

Sunday Night Message

July 14, 2013

*Psalm 33 – Instructions Regarding Praise*

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 33

### **An Encapsulation of the Psalm - Introduction (v. 1)**

*"Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright."  
(Psalms 33:1 KJV)*

This first verse serves as the introduction to the psalm. It tells us whom the psalm was originally addressed to, and it explains the content of the psalm, which is praise. This psalm will serve to instruct the people of God, which in this case was the congregation of Israel, about how to praise God, and why they should praise God.

Notice – praise is comely (beautiful) for the upright – for God's people. Praise should come naturally to God's people when you consider all of the things that God has done for you.

The Septuagint attributes this Psalm to David, but there is no such delineation in our King James Version.

Though we cannot be sure, it is assumed that this Psalm came on the heels of some great military victory.

### **I The Elements of Praise (vs 1 – 2)**

*"Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings." (Psalms 33:2 KJV)*

*"Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise." (Psalms 33:3 KJV)*

You will notice that musical instruments were a big part of the worship at the temple.

a new song – means a song specifically written for the occasion. New mercies deserve new songs – see also 40:3; 96:1; 98:1; 144:9; 149:1; Revelation 5:9; 14:3

playing skillfully means to do play it right, or to play it well.

Notice – it is to be played loud, or with enthusiasm.

The Lord is worthy of a special song, played with enthusiasm, and played well.

*"And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;"* (Ephesians 5:18-20 KJV)

## **II An Explanation for Praise**

### **A Praise Him for His Word of Instruction (vs. 4 – 6)**

*"For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth."* (Psalms 33:4 KJV)

*"He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD."* (Psalms 33:5 KJV)

*"By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth."* (Psalms 33:6 KJV)

Notice the connection Paul makes of the Word and songs in Colossians 3:16:

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."* (Colossians 3:16 KJV)

Singing and worship needs to be rooted in the truth.

### **B Praise Him for His Work of Creation (vs. 7 – 9)**

*"He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses."* (Psalms 33:7 KJV)

*"And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good."* (Genesis 1:9-10 KJV)

*"Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him."* (Psalms 33:8 KJV)

*"Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah." (Psalms 4:4 KJV)*

*"Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word." (Psalms 119:161 KJV)*

stand in awe – means to be frozen in place

*"For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast." (Psalms 33:9 KJV)*

*"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."  
(Hebrews 11:3 KJV)*

*"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;" (Hebrews 1:1-3 KJV)*

*"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence." (Colossians 1:9-18 KJV)*

## **C Praise Him for His Wall of Protection (vs. 10 – 21)**

*"The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect." (Psalms 33:10 KJV)*

*"The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations." (Psalms 33:11 KJV)*

*"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." (Psalms 33:12 KJV)*

*"The LORD looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men." (Psalms 33:13 KJV)*

The word "looketh" here means to gaze intently. He's watching you. Talk about Big Brother – this is Big Father

*"From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth." (Psalms 33:14 KJV)*

*"He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works." (Psalms 33:15 KJV)*

*"There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength." (Psalms 33:16 KJV)*

*"An horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great strength." (Psalms 33:17 KJV)*

*"There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD. The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the LORD." (Proverbs 21:30-31 KJV)*

*"Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;" (Psalms 33:18 KJV)*

If you fear the Lord, God has got His eye on you.

*"For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye." (Zechariah 2:8 KJV)*

*"To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine." (Psalms 33:19 KJV)*

*"Our soul waiteth for the LORD: he is our help and our shield." (Psalms 33:20  
KJV)*

*"For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name."  
(Psalms 33:21 KJV)*

### **III An Expressed Prayer Request (v. 22)**

*"Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee." (Psalms  
33:22 KJV)*

This verse represents the only prayer in the entire Psalm. The entire Psalm save this verse is directed towards man regarding the praise of God.