

The LORD endureth forever

All Scripture is KJV: Psalm 118:1-29

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY

We find ourselves in the Psalms again this morning. The Psalms are truly an amazing source of information about God, and what he planned to do for His creation.

It is truly a narrative of an endless source of information about God.

But not only is it about God, the Father, but it is an endless source of reference to Jesus in the OT.

Of course Jesus was not known by that name in the OT but by many other names, like LORD, or God Almighty or Jehovah or Jah.

So today we are going to focus on a Psalm of Salvation which was given to the people in the OT.

Question:

1. Who do you think saved the people in the OT?
2. And how do you think they got saved?
3. In other words to get saved what did they have to do?

❖ Well Psalm 118:1-29 actually answers all those questions for us?

1. Just think about this one question I am going to ask now?
2. Did the people get saved a different way in the OT, and did they have to wait for Jesus to die on the cross to be saved?

✓ **What have you previously been taught about that question?**

Psalm 118 King James Version (KJV)

¹ O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: because his mercy endureth for ever.

1. What kind of thanks do you think this is talking about?
2. Have you ever said thank you to the LORD for saving your soul?
3. You see here it is referring to the LORDS mercy enduring forever?
4. This would not be saying he simply receives a thank you from someone and then His mercy is upon that person forever. No this is the LORDS everlasting mercy which will endure forever upon that person for something that is greater than just saying thanks.
5. To see this “give thanks” play out in that way we have to read the rest of the Psalm and it quickly becomes apparently clear that is what it means.

✓ The following verses 2,3,and 4 emphasize

² **Let Israel now say, that his mercy endureth for ever.**

³ **Let the house of Aaron now say, that his mercy endureth for ever.**

⁴ **Let them now that fear the LORD say, that his mercy endureth for ever.**

⁵ **I called upon the LORD in distress:** the LORD answered me, and set me in a large place.

1. In all these verses we see the call from the Psalmist for “everyone” to call for the LORDS mercy. The type of mercy which will endure forever.
2. Clearly this is about salvation.

⁶ **The LORD is on my side; I will not fear:** what can man do unto me?

1. If the LORD is on your side then you don't need to have fear, because this is the same answer to the same question of the psalmist that Jesus answered in the N.T. remember.

Matthew 10:28

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

⁷ The LORD taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see my desire upon them that hate me.

⁸ **It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.**

⁹ **It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.**

1. Again this is what Jesus said in Matthew 10:28.
2. You can trust all you like in man, but it will never give you salvation.
3. You see in verse 10 the Psalmist speaks about this in his first hand experience.
4. He had realised that when “all nations” or it feels like the “whole world” is against you,he simply trusted in the LORD.

¹⁰ **All nations compassed me about:** but in the name of the LORD will I destroy them.

¹¹ **They compassed me about; yea,** they compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

5. As much as the Psalmist had twice repeated said already in verse 10 & 11.....His defence was.....that in the name of the LORD he would destroy them.
6. Bad advice from Jobs friends never got him saved. It was only when he turned to the LORD did things get better for him.
7. Don't listen to the "worlds" or "nations" listen to God.
8. The world is a bad place. We are told in the NT to be in the world but not of the world. This is case in point here.

12 They compassed me about like bees: they are quenched as the fire of thorns: for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

9. The Psalmist explains that this bad influence of the "nations" or the world, is like bees around you. Encompassing like bees, is like a swarm of bees trying to get to you.

13 Thou hast thrust sore at me that I might fall: but the LORD helped me.

10. The Psalmist was as he explains on the "point of giving up". He was at the point of falling. But thanks be to the LORD, he said "but the LORD helped me".
11. This is great advice for our lives when we too get to a point where it feels that our whole world is caving in. When it feels like our enemies are triumphing over us. It is at this point that we should dig our heels in and turn to the LORD like the Psalmist did.
12. Verse 14 gives us the result of turning to the LORD.

14 The LORD is my strength and song, and is become my salvation.

13. He gives us salvation. He has become our salvation, and His "mercy" is upon us and endureth forever. That's what the Psalm started off by saying in verse 1. By giving thanks unto the LORD for our salvation. It's only in salvation does His mercy endure upon "the saved" forever.

15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.

16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.

17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

- ✓ Salvation means life. It means you will live forever with the LORD.

18 The LORD hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death.

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the LORD:

- ✓ The gates of righteousness are only open to the believer.
- ✓ It's the place when God dwells.
- ✓ No "unrighteous shall inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:9

Know ye not that **the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom** of God? **Be not deceived**: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

20 This gate of the LORD, into which the righteous shall enter.

21 I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.

1. The psalmist called upon the LORD, and the LORD heard him.
2. What did he call for?
3. He called for "salvation".
4. And the "LORD" became his salvation.

22 The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

1. What a way to refer to the LORD. Who we now know is Jesus in the NT. But back then Jesus was simply known as the "LORD"
2. This saying in Psalm 118 Verse 22, is quoted in the NT about Jesus.

Look at the Wow Factor at what Jesus said about this passage in Psalm 118:22.

Matthew 21:42 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?

Mark 12:10 And have ye not read this scripture; The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner:

Luke 20:17 And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?

- ✓ Jesus used the “Exact same words” to explain to them.
- ✓ Look at the same words used also in Psalm 118: verse 23 now.....

23 This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

- ✓ This day of rejoicing is referring to the day in which the LORD returns.
- ✓ This is the day which the LORD hath made.
- ✓ We will be clad and rejoice in it?

25 Save now, I beseech thee, **O LORD: O LORD**, I beseech thee, **send now prosperity**.

- ✓ The psalmist is talking to the LORD to please send “salvation” to more people.
- ✓ To people who will hear the LORD and be saved?
- ✓ The psalmist calls this “send now prosperity”.
- ✓ He is referring to salvation.

26 Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.

27 God is the LORD, which **hath shewed us light**: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar.

28 Thou art my God, and I will praise thee: thou art my God, I will exalt thee.

29 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

- ✓ The psalmist ends on the same note that he started.
- ✓ He gives thanks unto the LORD.
- ✓ For HIS mercy endureth forever.
- ✓ Who is the LORD.....it is Jesus in the OT.
- ✓ God.....is the LORD.

Psalm 118 is quoted more times in the NT than any other Psalm.

It is also the last of the Hallel (means praise) Psalms. It is also most likely the Psalm sung by Jesus and the disciples at the last supper when they went out to sing at the mount of olives.

- ✓ The scriptures that quote this Psalm 118 in the NT are:

Matthew 21:42, Mark 12:10-11, Luke 20:17 and also the following scriptures.

Acts 4:11 King James Version (KJV)

¹¹ This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

1 Peter 2:4-7 King James Version (KJV)

⁴ To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ⁵ Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

⁶ Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, **Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious:** and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. ⁷ Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

Matthew 21:9 King James Version (KJV)

⁹ And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: **Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.**

Matthew 23:39 King James Version (KJV)

³⁹ For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Mark 11:9 King James Version (KJV)

⁹ And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord:

Luke 13:35 King James Version (KJV)

³⁵ Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Luke 19:37-38 King James Version (KJV)

³⁷ And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; ³⁸ Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

John 12:13 King James Version (KJV)

¹³ Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.....