:1-88 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from this chapter.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #31
Psalm 119:89-176

Today we will be studying the second half of the longest chapter in the Bible. As we saw in the first half of this Psalm, the entire Psalm speaks about the Word of God. Many times we apply the Word of God to certain areas of our lives and fail to apply it to other areas of our lives. This Psalm reminds us of the fact that we are able to apply the Word of God at all times and in all situations to every area in our lives. As we begin to learn to apply the Word of God to the various problems that we face in our lives, we will begin to experience the joy of the Lord in the midst of any problem.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what this Psalm teaches about victory through faith.
- Explain how the Lord gives us understanding of the Word of God.
- Explain what this Psalm teaches about the righteousness of God.
- Explain how love for the Word of God gives us inner peace.

As we begin our study of the second half of this Psalm, we see that the Word of God is settled forever in heaven. This means that the Word of God will never change. Just like His Word, we also see that God is faithful to all generations. He has complete control over the earth and so He is able to fulfill all of the promises that He has made regarding the earth. The things that the Lord has spoken will happen exactly as He has spoken them. For this reason our desire should be to have our thoughts centered on the Word of God. It will strengthen us when we are enduring great suffering. We have received life through the Word of God and we should never forget the Word as a result. We belong to God because of the fact that He is the One that saved us through the blood of Christ.

1. Read Psalm 119:89-112 and write what we should do when we know that the wicked are waiting to destroy us.
2. Explain why it is important for Christians to understand that the Lord is faithful to all generations.
3. Explain why it is important for you to know in your life that things that happen in this life will happen exactly as the Lord has spoken them.

When other people are trying to destroy us, we should think about the promises that the Lord has given us in His Word. The Bible reminds us of the fact that the devil cannot touch us unless God allows him to do so for our own good. We also see that the Word of God is able to bring us to spiritual maturity. That is another reason why it is important to meditate on the Word of God throughout the day. As we meditate upon the Word of God, it will make us wiser than our enemies. It will give us more understanding than those who are our teachers. We will even have more understanding than those who have lived much longer than we have lived. People may gain great knowledge through study. However, wisdom and understanding can only come from the Lord because He is the source of wisdom and understanding.

4. Read Psalm 119:89-112 and write from what the Word of God will keep our feet.

5. Explain why it is important for every Christian to understand that obedience to the Word of God will help them grow to spiritual maturity.
6. Explain why you think that the Word of God will make you wiser than your enemies and give you more understanding than your teachers.

The Word of God will give us victory over sin if we will obey the Word and not just hear it. We need to allow the Lord to teach us how to follow His Word so that we will not depart from it. As we study the Word of God, we learn that it is sweeter than the sweetest honey. Through it we receive understanding so that we know the difference between the right way and the wrong way. The Word of God is like a lamp to our feet. The Word shows us the path to take as we follow the Lord so that we are able to do the things that are right.

7. Read Psalm 119:89-112 and write what we should ask the Lord to accept.
8. Explain why the Word of God will help Christians learn to have victory over sin as Christians learn to obey the Word of God.
9. Explain why you think that the Word of God is called a lamp to your feet and a light to your path.

As we have seen, the Word of God does many things for us in our lives. However, there is still more that it does. It is able to revive us when we have been enduring much suffering. It is able to teach and guide us. It will cause us to want to give freewill offerings to the Lord. It will remind us that the Lord holds us in His hand continually. The Word of God will also keep us from being trapped by the tricks of the devil. At the same time the Word is able to guide us at all times. This will cause us to be filled with rejoicing as we see how the Lord works. This is another reason why it should be our desire to obey the Word of God at all times.

10. Read Psalm 119:89-112 and write what the testimonies of the Lord caused in the heart of the writer of this Psalm.
11. Explain what this Psalm teaches us about the fact that the Word of God gives us wisdom and understanding.
12. Explain why you realize that it is important for you to know the Word of God so that you will not be trapped by the tricks of the devil.

We go on to read about the difference between those who love the Word of God and those who reject the Word. Those who love the Word do not want to let their minds dwell on empty thoughts. Instead they realize that the Word of God provides protection to their thinking because it helps them to see things from the viewpoint of the Lord instead of the viewpoint of the world. Evil doers will try to keep us from the studying and meditating on the Word of God but that Word will uphold us and give us hope. Because of the fact that it is the Lord that is holding us up, we know that we are safe. At the same time we know that the Lord will one day destroy all those who reject the Word of God. They will be judged for their evil. This is another reason why we need to trust the Lord and fear Him instead of fearing people.

13. Read Psalm 119:113-136 and write to whom the writer asks the Lord not to leave him.
14. Explain why Christians learn more and more to understand the viewpoint of the Lord as they spend time thinking about the Word of God.
15. Explain why it is important to you in your own life not to let your mind spend a lot of time thinking about empty thoughts.

We do not need to be afraid of our enemies when we have our trust in the Lord. He will stand up for us when the proud try to oppress us. This is why our desire is to keep our eyes on the salvation that the Lord provides. Then we realize that the Lord is dealing with us in mercy as He teaches us. He will give us understanding because of the fact that we are His servants. The Lord will work out His purposes even though many people reject His Word. This is still another reason why the Word of God is more valuable than great riches. It will lead us in the ways that are right.

16. Read Psalm 119:113-136 and write what the Word of God will cause us to hate.

17. Explain why the Lord will work out His purposes on this earth even though many people reject His Word.

18. Explain why you think that the Word of God is of much more value to you than great worldly riches.

The Word of God is very wonderful and that is the reason why our desire should be to follow the Word. As we open our lives to the Word, it gives us light and understanding for our lives. We should have a great longing for the commandments of the Lord. The Word shows the great mercy of God to those who love Him. The Word of God guides our steps so that sin does not have control over us. It will also deliver us from evil men that are trying to destroy us. The Lord will look at us in love as He teaches us His Word. At the same time we will be sad as we see other people that are failing to obey the Word of God in their lives.

19. Read Psalm 119:113-136 and write what the writer asked the Lord to do with his steps.

20. Explain how the Word of God guides us in our daily lives.

21. Explain why you think that the Word of God will guide your steps so that sin will not have control over your life.

As we think about the Lord, we realize that He is the only One that is righteous. Because the Lord is righteous, His judgments are also right. This means that all of the things that the Lord has spoken in His Word are also righteous and faithful. The writer was very disturbed as he realized that the people that were around him had forgotten the Word of God. Because he knew that the Word of God is pure and holy, he loved the Word. We should have this same attitude of love for the Word of God regardless of whether we are small or great.

22. Read Psalm 119:137-152 and write how long the righteousness of the Lord will last.

23. Explain why it is important to understand that all of the things that the Lord has spoken in His Word are righteous and faithful.

24. Explain why you think that it is also important for you in your own life to have a love for the Word of God.

The righteousness of the Lord is unchangeable and it will last forever. His word is true. Regardless of the problems that we may suffer, the Word will still fill us with delight. Because we know that the Word is unchanging, we need to ask God to give us understanding of His Word. The writer gives us an example by saying that he cried to the Lord with his whole heart. As we pray to the Lord and obey His Word, we know that He will listen to us. The Word of God will give us hope as we follow it. Here we are reminded again of the tremendous power of God and His Word.

25. Read Psalm 119:137-152 and write where the writer placed his hope as he waited for the dawning of the morning.

26. Explain why the Word of God is able to fill us with delight even when we are experiencing problems in our lives.

27. Explain why you think that you need to follow the example of the writer and cry to the Lord with your whole heart.

The writer looked forward to the morning because it would give him another opportunity to study the Word of God. At the same time he also looked forward to the evening because the evening provided time for him to meditate on the Word. He also knew that the Lord would hear his voice because of the loving-kindness and justice of the Lord. When people that reject the Word of God come close to us to do evil, we know that the Lord is even closer. During such times we know that we can trust the Lord and His Word because it will never change.

28. Read Psalm 119:137-152 and write where we can know that the Lord is at as we study His Word.

29. Explain why we know that we can place our hope in the Word of God.

30. Explain why it is important to you in your life to know that the Lord is even closer to you than those who want to do evil to you.

There are times in our lives when we are suffering. In those times we can call to the Lord for deliverance because we know that He will not forget the promises that He has made in His Word. The Lord will take our cause and provide deliverance to us. Our enemies cannot expect the Lord to deliver them because they do not have their trust in Him. At the same time we know that the tender mercies of the Lord are great. Regardless of how many enemies we have that rise up against us; we can continue to place our trust in the Lord.

31. Read Psalm 119:153-176 and write why the writer was grieved as he looked at the transgressors around him.

32. Explain why it is important for all Christians to know that the Lord will provide His deliverance to all those who have their trust in the Lord.

33. Explain why you think that it is important to ask the Lord to give you His strength when you are going through times of suffering.

Here we see the attitude that we should have toward those who do not obey the Word of God. We should be filled with love and concern for the people that have not placed their trust in Christ and share the Word with them. The Lord encourages us as we think about the Word of God because the Word reminds us of the loving-kindness of the Lord. As we think about the Word, we know that the Word is true and unchangeable and will last forever. Even when we are persecuted by people for no reason, the Word of God still fills us with amazement. The Word of the Lord fills us with great joy because it is like a great treasure.

34. Read Psalm 119:153-176 and write what the writer hated.

35. Explain why it is important for us to be filled with love and concern for the people that have not yet placed their trust in Christ.

36. Explain why you think that the Word of God will continue to fill our lives with amazement as we continue to learn from it.

The writer hated lying but he loved the Word of God because it is the truth. The righteousness of the Lord caused the writer to be filled with praise to the Lord throughout the day. The Word of God also gives us great peace. This is an inner peace that no one can destroy. We can place

our hope in the salvation that the Lord provides. As we obey the Word of God, we will be filled with love for the Word. This will change and transform our lives as we walk in the ways of the Lord.

37. Read Psalm 119:153-176 and write what the writer said he would speak as the Lord taught him the statutes of the Lord.

38. Explain what these verses teach us about the fact that the Word of God will give us inner peace in our lives.

39. Explain why you think that the Word of God is changing and transformin g your thinking as you grow in your understanding of the Word.

When we do not understand the Word of God, we can cry to the Lord and ask Him to give us understanding. The Lord will hear our prayers for understanding or deliverance. Then we will be able to praise the Lord with our lips as we speak the Word of God to others. The Lord will also hold us up with His hand because we have placed our trust in Him. This is another reason why we can be filled with joy and delight as we have our trust in the Lord. We also see that because of the love of the Lord for us that He even watches over us when we go astray.

40. Read Psalm 119:153-176 and write to what we are compared when we go astray from the Lord.

41. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that because of His love the Lord watches over us even when we go astray.

42. Explain why you think that it is important to ask the Lord to give you understanding when you read chapters or verses that you do not understand.

Now reread Psalm 119:89-176 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from this chapter.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #32
Psalms 120:1-125:5

Psalms 120 through Psalm 134 are called the Songs of Ascents. The reason that this group of Psalms is called by that name is due to the fact that these Psalms were sung by travelers as they traveled. It is likely that these were the songs that the people of Israel would sing as they traveled to the different feasts that were held at the city of Jerusalem. At a later time, these Psalms were probably also sung by the people that returned from Babylon to the city of Jerusalem as they made their long journey back to Jerusalem from their exile.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain from where we receive our help as we travel.
- Explain why we are told to pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
- Explain what we learn about the mercy of the Lord.
- Explain what we learn about the protection of the Lord.

As we begin this section of Psalms, we see that Psalm 120 is a cry to the Lord for help in a time of distress. When we cry to the Lord in our times of distress, we know that the Lord will hear us just as He heard the writer of this Psalm when the writer cried out to the Lord. We see that the Lord will provide deliverance to all those who call to Him for help. The Lord is able to provide that deliverance for us from those who speak with lying lips. This same deliverance is available from those who are speaking deceitful words. The Lord hears the words of all those who are speaking lies and deceit. He is the One that will judge such people because of the false words that they have spoken.

1. Read Psalm 120:1-7 and write what the writer asks the Lord to deliver from lying lips.
2. Explain why it is important to know that the Lord will deliver us both from those who speak with lying lips and from those who speak deceitful words.
3. Explain why you think that it is important to cry to the Lord when we are experiencing inner distress in our lives.

The writer asked the Lord to deliver his soul. The soul is the mind, emotions and will. These are the very areas where Satan would like to cause conflict and confusion in our lives because conflict in these areas produces a Christian life that is unstable because of confusion in our thoughts and feelings. Just like the writer of this Psalm, we are living in the middle of people that are following Satan. Because they are following Satan, these people look for opportunities to do evil and destroy. Such people hate peace. Yet these are the people with whom we have to deal each day. This is the reason why we must choose to keep our thoughts fixed on the Lord rather than those around us if we want to experience His peace.

4. Read Psalm 120:1-7 and write what the evil people that are around us want when we want peace and quiet.
5. Explain why the desire of Satan is to cause conflict and confusion in the thoughts and feelings of those who trust in the Lord.
6. Explain why you think that the Lord gives you strength to deal with the people around you as you keep your thoughts fixed on the Lord.

When the people around us want war, Psalm 121 tells us what to do in order to have peace in our lives. We are to lift up our eyes and look to the Lord for help. Our help will not come from men. Our help cannot come from idols. Instead our help must come from the Lord. The Lord can help us because He is the One that made the heavens and the earth. Because God created both the heavens and the earth, we can come to Him for any help that we need in our lives. We know that the Lord is the One that has all power and is ready to answer our prayers.

7. Read Psalm 121:1-8 and write what the Lord will not allow to happen to our foot when evil men are against us.

8. Explain why the fact that the Lord made the heavens and the earth assures us of the fact that the Lord is able to help us when we look to Him for help.

9. Explain why you think that it is important to help new Christians learn to look to the Lord for help in their lives.

The Lord watches over all those who place their trust in Him. No person can even touch one of our feet unless the Lord allows that person to touch it. Everything that the Lord allows to happen in our lives happens to us for our own good because the Lord promises to make all things work together for good to them that love God. We can trust in the Lord because we know that the Lord does not go to sleep as He watches over us. The nation of Israel can also know that the Lord will not go to sleep as He watches over that nation. The Lord is the One that keeps and preserves us. He is the One that provides protection for us as He watches over us.

10. Read Psalm 121:1-8 and write what the Lord promises will not smite us by day or by night.

11. Explain why it is important for us to know that the Lord will take everything that happens in our lives and work it out for good.

12. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to know that the Lord watches over you and preserves you.

Because the Lord is the One that is our protection and shade, we do not need to worry about the effect that even the weather will have on us. Just as we do not need to worry about the weather, we do not need to worry about evil that may come to us from any source. The Lord protects our soul from the attacks of the devil. The Lord protects us as we are in our homes. The Lord also protects us as we go from place to place. Once we have placed our trust in the Lord, we can know that we will continue to experience the protection of the Lord.

13. Read Psalm 121:1-8 and write how long we will experience this protection that comes from the Lord.

14. Explain what the fact that the Lord provides us with His protection can give us peace as we go through our daily lives.

15. Explain why you think that you need your soul protected from the attacks of the devil.

As the people of Israel traveled toward Jerusalem, their hearts were filled with joy as they went to worship the Lord. They were eagerly looking forward to the moment when they could enter into the temple and worship the Lord. Those who had their trust in the Lord were anxious to enter into the gates of the city of Jerusalem because that was the city where the temple of the Lord was located. That was the city where all of the tribes of Israel gathered together to give thanks to the Lord for all of His blessings that He had showered on them.

16. Read Psalm 122:1-9 and write for what people are asked to pray in this Psalm.
17. Explain why it is important in our own lives to have an eagerness to worship the Lord with other followers of Christ.
18. Explain why you think that the people of Israel that truly worshiped the Lord were glad for the opportunity to go to the temple.

Jerusalem is the city that the Lord has chosen as His chosen city. That was true in the time that this Psalm was written and it is still true today. Jerusalem is the city where Christ died and rose again. It is the city where Christ will one day live when He rules the entire earth for one thousand years. Because of the position of honor that the Lord has given to the city of Jerusalem, it is also a city that has been a center of activity for the devil. The devil has made many efforts to try and destroy the people and the city that the Lord has chosen. In fact the devil is still continuing to try and destroy Jerusalem along with the entire nation of Israel. This is one of the things that helps us to understand why there is always conflict in Jerusalem.

19. Read Psalm 122:1-9 and write what the city of Jerusalem was like at the time that David wrote this Psalm.
20. Explain why this Psalm teaches us that we are to pray for the peace of the city of Jerusalem.
21. Explain why you think that the Lord wants us to understand that there will be conflict in Jerusalem until the time that He comes to rule.

God chose the city of Jerusalem to be the city of God. As a result, there is a promise for those who love the city of Jerusalem and pray for the peace of that city. The Lord promises to bless those nations that love the Jews. Throughout history, those nations that have shown kindness to the Jews have been blessed by the Lord while those nations that have done evil to the Jews have been judged by the Lord. The Lord will never forget the covenant that He made with Abraham. We see that our prayer should be for peace within the city of Jerusalem and for blessing upon the leaders of the nation of Israel. This prayer should be based upon our concern and love for those who are a part of the chosen nation of God.

22. Read Psalm 122:1-9 and write one other reason why we are to seek the good of the city of Jerusalem.
23. Explain why it is important for all Christians to pray that the Lord will give peace to the city of Jerusalem.
24. Explain why you think that the Lord chooses to bless those nations that show kindness to the people of Israel.

Psalm 123 goes on to tell us about the way that we should look to the Lord for mercy. Again we are reminded of the importance of lifting our eyes up to the Lord and looking at Him. He is the One that lives in the heavens. In fact His presence fills both the heavens and the earth. In the day that this Psalm was written, the servants would look to their masters for mercy because they were the slaves of those masters. The masters had complete control over their slaves. Just as the slaves in those days when this Psalm was written looked to their masters for mercy, we see that today we should look to the Lord our Master for mercy.

25. Read Psalm 123:1-4 and write how long we should wait upon the Lord and ask Him for mercy.
26. Explain why it is important for us to look to the Lord our Master to give us mercy.
27. Explain why you think that it is important to understand that the presence of the Lord fills both the heavens and the earth.

Here we see that we should continue to pray to the Lord for mercy until the Lord answers our prayers. Many times we are tempted to pray once or twice about a request and then stop praying. However, the Lord encourages us to continue praying for mercy until He answers our prayers. We are to pray to the Lord for mercy when those around us are speaking about us with contempt. Those who are living lives of ease right now scoff at those who have their trust in the Lord. Today we see that the proud are filled with contempt as they look at Christians.

28. Read Psalm 123:1-4 and write how long we should look to the Lord in our own lives.

29. Explain why we should look to the Lord for mercy when those around us are filled with scoffing and contempt.

30. Explain why you think that the proud are filled with contempt as they look at those who have their trust in the Lord.

In Psalm 124 we see that the Lord is on the side of His people. The writer of this Psalm knew that the nation of Israel would have been in great trouble except for fact that the Lord was on the side of the nation of Israel. There are many times when this is also true in our own lives. Many times the nation of Israel had experienced the presence of the Lord when the people of the surrounding nations came to fight against Israel in an attempt to destroy the nation. These nations were so filled with hate toward Israel that they would have completely destroyed Israel except for the fact that the Lord was with the people of Israel.

31. Read Psalm 124:1-8 and write what the water would have done to the nation of Israel.

32. Explain why it has been important throughout their history for the nation of Israel to look to the Lord for protection.

33. Explain why you think that many of the nations of the world have such a great hatred for the nation of Israel.

Here the writer gives a description of what the judgment of the nations would have been like if it had not been for the fact that the Lord protected Israel from those nations. Because of the fact that the Lord also provides us with His protection, we should offer our thanks to the Lord just the people of Israel offered their thanks to the Lord. The Lord helped them to escape just as a bird escapes out of the snare of the hunter. God had broken the trap that the enemy had prepared to destroy Israel. The people had looked to the Lord for help and He had provided the help that they needed.

34. Read Psalm 124:1-8 and write what this Psalm tells us that the Lord made.

35. Explain why it is also important for Christians to look to the Lord for protection from the people that reject Christianity.

36. Explain why you think that it is important for us in our own lives to give thanks to the Lord for the help that He provides.

Psalm 125 tells us the results of placing our trust in the Lord. When we have our trust in the Lord, nothing will be able to move us. Our trust will be on an unmovable foundation. We will abide forever if we have our trust in the Lord. The city of Jerusalem was surrounded by mountains. Those mountains did not move. In the same way we see that the presence of the Lord surrounds us when we have placed our trust in the Lord. We will experience the presence of the Lord around us forever because the Lord promises that He will never leave or forsake His followers.

37. Read Psalm 125:1-5 and write how long Mount Zion will continue to remain.
38. Explain what these verses teach about the presence of the Lord.
39. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that the Lord has promised that He will never leave or forsake His followers.

The Lord also showed His love for His people by not allowing evil men to rule over the land for a long period of time. The Lord realized that the rule of evil men might eventually cause even those who followed the Lord to begin to follow the ways of evil. The Lord chose to show His goodness to those people in the land that were upright in heart. In the same way we will see the goodness of the Lord if we are in a right relationship with the Lord in our hearts. Of course the only way that we can be upright in heart is if the Lord is in control of our lives. The Lord will judge those who turn aside and follow evil ways.

40. Read Psalm 125:1-5 and write for what the writer asked the Lord to give peace.
41. Explain why it is important for all followers of the Lord to have a right relationship with the Lord in their hearts.
42. Explain why you think that the Lord wants to show His goodness to the people that are upright in their hearts.

Now reread Psalm 120:1-125:5 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #33
Psalms 126:1-133:3

In our study today we will be continuing our study of the Psalms that the travelers of Israel sang as they made their way toward the city of Jerusalem. These Psalms speak of a variety of topics. However, as we study them we will be continually reminded of our need to trust in the Lord at all times. The Lord had done great things for Israel in the past. In the same way the Lord has also done great things for us in the past. He is the One that is with us in the present. The Lord is the One that will continue to be with us in the future. As a result, the Lord is the person that we can trust at all times and in every situation.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what we learn about the past blessings of Israel.
- Explain what the home of a family that trusts in the Lord will be like.
- Explain how we grow spiritually in the Lord.
- Explain why we know that we can trust the Lord.

During the history of the nation of Israel, the people of that nation turned away from God many times. Each time that this happened in Israel the people would experience the judgment of the Lord. When the people finally turned back to the Lord, He delivered them from these enemies. Psalm 126 tells us about the attitude of the people when the Lord gave them victory over their enemies. It was so amazing what the Lord had done for Israel many different times that it was almost like a dream. As a result of what the Lord did for Israel, the mouths of the people were filled with laughter and singing. They were so filled with joy that they were able to share with the other nations about the great things that the Lord had done for them.

1. Read Psalm 126:1-6 and write how the people felt because of the great things that God had done for them.
2. Explain why the Lord chose to deliver the people of Israel from their enemies when the people turned back to the Lord.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord will also fill our lives with joy as we recognize the things that He is doing for us today.

Although the people had seen the Lord provide Israel with great blessing, the people realized that those blessings did not fulfill all of the promises that the Lord had made to Israel. As a result, the people of Israel that trusted in the Lord looked forward to the fulfillment of promises just as a farmer looks forward to the harvest when he has planted the seed. We can also apply the illustration of the farmers to our own lives. As we go out and sow the Word of God with tears because of our concern for those who are without Christ, we can look forward to the day of harvest when the Lord brings those people to Himself.

4. Read Psalm 126:6 and write how we will come to the Lord when the Lord brings the day of harvest.
5. Explain why it is important for Christians to sow the Word of God and then look forward to the day when Christ will give the harvest.

6. Explain why you think that the time of sowing the seed and the reaping of the harvest come at different times.

Psalm 127 speaks about the home and the family. Unless our families and homes are built and centered in the Lord, we will be building homes that will not stand. As a result, our efforts will be wasted. The same is also true of a city or a nation. That city or nation must be centered in the Lord or it will not continue to last as a nation. In fact everything that we do must be done with Christ at the center if we want to enjoy godly success in our lives. Even the person that begins to work early in the morning and works until late in the evening will not be blessed by the Lord unless he has the Lord at the center of his life and home.

7. Read Psalm 127:1-5 and write what these verses say about children.

8. Explain why it is important for all people to realize that the Lord cannot bless their lives if they leave the Lord out of their lives.

9. Explain why you think that it is important for you in your own life to make Christ the center of your home and family.

This Psalm reminds us of the fact that our children are a gift from the Lord. The Lord gives us children so that we can experience the joy that comes from seeing them grow and mature in the Lord. Of course this also places a great responsibility on us as to teach our children. In this Psalm children are compared to the arrows in the hand of a hunter. Those children bring real joy to a man when he has been given several children by the Lord. When the father has faithfully taught his children, they will not be ashamed. Instead they will be able to speak for God to anyone including the people that are enemies.

10. Read Psalm 127:1-5 and write what the man feels that has been given several children by the Lord.

11. Explain what this Psalm teaches about the home and the family.

12. Explain why you think that it is important for you to teach your children the Word of God so that they will be able to share the Word with others.

Psalm 128 tells us about the way that the Lord blesses the person that fears Him and walks in the ways of the Lord. The Lord will bless the work of such a man and he will have a life of happiness. The wife and children of such a man will also be a blessing both to that man and to the other people that see that family. In the nation of Israel God promised that such a man would see the good of Jerusalem throughout his life. This meant that he would experience the blessing that God gave to the entire nation. Such a man would also be given the opportunity to live until he had seen his grandchildren.

13. Read Psalm 128:1-6 and write what such a man would see in the entire nation of Israel.

14. Explain why the choice to fear the Lord and walk in His ways is the most important choice that any person makes in their life.

15. Explain why you think that the Lord wants to bring spiritual blessing to the lives of each of the families that have their trust in Him.

The nation of Israel had endured much suffering from the enemies that surrounded the nation. This had been the experience of Israel from the time that the people of Israel had been a new nation of people while they were in the land of Egypt. Although many nations had tried to destroy Israel, none of these nations had succeeded. The enemies had been like men that were

plowing. They had made great cuts in the nation of Israel but they had not succeeded in destroying the nation that God had chosen. Instead the Lord had cut to pieces the power of the wicked.

16. Read Psalm 129:1-8 and write why the Lord had chosen to destroy the power of the wicked.
17. Explain why the Lord has never allowed any nation to completely destroy the Jews although many nations have tried to do so throughout history.
18. Explain why you think that God has eventually brought judgment on every nation that has tried to destroy the Jews.

Just as the Lord had destroyed all of the enemies of the Lord in the past, the people of the nation of Israel could continue to look forward to the fact that the Lord would continue to destroy all of the nations that chose to rise up against the nation of Israel. The writer of this Psalm asked the Lord to make these enemies like the grass that grows on the roof of a house. Such grass only grows for a short time before that grass becomes dry and withered. In fact the grass that grows on the roof of a house is gone before a man can even begin to gather that grass.

19. Read Psalm 129:1-8 and write what the people of other nations had not said to the people of Israel.
20. Explain how the Lord promises to deal with those who persecute those who trust in the Lord.
21. Explain why you think that the God says that the enemies of Israel will be like the grass that grows on the roof of a house.

Psalm 130 is the cry of a person that recognizes the greatness of his sin and cries to the Lord for help. We can learn some key lessons from this Psalm. Many times if we will truly examine our own lives, we will also realize that our sins are very great. Even though our sins are great, we can rejoice in the fact that there is forgiveness and cleansing through the Lord. He will listen to our prayer when we cry to Him for help. He will answer that prayer by forgiving and cleansing our sin. If the Lord did not listen to us and answer our prayers, no one would be able to stand because the sins of every person are very great.

22. Read Psalm 130:1-8 and write what there is with the Lord when we confess our sins to Him.
23. Explain why it is important for every person to examine their life and confess their sins to the Lord.
24. Explain why you think that the Lord will give forgiveness and cleansing to all those who cry to the Lord from their hearts for help.

The Lord is a merciful God that forgives all those who come to Him and confess their sins to Him. This is the reason that we can wait on the Lord and trust in His Word. His Word offers life and hope to us. In fact it is more important to wait on the Lord than it is to wait for the morning. Because of the salvation that the Lord provides, the nation of Israel knew that they could place their trust and hope in the Lord just as we place our hope in the Lord. The Lord promised that He will show mercy to the nation of Israel because He shows His great love by providing redemption to mankind.

25. Read Psalm 130:1-8 and write from what God promised to redeem Israel.
26. Explain why the Lord will always forgive the sins of those who come to the Lord and confess those sins to Him.
27. Explain why it is important to know that the Lord has redeemed you (bought you back from sin and set you free).

Psalm 131 shows us that we should come to the Lord with an attitude of humbleness. We should not be proud or boast about our own strength and ability. Instead we need to realize that everything that we have comes from the Lord. When we come to the Lord with an attitude of humbleness, we will not try to exercise control in areas that belong to the Lord rather than to man. This attitude of humbleness comes as we grow in the Lord. As growing Christians our desire should be to grow and become mature in the Lord so that we will be able to understand the meat of the Word of God and not just the milk.

28. Read Psalm 131:1-3 and write what the writer said that his soul was like.

29. Explain why growing toward maturity in Christ will cause us to become more humble.

30. Explain why you think that it is important to grow to spiritual maturity so that you can understand the meat of the Word as well as the milk.

Psalm 132 begins with a request to remember David and all of the things that he suffered. As we read this Psalm, we see that David made a promise to the Lord. In that promise David had told the Lord that he would not rest in peace until he had found the ark of the Lord and had placed the ark in a place of rest. Here we see that the actual location of the ark was unknown to David for a period of time. However, he went searching for it until he found it. It was the desire of David to bring the ark of the Lord and to come to the tabernacle of the Lord.

31. Read Psalm 132:1-18 and write where the people said they would worship the Lord.

32. Explain why David promised the Lord that He would not rest in peace until He had found the ark of the Lord and returned it to the tabernacle.

33. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to keep any promises that you make to the Lord.

As we think of a footstool, we realize that a footstool is a place where a person places his feet to rest. Here we see a picture of the attitude of worship that we should have. We need to recognize the greatness of the Lord. As the people came before the presence of the Lord, they came before His presence with righteousness and joy. Because of the promise that the Lord had made to David, the people knew that God would not forget that promise. The Lord had made that promise to David and said that He would not turn from that promise.

34. Read Psalm 132:1-18 and write what the Lord promised David.

35. Explain why it is important for us to come to the Lord in righteousness if we want to experience the joy of the Lord.

36. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to recognize the greatness of the Lord.

This promise to David was the promise that the family of David would continue to rule forever. Of course we know that this promise is fulfilled through Christ. The day will come when Christ will rule the entire earth from the city of Jerusalem. God also promised to shower His blessings upon the people of the city of Jerusalem. In addition, God said that He would provide for the needs of the poor and the needy as well as providing the people of Israel with salvation. This is a reminder again that the Lord will not forget the promises that He has made to the nation of Israel.

37. Read Psalm 132:1-18 and write with what the Lord said that He would clothe the enemies of the nation of Israel.

38. Explain what this Psalm teaches about the promise that the Lord made to David and his family.
39. Explain why you think that the Lord has a great concern for the people that are poor and needy.

Psalm 133 tells about the love that those who trust in the Lord should have for each other. God says that it is good and pleasant for brethren to dwell together in unity. In the sight of the Lord brethren that are living in love and unity are like precious ointment. In fact this unity is compared to the precious ointment that was poured over the head of Aaron when he was anointed to become the first high priest of the nation of Israel. It is also compared to the dew that came and provided refreshment on Mount Hermon and upon the mountains of Zion.

40. Read Psalm 133:1-3 and write what caused the blessing to be on these mountains.
41. Explain why it is important to the Lord for His people to live in peace and unity with one another.
42. Explain why you think unity in the body of Christ is also one of the greatest concerns of Christ.

Now reread Psalm 126:1-133:3 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #34
Psalm 134:1-139:24

We live in a world today where people worship many false gods. However, this worship of false gods is not something new that has recently come into the world. Throughout the Old Testament we see that many of the people worshiped false gods. In our lesson today we will see that there is a great contrast between these false gods and the true and living God. We know that idols cannot offer help and life to people because they have no life in themselves. In contrast, we see that the Lord is alive. He is the Creator of all things He also knows all things and is present in every place. Today we will learn some very important lessons about that great difference.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what you learn about the difference between the living God and idols.
- Explain what you learn about the mercy that the Lord shows.
- Explain why we should have a desire to praise the Lord for answered prayer.
- Explain what you learn about the knowledge and presence of God.

Psalm 134 is the last of a group of Psalms that were sung by the travelers of Israel as they made their way to Jerusalem to worship the Lord. It is a Psalm of blessing of those who came to worship in the temple at night. This may also have been the Psalm that the people sang the night before they began their journey home after they had finished worshiping the Lord at the temple in Jerusalem. In this Psalm we learn several things. We see that those who are the servants of the Lord should have a desire to bless the Lord. In fact we see that all praise belongs to the Lord. We see that the Jews would lift up their hands in praise to the Lord. At the same time we learn that the Lord is the One that blesses His people.

1. Read Psalm 134:1-3 and write what these verses tell us that the Lord made.
2. Explain why it was important for the Jews to sing a song of blessing before they began their journey back to their homes.
3. Explain why you think that it is important to bless the Lord and express your praise to Him for what He has done.

Psalm 135 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord as the power of the Lord is shown over all false gods. We have already mentioned that the false gods are lifeless and have no power. The Lord is the One that deserves all of our praise. We should praise Him when we gather together with other Christians as well as when we are alone. It is a joy to sing praises to the Lord because of His greatness. The nation of Israel had a very special reason for giving praise to the Lord. Back in the time of Abraham the Lord chose that nation as His very own treasure. The Lord is so powerful that He is able to do as He pleases in both the heavens and the earth.

4. Read Psalm 135:1-21 and write from where the Lord brings the wind.
5. Explain why it is important to understand that because the Lord is living and alive that He has power over all false gods.
6. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to give praise to the Lord for what He has done in your life.

The Lord is also the One that demonstrated His power in the land of Egypt to both the Egyptians and to the people of Israel. When Pharaoh refused to let the people of Israel leave the land of Egypt, the Lord destroyed the first-born of each of the Egyptian families. God also performed many other great miracles in the land of Egypt. When Israel came to the land that God had promised to Israel, the Lord destroyed the nations that lived in that land. Then the Lord gave that land to the people of Israel. In addition, we know that the name of the Lord will continue to live forever. He will judge His people when they need to be judged. However the idols that the nations serve are not like the Lord.

7. Read Psalm 135:1-21 and write how idols are made.

8. Explain why the Lord will continue to remember the Jews even though it is necessary to judge them for their sins.

9. Explain why you think that the Lord demonstrated His power in the land of Egypt by performing many different miracles in that land.

We see in this Psalm that people made idols that looked like themselves. Those idols had mouths, eyes and ears. However, the mouths could not speak because they have no breath. In the same way, the eyes could not see and the ears could not hear. Such idols are useless because they could not provide any help to the people that made them. The people that trust in such idols find that they are as helpless as the idols in which they are trusting. Even though these idols offered no help, many people still placed their trust in idols. Instead of trusting lifeless idols, we are given the opportunity to place our trust in the true and living God that can help us in our lives.

10. Read Psalm 135:1-21 and write what the people that feared the Lord were told to do in this Psalm.

11. Explain what you learn from this chapter about the differences between the true and living God and idols.

12. Explain why you think that God wanted the people to understand why idols cannot help the people that made those idols.

Psalm 136 is a Psalm about the mercy of the Lord. For this reason, every verse ends with the phrase, "For His mercy endures forever." This is a real reminder of the fact that the mercy of the Lord does not stop. Instead His mercy will continue to last forever. Because of the mercy of the Lord, our desire should be to give thanks to the Lord because He is the God of gods. He is the only One that is able to do great wonders. God is the One that made the heavens by His wisdom. The Lord also raised the earth out of the waters. Then He provided the lights needed to give light to the earth. The lights that the Lord provided were the sun, the moon and the stars.

13. Read Psalm 136:1-26 and write what the Lord said that the moon and the stars would do.

14. Explain what is meant by the statement that God made the heavens by His wisdom.

15. Explain why you think that the Lord created the earth where we live because of His mercy.

Just as God showed His mercy in the creation, He continued to show His mercy after He established the creation. God later showed His mercy to the nation of Israel by destroying the first-born of Egypt so that He could bring the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt. When the nation of Israel reached the Red Sea, God caused the sea to divide so that the people of

Israel could go through on dry ground. Then the Lord destroyed Pharaoh and his army in that same sea. Then God did not forget His people once they were out of the land of Egypt. Instead He led them by His mercy through the wilderness.

16. Read Psalm 136:1-26 and write what kinds of kings the Lord destroyed in order to give Israel the land He had promised to Abraham.

17. Explain why it is important to understand that God led Israel out of Egypt and through the wilderness because of His mercy.

18. Explain why you think that this Psalm shows that God will never forget the mercy that He has shown to the people of Israel.

Two of the kings and their people that the Lord destroyed when He showed mercy to Israel were Sihon and Og. Sihon was the king of the Amorites and Og was the king of Bashan. After destroying these kings and their nations, God gave the lands of these nations to Israel as their inheritance. The Lord remembered the nation of Israel during the time that Israel was suffering at the hands of its enemies. God also provided food to all of the people. In addition, the Lord redeemed Israel from the hands of its enemies. The mercy of the Lord is one of many reasons why we should give thanks to the Lord.

19. Read Psalm 136:1-26 and write from whom the Lord had redeemed the nation of Israel.

20. Explain what you learn about the mercy of the Lord from this Psalm.

21. Explain why you think that God chose to show mercy to the people of Israel at the same time that He was judging these other nations.

Psalm 137 was a cry of sorrow and revenge by the people of Judah after they were taken as captives to the land of Babylon. When the Jews that were taken to Babylon thought of their sad condition, they would go down by the river to mourn. Sometimes as they were mourning by the river, some of the Babylonians would come to the people of Israel and ask them to sing the songs of Zion. The Babylonians did this so that they could make fun of the Jews. Instead of honoring the requests of the Babylonians, the Jews would hang their instruments on the branches of the willow trees. The Jews felt that they would not be honoring the Lord if they allowed the Babylonians to make fun of the songs that they sang as they worshiped the Lord.

22. Read Psalm 137:1-9 and write what the writer of this Psalm said should happen if he forgot Jerusalem.

23. Explain why the Jews refused to sing the songs of Zion to the Babylonians that were mocking them.

24. Explain why you think that the Jews asked the Lord to take vengeance on the Babylonians for their treatment of the Jews.

The writer asked the Lord to take away his ability to play musical instruments if he showed disrespect for the Lord by allowing the Babylonians to make fun of the songs that the Jews used to worship the Lord. He even asked God to silence him if he allowed such a thing to happen. Then the writer speaks of the attitude that Edom and Babylon had toward the city of Jerusalem. The people of Edom had been happy to see the city of Jerusalem destroyed to the very foundation by the Babylonians. As a result, the desire of the writer was that the Lord would allow the same thing to happen to the nations of Edom and Babylon.

25. Read Psalm 137:1-9 and write how the nation that punished Babylon would feel.

26. Explain why the writer asked the Lord to take away his ability to play musical instruments if he allowed the Babylonians to make fun of the songs of worship.

27. Explain why you think that the nation of Edom was happy when the Babylonians destroyed the city of Jerusalem and the land of Judah.

Psalms 138 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord during a time of trouble. Many times we praise the Lord when things are going great but we forget to praise the Lord during times of trouble. As this Psalm begins, we see that the writer says that He will praise the Lord with his whole heart. When he worshiped the Lord, the writer turned his face toward the city of Jerusalem. This praise was given to the Lord for many reasons. These reasons included the loving-kindness of the Lord, His truth, His Word and the fact that He answered prayer. Here we see that the writer was thinking about what the Lord had done instead of thinking about his own problems.

28. Read Psalm 138:1-8 and write what the writer said that the kings of the earth would do when they heard the words of the Lord.

29. Explain why we should learn from the example of the writer and praise the Lord even in times of trouble.

30. Explain why you think that the writer could look beyond his trouble and give praise to the Lord with his whole heart.

The writer of this Psalm also looked forward to the day when all of the kings of the earth would give praise to the Lord. This will only happen when all of the kings hear the Word of God and follow it. That time has not yet come but will come when Christ reigns over the earth. In that day the kings will sing of the greatness of the Lord. Even though the Lord is very great, He has respect for the prayer of the lowest person. That is the reason why we can expect the Lord to help us when we face any trouble. We do not need to fear our enemies because we can leave it to the Lord to take care of them. The Lord will complete all things and bring them to perfection.

31. Read Psalm 138:1-8 and write how long this mercy of the Lord will endure.

32. Explain why the Lord has respect for the prayer of the lowest person even though He is very great.

33. Explain why you think that the writer realized that the day would come in the future when all of the kings would worship the Lord.

Psalm 139 gives us a wonderful picture of the greatness of God. First we see the omniscience of God. Omniscience means that the Lord knows all things and nothing is hidden from Him. The Lord knows everything that we do. He knows everything that we say. He knows both our past and our future. In addition, this Psalm tells us that the Lord even knows our thoughts. Nothing that we do, say or think is hidden from the Lord. As we think about the great knowledge of the Lord, we realize that His knowledge and wisdom are so great that they are beyond our understanding.

34. Read Psalm 139:1-24 and write the question that is asked about the Spirit.

35. Explain why it is important to realize that the knowledge and wisdom of the Lord is far beyond our understanding.

36. Explain why you think that it is important to understand that the Lord even knows our thoughts.

Next we come to the omnipresence of the Lord. Omnipresence means that God is present in all places, at all times and with His entire being. Here we see that we cannot escape the presence

of the Lord. We could not escape that presence even if we went to heaven or hell. The presence of God is in those places just as His presence is in every part of the earth. The hand of the Lord leads us and holds us wherever we go. It does not make any difference to God whether we are in the light or in the darkness. Both the light and the darkness are the same to the Lord. He can see just as well in either situation.

37. Read Psalm 139:1-24 and write how many times the writer says that each one of us are in the thoughts of God.

38. Explain what you learn from this Psalm about the presence and the knowledge of the Lord.

39. Explain why you think that it is important for you to know that the Lord is with you wherever you go.

We see that God knew all about us even before we were born. The works of the Lord are marvelous as we consider them. God knew exactly what was happening at the very time that our bodies were being formed. He knew what each part would be like before the various parts were even formed. Since the Lord knows all of these things about us, He will certainly watch over us when enemies surround us. That was one reason why the writer did not want to have any part in the plans and actions of those who hated God. Instead the desire of the writer of this Psalm was for the Lord to search his heart and know his thoughts.

40. Read Psalm 139:1-24 and write the way that the writer wanted the Lord to lead him.

41. Explain why it is important to you in your life to know that the Lord knew what each part of you would be like before those parts were even formed.

42. Explain why you think that the Lord made you different than any other person on the earth since he knew how He would make you before He even formed you.

Now reread Psalm 134:1-139:24 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #35
Psalm 140:1-144:15

Today we will be studying several more Psalms that were written by David. We have seen that David went through both times of joy and times of great suffering. These Psalms describe several experiences that happened to David during his life. In our lives we have many similar experiences. As a result, these Psalms express many of our own feelings. When we are being persecuted, we can pray to the Lord for protection and He will provide the protection that we need. We know that the Lord will answer our prayers and provide that needed protection. That is one of many reasons where we know that we can place our trust in the Lord.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how we should pray to the Lord for His protection.
- Explain what kind of an attitude we should have as we speak.
- Explain how we should call to the Lord when we need help.
- Explain what you learn about the importance of trusting the Lord.

Psalm 140 is a prayer to the Lord for protection from those who were persecuting the writer. Just like today, David lived in a day when there were many evil people. These people practiced evil and violence to get what they wanted. They spent their time thinking about evil and planning mischief in their hearts. Then these evil men gathered together to make war on others. These men spoke evil words with their tongues and their mouths were filled with deceit. Such people are always trying to destroy those who serve the Lord. However, we can pray to the Lord and ask Him to keep and protect us from such people and we know that the Lord will watch over us.

1. Read Psalm 140:1-13 and write what the purpose of these evil men was.
2. Explain why it is important to understand that evil people spend their time thinking about evil and planning mischief in their hearts.
3. Explain why you are thankful to know that the Lord is watching over you even when there are evil people around you.

Here we see that the desire of evil men is to completely stop those who are following the Lord. The people that are proud set various kinds of traps to try and catch the people that are righteous. However, we do not need to be afraid of such traps. Instead we can cry to the Lord for help because we know that He will hear our voice. The Lord is the One that is our strength and salvation. He is the One that is able to give us protection in the day of battle. The Lord is the One that controls all things. He is able to keep the wicked from satisfying their evil desires.

4. Read Psalm 140:1-13 and write why the Lord will not let the wicked continue to further their wicked devices.
5. Explain why it is important to know that the Lord is able to keep the wicked from satisfying their evil desires.
6. Explain why you think that the desire of evil men is to completely stop the ministry of the people that are following the Lord.

People become proud as they carry out their evil actions because they think that no one can stop them. However, the Lord will judge those who do evil and return their own evil upon them. David asked that such men would be covered with their own mischief. He asked that they would be cast down so that they would not rise again. He asked the Lord not to allow such men to be established on the earth. He trusted the Lord to show His concern for the cause of the afflicted and the poor. David knew that the righteous would give praise to the Lord. He also knew that the upright would live in the presence of the Lord.

7. Read Psalm 140:1-13 and write what the writer said that evil would do to the violent man.

8. Explain why it is important to pray to the Lord for protection from those who persecute us.

9. Explain why you are thankful in your life because you know that the Lord will show His concern to the afflicted and the poor.

Psalm 141 is a prayer to the Lord for protection. However, at the same time this Psalm is also a prayer to the Lord for help in living a godly life. The desire of David was that the Lord would hear his prayer very soon. He wanted the Lord to listen to him when he cried to the Lord. As we study the Word of God, we see that God does listen when His children cry out to Him for help. David began this prayer by asking the Lord to help him live a godly life. Here we have a real example for our own lives. We need the strength of the Lord to live a godly life because we will fail in our own strength. David realized that one sin that is very easy to commit is to speak an evil word about others.

10. Read Psalm 141:1-10 and write what David asked the Lord to do so that David would not speak an evil word.

11. Explain why David had a greater concern to live a godly life than he had for his own protection.

12. Explain why it is important to you in your life to also ask the Lord to give you His strength to live a godly life.

The request of David gives us a good example for our own lives. We need to ask the Lord each day to help us so that all of the words that we speak will bring honor to Him. There are times when we need to ask the Lord to keep our mouths closed so that we will not be tempted to speak evil about others. However, in order to keep from speaking evil words, we also need to ask the Lord to control our thoughts. If we start thinking about the ways of evil men, we will begin practicing those evil ways in our own lives. David also asked the Lord to show Him kindness by causing the righteous to reprove him when he did evil. He realized that such correction would help him and not hurt him.

13. Read Psalm 141:1-10 and write what reproof would not do to his head.

14. Explain why it is important to ask the Lord to guide our thoughts so that we will not speak evil words about others.

15. Explain why you think that it is helpful in your own life if the righteous correct you when you have done evil.

There were those people that were trying to do evil to David. However, he was not concerned because his dependence was on the Lord. He was keeping his eyes on the Lord because he knew that he could trust in the Lord. The Lord would not leave him without help. Instead David knew that the Lord would watch over him. The Lord would keep him from the traps of

evil men. Evil men had placed traps and snares to catch him. David knew that these traps would not bother him as long as he kept his trust in the Lord. Instead evil men would be caught in their own traps.

16. Read Psalm 141:1-10 and write how David asked the Lord not to leave his soul.

17. Explain why we need to ask the Lord to help us live godly lives instead of depending on our own strength.

18. Explain why you think that it is important in your life to ask the Lord to protect you from the traps of evil men.

Psalm 142 is another cry to the Lord for help. This Psalm was written by David during the time that he was hiding from Saul in the cave. As David was hiding in the cave, Saul came into the cave to rest. David cried to the Lord for help and protection. He asked the Lord to hear his prayer as he cried to Him. He told the Lord about all of the troubles that were facing him in his life. David knew that it was impossible for him to escape from Saul by his own efforts. He realized that he had to trust the Lord completely. David realized that he could not even depend on other men for help.

19. Read Psalm 142:1-7 and write what David said about his soul.

20. Explain why David realized that he had to trust the Lord completely for safety when Saul came into the cave where he was hiding to rest.

21. Explain why you think that the Lord allowed Saul to choose that particular place for a time of rest as he was trying to catch David to kill him.

People will fail us in our lives. However, when people do fail us, we need to remember that we can always cry to the Lord for help. That is what David did during this time. He cried to the Lord for help because he realized that the Lord was the only One that could protect him from Saul and keep him alive. He asked the Lord to hear his cry because David knew that he had come to a position where no one else would be able to help him. He had to depend on the Lord for help because the enemies were much stronger than he was. He knew that the Lord would help him and then give him a song of praise. The Lord would also cause the righteous to encourage him.

22. Read Psalm 142:1-7 and write how David said that the Lord would deal with him during this time.

23. Explain why David knew that the Lord would help him and even give him a song of praise during this difficult time.

24. Explain why you think that the Lord is able to give you a song of praise even when you are going through a difficult time.

Psalm 143 is another cry to the Lord for help. In this Psalm the Lord is asked to hear the prayer of David because of His faithfulness. He is a righteous and faithful God who will listen to all those who trust in Him. God is asked not to judge according to what we deserve. If God gave us what we deserved, none of us would receive mercy. We would all be condemned. In this Psalm we see that the enemy had been persecuting David. The enemy had made life so difficult for David that he almost felt as though he were dead. His spirit had been completely overwhelmed. He was very discouraged. At times in our lives we also begin to feel like David felt at this time.

25. Read Psalm 143:1-12 and write what David remembered during this very trying and difficult time in his life.

26. Explain why the Lord understands when we have times in our own lives when we feel overwhelmed and discouraged.
27. Explain why you need to remember the faithfulness of God during those times in your life when you face great opposition.

When David felt completely overwhelmed, he began to think about what the Lord had done for him in the past. When we are discouraged, it will always encourage us in our lives to remember how the Lord has worked in our lives at other times. It will help us to realize that the Lord also has a solution for the present. Then we will be able to stretch forth our hands to the Lord and allow Him to satisfy our spiritual thirst. We know that the Lord will hear us when our hearts are failing. He will not turn away His face from us. Instead the Lord will show His loving-kindness to us.

28. Read Psalm 143:1-12 and write what David asked the Lord to teach him.
29. Explain why we should meditate about the things that the Lord has done for us in the past when we are discouraged.
30. Explain why it is important to you to know in your own life that the Lord wants to satisfy your spiritual thirst.

When we come to the Lord in our times of discouragement, the Lord lifts us up and shows us the way that we should walk. He provides deliverance to us from our enemies. He helps us to realize that He is our safety and protection. He will teach us how to do His will if we will allow Him to teach us. Then the Holy Spirit will lead us in the right ways. The Lord will revive us for the sake of His own name. The Lord is eager to help us when we are in trouble because He is the One that is righteous. God will show His mercy to all those who are righteous. He will destroy the evil people that are against the righteous.

31. Read Psalm 143:1-12 and write what David said that his relationship was to the Lord.
32. Explain why it is important to trust the Holy Spirit to lead us in the right ways.
33. Explain why you think that the Lord will show us the way that we should walk when we do not know what to do.

Psalm 144 is a Psalm of trust. David gives us an example in this Psalm of the way that we can trust in the Lord to give us strength. David had many enemies that were facing him. However, the Lord had taught David how to fight and protect himself from these enemies. David realized that any good that he had in his life actually came from the Lord. He realized that the Lord was his shield and protection from his enemies. As he thought about the greatness of the Lord, he was suddenly impressed again to realize how great the Lord really is. In comparison, the life of a person is almost like nothing and only lasts for a very short time.

34. Read Psalm 144:1-15 and write how quickly the days of man pass away.
35. Explain why it is important for every Christian to know that the Lord is the One that is our shield and protection.
36. Explain why it is important for us to realize in our own lives that any good that we have in our lives comes from the Lord.

David knew that his life would pass away very quickly. However, at the same time he realized that he could depend on the power of the Lord as long as he lived. As a result, David asked the Lord to show him a little of the great power of the Lord. He asked the Lord to show this power

by delivering him from his enemies. The reason that these enemies needed to be judged by the Lord was due to the fact that they were speaking lies to cover their evil actions. Instead of worrying about his own condition, David said that he would sing a song of praise to the Lord for what the Lord was going to do.

37. Read Psalm 144:1-15 and write what this Psalm tells us the character of the Lord is like.

38. Explain why we should praise the Lord for what He is going to do instead of worrying about our own condition.

39. Explain why you think that it is important for you to depend on the power of the Lord instead of your own strength.

David was praising the Lord because he knew that the Lord was going to deliver him from his enemies. He was also looking forward to continuing blessing from the Lord. In fact he looked beyond himself to the fact that the Lord was going to bless his sons and his daughters. He also knew that the Lord was going to bless and multiply his flocks and his crops. David was also concerned for others. He was looking forward to the way that the Lord was going to bless the entire nation of Israel. It was his desire that there would be no complaining among the people.

40. Read Psalm 144:1-15 and write what causes a nation to be happy.

41. Explain why David could praise the Lord for the fact that he knew the Lord would also bless his sons and his daughters.

42. Explain why you think that it is important to bring your children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord so that you can know the Lord will bless your children.

Now reread Psalm 140:1-145:15 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Psalms – Part II
Lesson #36
Psalms 145:1-150:6

Today we come to our last lesson on the book of Psalms. We see that the Psalms that we will be studying today all emphasize the importance of giving praise to the Lord. We see that there are many reasons why we should praise the Lord. These Psalms give us a few of those reasons for giving praise to the Lord. The Lord is the One that is very gracious. He is the One that provides help to us in our time of need. The Lord also deserves our praise for the way that He watches over the nation of Israel. We will also see that there are many different ways to give praise to the Lord. We even see that all creation gives praise to the Lord for His wonderful works.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why we should praise the Lord for His greatness.
- Explain why we should give praise to the Lord for His help.
- Explain why praise belongs to the Lord for His help of Israel.
- Explain how the entire creation praises the Lord.

Psalms 145 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord for His greatness and His goodness. The desire of the writer of this Psalm was to praise the Lord forever. He said that He would remember to praise the Lord every day. Here we see that we are given a good example for our own lives. The Lord has done so many wonderful things for us that our desire should also be to give praise to the Lord every day. The Lord is very great. In fact His greatness is beyond our understanding. The desire of our generation should be to also tell others about the wonderful works of the Lord. At the same time we should also speak of the honor and majesty of the Lord. As we speak of the greatness of God, we will also lead others to speak of His great works.

1. Read Psalms 145:1-21 and write of what men will sing as they think of the goodness of the Lord.
2. Explain why it should be the desire of our generation to tell others about the wonderful works of the Lord.
3. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to give praise to the Lord every day.

The Lord shows His grace to us. He also shows His compassion and mercy to us. In addition, He shows His goodness to all and His mercy is extended to everything that He has created. The things that the Lord has created throughout His creation praise the Lord along with His saints. As the saints of the Lord, it should also be our desire to speak of the glory of His kingdom. It should be our desire to tell others about the power of the Lord and about the things that the Lord has done. The kingdom of the Lord is a kingdom that will last forever. It will never be destroyed. We also know that the Lord is the One that holds up all those who fall. He raises us up when we are discouraged.

4. Read Psalms 145:1-21 and write whose eyes wait on the Lord.

5. Explain why the entire creation gives praise to the Lord and speaks of the greatness of the Lord.
6. Explain why you think that it is important to know that the Lord holds us up when we are discouraged or fall.

Whether people realize it or not, the Lord is the One to whom they must look for their food. He is the One that opens His hand to satisfy the desires of every living thing. Everything that the Lord does is righteous. All of His works are holy. The Lord is very close to all those who will call to Him for help. He knows their hearts and knows if they truly mean it when they call to Him for help. He fulfills the desires of those who trust and fear Him and His ear is open to their cry. We also know that the Lord preserves those who love Him. This is why it should be our desire to give praise to the Lord forever and ever.

7. Read Psalm 145:1-21 and write where the Lord is to those who call on Him in truth.
8. Explain what you learn from this Psalm about the greatness of the Lord.
9. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to know that the Lord has His ear open for your cries.

Psalm 146 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord for His help. The writer is giving his personal praise to the Lord. However, he also encourages others to join him in this praise to the Lord. As a result, we can include ourselves in this invitation to give praise to God. The writer says that he will praise the Lord as long as he lives. Nothing will stop him from offering these praises to the Lord. The writer realized that it was useless for him to put his trust in princes or in other men. Such people could offer no guarantee of help even though they might promise to help. No person has a guarantee that he will live for a certain period of time or that he will be able to help others. His breath may stop at any moment and then his life is gone.

10. Read Psalm 146:1-10 and write who is happy.
11. Explain why it is important to follow the example of the writer of this Psalm and encourage others to join us in praising the Lord.
12. Explain why you think that it is important for you to know that we cannot really depend on anyone for help except the Lord.

Since we cannot place our trust in the help of people, we can only be happy if we have our trust in the Lord. The Lord is the One that has demonstrated that He has all power. He demonstrated this power when He created all things. His truth is unchangeable. He is also the One that shows concern for those who are needy and oppressed. The Lord provides food for the needy and opens the eyes of the blind. He encourages those who are discouraged. Even the fatherless and the widow are not forgotten by God because of His love. The people that need to be concerned when they think of God are those who are wicked. God will be their judge.

13. Read Psalm 146:1-10 and write how long the Lord will reign.
14. Explain why it is important for every person to understand that the truth that the Lord speaks is unchangeable.
15. Explain why you think that the Lord shows a special concern for the people that are usually forgotten by the world.

Psalm 147 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord for what He has done for the nation of Israel. Because of all of the things that the Lord has done, we realize that it is good and fitting to offer

our praise to the Lord. In this Psalm we are reminded that the Lord was the One that made it possible for the city of Jerusalem to be rebuilt. He was the One that brought the people back from the nations where they had been scattered. He gave hope to those who were completely discouraged. We see that the Lord is so great that He knows the number of the stars and He calls each of the stars by name. There is no end to the power and the understanding of the Lord. He encourages those who trust in Him and He destroys the wicked.

16. Read Psalm 147:1-20 and write how we should sing to the Lord.

17. Explain why it is important to know that the Lord knows the number of the stars and has called each star by name.

18. Explain why you think that the Lord will encourage you in your own life when you think about the greatness of the Lord.

The Lord also showed mercy to His creation along with the mercy that He showed to the nation of Israel. God had stopped the rain because of the sins of the people of Israel. In this Psalm we see that the Lord had sent the rains again when He brought the people back to their land. This caused the mountains to become green as the grass began to grow on them again. This provided food for the animals and the birds. People often become proud of their own strength or the strength of their horses. However, the Lord is not pleased with such an attitude. Instead the Lord is pleased when people fear Him and place their trust in His mercy.

19. Read Psalm 147:1-20 and write what the Lord had made within the borders of Israel at the time this Psalm was written.

20. Explain why this Psalm says that we should praise the Lord for the rain.

21. Explain why you think that the Lord shows His mercy to the creation by sending the rain to water the earth.

Throughout the years, the Lord had shown His particular care for the city of Jerusalem. When the Lord brought the people back to the city of Jerusalem, He made it possible for strong walls to be built around the city. God also gave peace to His people and provided them with the best food. The Lord commands and those commands are carried out on the earth because that is His will. He gives the word that causes the snow and the ice to come. At His command the weather becomes warm and the snow and ice are quickly melted. Just as God gives commandments to the weather, He has also given commandments to His people. The nation of Israel has been blessed in a special way by the Lord.

22. Read Psalm 147:1-20 and write whether any other nations have received this same blessing.

23. Explain why we should have a desire to obey the commandments of the Lord just as the creation obeys His commandments.

24. Explain why you think that it is important to understand that the Lord is the One that is in control of the weather.

In Psalm 148 the entire universe is called upon to offer praise to the Lord. The first half of this Psalm is a call to the heavens to offer their praise to the Lord. The first beings that the Lord created were the angels. For this reason they are called upon first to offer their praise to the Lord. However, the angels are not the only ones that are invited to give praise to the Lord. The sun, moon and stars are also told to praise the Lord. As we come closer to the earth, we see that the clouds that hold the rain are also encouraged to praise the Lord. All of the works of God are to give praise to Him because they were created by Him and nothing can be destroyed unless the Lord allows it.

25. Read Psalm 148:1-14 and write what kind of a decree the Lord has made.
26. Explain why the Lord gives the entire universe the opportunity to give praise to the Lord for His creation.
27. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to remember that the Lord is the One that created all things.

The commandments of the Lord are unchangeable. The things that God has created on the earth are also to offer their praise to Him. Such things as the fire, hail, snow and storms are all showing their praise to the Lord by fulfilling His commandments. The mountains and the hills with their fruitful trees also offer their praise to the Lord. The animals, birds and insects join in this chorus of praise. Finally we come to man. People are told to praise the Lord whether they are great or small. We should praise the Lord because He is the only One whose name is great. No one else can be compared to the Lord.

28. Read Psalm 148:1-14 and write how great this Psalm says that the glory of the Lord is.
29. Explain some of the various ways that this Psalm teaches that the entire universe gives praise to the Lord.
30. Explain why you think that it is important for every person to realize that the creation itself gives praise to the Lord.

Psalm 149 is a Psalm of praise to the Lord for the victory that He had given over the enemy. This was such a great day of joy that the people needed a new song to express their praise to the Lord. The people were joyful because they realized that the Lord is the One that was their real king. The people were so filled with joy because of what the Lord had done that they were using their instruments to express their joy and praise to the Lord. The Lord was also filled with joy as He saw the way that the people were expressing their praise to Him.

31. Read Psalm 149:1-9 and write in what place the saints will really be joyful.
32. Explain why the people needed a new song to express their praise to the Lord for the victory that He had given them over their enemies.
33. Explain why you think that it was important for the people to use their instruments to express their joy and praise to the Lord.

Here we see that the present joy that the people of Israel were expressing also gives a picture of the future joy that will be expressed when the saints express their joy in glory. This is a reminder that we need to be expressing our praise to the Lord as we take His Word to others. When we look at Hebrews 4:12 we see that the Word of God is our two-edged sword. Just as the Word of God brings a message of praise and joy to all those who trust in the Lord, it will bring a message of judgment to those who choose to reject the Word. People must make their choice and decide whether they want the Word of God to be a message of joy or a message of judgment for them in their own lives.

34. Read Psalm 149:1-9 and write what God will execute on those who reject His message.
35. Explain why it is important to help people realize that they must decide whether they want the Word of God to be a message of joy or a message of judgment for their lives.
36. Explain why you think that many people have never realized that the Word of God gives them a choice to make.

Psalm 150 is a summary of all that has been said about giving praise to the Lord. The Lord is

the One that deserves all praise. We can offer our praise to Him at any time and in any place. People gather together to give praise to the Lord. In the time of the writing of this Psalm, the temple was the place where the people gathered to offer their praise to the Lord. We also see that they realized that they could offer praise to the Lord from any place in His creation. Two reasons given here for praising the Lord are for His mighty acts and for His greatness.

37. Read Psalm 150:1-6 and write the first instrument that is mentioned that can be used to give praise to the Lord.

38. Explain why you are thankful that we can give praise to the Lord at any time and in any place.

39. Explain why you think that it is important to realize that you can give praise to the Lord from anywhere in His creation.

Just as we can praise the Lord in any place, we can also use many musical instruments to accompany our praise to the Lord. In this Psalm we have a list of some of the musical instruments that can be used to praise the Lord. This is a reminder of the blessings of music. God gave us music so that we can use our music to offer praise to the Lord. This is a reason why the music that we use should bring honor to the Lord. We are praising Him and not just entertaining ourselves. We can thank the Lord for giving us the opportunity to give praise to the Lord for music.

40. Read Psalm 145:1-6 and write the summary of those who should give praise to the Lord.

41. Explain why the book of Psalms shows us that music is a very important way of expressing our praise to the Lord.

42. Explain why you think that it is important to use music to praise and honor the Lord and not just to entertain.

Now reread Psalm 145:1-150:6 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these verses.