

Meditating in God's Word

All Scripture is KJV: Psalm 1:1-6

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY

A warm welcome to everyone this morning and pray that you will be blessed by the Word of the Lord today.

1. May we use our time here on earth wisely to serve our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ with our time and talents and worship.
2. The Lord has told us in the many scriptures that there will be many trials and tribulations which we must first face and even endure before He comes again.
3. And whether we will see The Lord in our lifetime, or die before then; but yet we will see Him regardless.

As we have a wonderful time together in the Lord this morning we pray for His blessing upon each and every one of His children, and for those who will come to know Him as their Saviour.

1. We can ask this question “**how important are we to the Lord as His children**”.
2. This is confirmed by what the bible says about those believers.

1 John 3:1

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

➤ **This verse fits in with our theme this morning.**

3. And also, how important it is for us to show the Word of God to others that have no hope of the salvation that was given to us when we found ourselves in a time of need when we too were lost and had nowhere to seek comfort and refuge.

❖ I remember learning and committing the first two verses of Psalm 1 to memory very earlier on when I first got saved, and it was these two verses that drove me on to learning more and more of God's Word over these many passed years.

- ✓ But what are these verses saying?
- ✓ And what do they mean to us?
- ✓ Or what should they mean to us?

1. Meditating first of all means dwelling on God's word.
2. It means you first have to read the scriptures, and then understand it, and then absorb its wisdom, and then commit it to memory as we think about it.
3. You can therefore not meditate on God's Word if you are not reading God's word.

And the question is; are we neglecting what Psalm 1 says in these 6 verses.

So let's begin.....

Psalm 1:1-6 King James Version

1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

1. First of all, this verse is addressing the believer.
2. So, when it speaks of “blessed is the man that walks not in the council of the ungodly it is referring to a believer not doing the things that an unsaved person is doing.
3. But it also warns of the unbelievers influence on us.
 - a) For example, an unsaved person may be a person who likes drinking alcohol or who likes to smoke, or like to swear, or uses cuss words, and that's **not** what a person who is saved is meant to do according to this verse.
 - b) A believer should not be “walking in the council of the ungodly” which is to say to still consume and do those sinful things that the world does, and taking their advice.
 - c) It also means that when an unbeliever is acting in a sinful manner then as a believer (Christian) we are not to follow those examples of what they may tell us

to do which goes against what God says. For instances to lie about something just to get an upper hand.

- d) The verse is saying that because you avoid those things that the unsaved world does, which is referring to the ungodly (the unsaved), then God is going to bless you for your faithfulness to Him.
- e) When the verse tells us not to stand in the way of sinners, it is referring to the believer appearing to be no witness for the truth. It is highlighting the fact that the believer is not to behave in the way that unbelievers behave. In other words to behave like an unbeliever.
- f) It is a warning against the believer who has not displayed or shown the light of the gospel in any manner to those unbelievers, and so they see nothing different in comparison to an unbeliever.
 - ✓ Remember what Jesus said, that we are to be the salt of the earth, and the light of the world.

Matthew 5:13

¹³ Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

¹⁴ Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

¹⁵ Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

¹⁷ Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

- ✓ Our testimony should be something that the world admires. It should be that your light shines of the gospel of Jesus Christ and in so doing glorifies God.
- g) Another negative rebuke from verse 1 is that a Christian or a believer should not sit in the company of the scornful..... (**nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful**)

- ✓ The reason for this is simple. To sit in on the seat of the scornful is to sit in the company of unsaved people who are mockers. People who tell sinful jokes, or use Jesus' name in vain, or who mock God.
- ✓ These scorers will hurt our testimony, and will hurt the Lord if we don't get up and walk away.
- ✓ If we stay in their presence as they scorn, then we are essentially agreeing with what they may be saying. And also it hinders their ability to get saved, because they cannot see right from wrong if you agree to what they are doing.

² But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

- a) The difference as opposed to the verse one which is showing the unbelievers methods of entertainment or composure, by contrast verse 2 is totally different.
- b) Here this verse 2 speaks of what a believer is supposed to be doing with his time or idle time, which in turn brings a great benefit to him, and it pleases God.
- c) As opposed to verse 1, the verse 2 says, but his delight, which is speaking about essentially "our delight" should be in the law of the LORD.
- d) Now **this law** is the "Word" of the LORD. Which is the Word of God. But specifically addressing "Adonai" or Jehovah in the OT which is Jesus in the NT.
- e) And in His law, which is the Word of God, we should be meditating Day and night. In other words, we should always be reading about God, and thinking about what he has said to us.

So why read.....

³ And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

- a) Well God says that if you will do that then....."and then he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water. And look what happens.
- b) This tree God says will bring forth its fruit in due season.
- c) His leaf also shall not wither.

d) And.....whatsoever he does shall prosper.

- ✓ In other words by following Gods ways, which is by reading what he tells us to do and not to do, we get to understand His will for our lives.
- ✓ And by understanding His will for our lives it brings with it great advantages to the believer.
- ✓ It shows that God is protecting us in more ways than one.
- ✓ Remember the birds of the fields, and how God takes care of them and the promise he gave to take care of you.
- ✓ Well that's the promise here.

Let me take the opportunity to compare this with Winter and Summer.

1. In winter you can do whatever you want to try and establish a garden, but nothing will grow. The season is too cold, there is no rain, and everything just withers.
2. Our morale goes down when we plant, and when we water nothing grows.
3. What does come up tends to fade and just not enough to encourage you.
4. But.....on the other hand, when Summer and Spring comes around the season changes and everything becomes as if it is new all over again.
5. The Sun rises early, the day and night temperatures are pleasant and everything we plant seems to grow.

- ✓ Well God is like that.....
- ✓ He is the one who brings the increase and he is the one who rewards.
- ✓ So God likens us as a tree planted by the rivers of water, which brings forth that fruit in due season.

1. So let us not give up.
2. Let us not despair.
3. Let us have hope.
4. Let us trust in God. As Psalm 47 told us previously.

⁴The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

1. It is sad to say, as the scripture says in verse 4. But the ungodly are not so.
2. They are like the chaff which the wind blows away.

3. The “chaff” is the unwanted portion of the wheat that has been harvested. It is the outside of the kernel that is good for nothing that the wind just blows away to wherever the wind wants.
 4. The saved are not like the chaff. But the saved are like the wheat seed that is gathered up and stored in the barns, which is a metaphor for Jesus storing us with Him in His house.
 5. The saved are gathered up to be with Jesus (the wheat harvest).
 6. The chaff is gathered up and cast into the fire. (Hell)
- ✓ That’s why verse 5 says the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment.

Why.....

⁵Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

1. Well because they are not saved.
 2. They have not called upon the name of the Lord for salvation.
 3. Verse 5 says that the ungodly which are the unbelieving sinners shall not stand in the congregation of the righteous, which are the saved of God.
 4. The sheep (saved) and the goats (unsaved) are separated.
 5. That means the ungodly which are unsaved are separated from the saved who are the righteous when Jesus comes to judge. They will not be part of the “congregation of the righteous”.
 6. As a saved person when God judges you it will be as if you have not sinned. Yet the unrighteous will still be sinners who are condemned.
 7. Even at the resurrection of the dead the unrighteous when they are resurrected will still be sinners. Whereas the saved at the resurrection will still be without sin because they will have their glorified bodies.
- ✓ God said that as far as the east is from the west, that is how far he has separated us from sin when we have called upon His name to be saved by Him. (east and west never meet).

Psalm 103:12

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

1. The only one who can remove any transgressions (sin) is Jesus Christ.
2. Jesus can do that because He is God.
3. The God of the OT is still the God of the NT.

Acts 4:12 - Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

4. Salvation comes **only** in believing in Jesus. And believing that He is God.

Isaiah 43:²⁵ I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

5. Isaiah 4:25 is speaking about Jesus in the OT. Who is now revealed to us through the NT.
6. The veil has now been lifted and we see clearly who the scriptures in the OT was speaking of, and that was Jesus our creator.

Romans 1:20

For the invisible things **of him** from the **creation of the world are clearly seen**, being understood by the things that are made, **even his eternal power and Godhead**; so that they are without excuse:

1. This verse is speaking of Jesus the creator of heaven and earth.
2. The**of him**.... Is referring to Jesus.
3. By meditating (reading and immersing ourselves) in God's Word, brings us to the realization of who Jesus is.
4. Jesus is not just Jesus of the NT but He is Jesus the God of the OT and NT.
5. He is the God of the bible, with his Father, and the Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 8:12 ¹² For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

Finally.....

⁶ For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

1. Is it not comforting to know that the LORD, who is Jesus in both the OT and NT will not forget who are the righteous, and he knows the way of the righteous.
2. The righteous, the saved will be with Jesus.
3. But the ungodly shall perish. And Jesus knows their way also which will be assigned to the bottomless pit of Hell.

Today I hope that we will be yet again able to know that it is the Lord who orders all things. And it is the Lord who knows our ways, and directs our footsteps every day.

The Lord is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105).

- ✓ So as the psalmist could say in this Psalm 1, does it echo of what we should be doing in Psalm 1.

1. We close this morning with this wonderful word of scripture.
2. A promise from the Lord to those who believe.
3. Gods word is a light to the believer. A light to the path of the Christian.

Psalm 119:105

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

- ✓ May we all meditate in God's word, and receive a blessing.

PRAYER.....CLOSE.