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Psalm 92

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 92.

Topics.

- It is good to sing praises to the Most High in the morning, and evening.
- You, O LORD, have made me glad by your works of your hands.
- God's thoughts are deep, the stupid and the fool cannot understand.
- God has exalted my horn my eyes see the downfall of my enemies
- The righteous grow like cedars in Lebanon planted in the house of God.
- The righteous flourish in house and courts of the LORD.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they cover the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

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BOOK FOUR (PSALM 90-106)

PSALM 92:1-4

A Psalm. A Song for the Sabbath.

It is Good to Praise the Most High in the Morning, and Evening.

- **Psalm 92:1-4:** It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; ²to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, ³to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. ⁴For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

At the time of writing this Psalm the Psalmist was able to enjoy worship with a choir of beautiful singers and a variety of musical instruments on the Sabbath Day with the faithful in the temple of God every morning and evening. In our modern age today, there are certain churches that teach that it is a sin to use musical instruments in church services, because they recognise that music can be used to manipulate the minds of congregations. It is certainly true that music can be used to manipulate people to respond in certain ways (i.e., give more money), but just because a thing can be abused does not make the thing itself sinful. If we lived by the principal music can be used to manipulate people into certain behaviour therefore music is sin, and applied this principal to all other things we would have to conclude that the Bible cannot be used in churches because some religious ministers twist and pervert the Scriptures to manipulate their followers for their own advantage and to fulfil their own selfish goals. Obviously, this would be foolish reasoning but it does shine a light upon the truth that just because a thing is abused

does not make the thing itself sinful or wrong. Gifted singers and those who have learned to skilfully play musical instruments are a gift to the House of God and were clearly used on the Sabbath Day in the Temple of God and enjoyed by the writer of this Psalm song and it is certain by everyone else in the House of God.

You, O LORD, have made me glad by your works of your hands:

(V4) this may well apply to certain blessings in the Psalmist own life, but would certainly not be limited to them. As one reads through the Old Testament (especially the Psalms) it becomes clear that many times when they were praising God it was not because of their own personal circumstances, but because God is the Almighty God the creator of all things and source of all life. They praised him for his blessings upon their nation, upon others, His works in creation on earth and in the heavens.

NOTE: it is easy for those who enjoy beautiful worship with their brothers and sisters in Christ every Sunday in churches that have amazing choirs, the most beautiful singers and a stage full of musical instruments who are all together in unity and one Spirit making one sound of praise of thanksgiving and worship to the Most High God and His Son the Lord Jesus Christ to feel that heartfelt worship in their home and on their own is of less value before God. But this thinking is grossly mistaken, the delight, joy and thrill to God's heart is the same whether it is one faithful man or woman worshipping him in their home or ten thousand faithful brothers and sisters in Christ worshipping him in a church building. This is because God is not a God that counts numbers, but a God that delights in the honest heart attitude of individual believers whether they are in a congregation or at home on their own.

PSALM 92:5-9

God's thoughts are Deep, the Stupid and Fools cannot Understand.

2

- **Psalm 92:5-9:** How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep! ⁶The stupid man cannot know; the fool cannot understand this: ⁷that though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever; ⁸but you, O LORD, are on high forever. ⁹For behold, your enemies, O LORD, for behold, your enemies shall perish; all evildoers shall be scattered.

The thing that the stupid and the fool cannot understand or if they do know choose to ignore is that even though the wicked grow in wealth, prosper and flourish they are doomed to eternal destruction, no matter how famous, important or wonderful their life is they will be judged to eternal death and destroyed forever. This is why from heavens perspective they are classed as being stupid and fools. In contrast to this a wise person understands that the end of their life is the darkness of the grave forever and this understanding motivates them to seek the eternal God and His plan of salvation.

The character of the fool: David in Psalm fifty-three wrote that a foolish person says in their heart there is no God they rebel against His will, are corrupt and full of wicked acts. They have no understanding or knowledge of what is important to God. They have turned from the LORD and do not seek after Him so God has rejected them. (Psalm 53).

PSALM 92:10-11

God Exalted My Horn My Eyes see the Downfall of My Enemies.

- **Psalm 92:10-11:** But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox; you have poured over me fresh oil. ¹¹My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies; my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.

Horn in this context comes from the Hebrew word (*qeren*) which figuratively carries the idea of power and strength. The Psalmist is saying that God has given him spiritual and mental strength by showing him the downfall and defeat of his enemies. This could apply to a local fulfilment of Israel's enemies being defeated and destroyed or to the final defeat of all God's enemies when Christ returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords to gather the faithful to himself and judge their enemies.

PSALM 92:12-15

The Righteous grow like Lebanon's Cedars Planted in God's House.

- **Psalm 92:12-15:** The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. ¹³They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God. ¹⁴They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, ¹⁵to declare that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

The palm tree: is constantly green and flourishing, spreads its branches very wide, and grows to a vast size, giving a most refreshing shade to travellers. It speaks of peace, calmness, tranquillity, freshness and purity of life. In these verses the palm tree appears as an emblem of moral righteousness, goodness, integrity and beauty of character.

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a young donkey:

- The faithful took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Jesus, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" (John 12:12-14).

John in his vision on the Isle of Patmos saw:

- A great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands. (Rev. 7:9).

The palm tree is also very fruitful producing very sweet dates and is a most beautiful tree in every way and an invaluable treasure to the inhabitants of those living in hot countries and therefore a fit emblem of the flourishing state of a righteous person.

The trees of Lebanon: the righteous shall flourish like the cedar of Lebanon, the age of these trees is not measured by years, but by centuries in contrast to the fleeting moments of the brief day of the grass, to which the wicked are compared in the previous verses (v7), which is weak and tender and soon cut down; unlike the palm and cedar trees that are firm and strong and of an enormously long endurance. The cedars in Lebanon are immensely large, some being about fourteen metres in their width, and about thirty-five metres in the spread of their branches. They flourish for ages, and are always green; and, when cut down yield a most beautiful kind of wood that is solid, durable and when compared to the trees around them they are almost incorruptible. These as well as the palm-trees compared with the short-lived and withering grass (symbolising the wicked) are a striking illustration of the well-founded, durable, and continually increasing righteousness and happiness of the truly faithful, in contrast to the fleeting and perishing prosperity of the wicked. The extensive cedar forests of Lebanon thrived across Mount Lebanon in ancient times. Their timber was used by the Phoenicians, the Assyrians, the Babylonians and Persians. The wood was prized by the Egyptians for ship building the Ottoman Empire also used the cedars in railway construction because of their strength and resistance to pests, disease and rot. Clearly the cedars of Lebanon are a beautiful picture of the faithful in the world. Especially when it is considered that as one looks with the eyes upon the forest of Lebanon the cedars stand out as the splendour and beauty of the forest, likewise when God look down upon earth the faithful are to His eyes its glory, its beauty and its splendour.

The righteous flourish in house and courts of the LORD: v13) literally refers to the Sabbath Day and being in the Temple of God at Jerusalem to worship with the singers and musicians and other faithful believers spoken of earlier in this Psalm song. But no one today should think that this means that those who do not regularly attend a religious service every Sabbath Day or Sunday in a church building cannot flourish and grow in God spiritually. Abiding in the House of God today is abiding in Christ and fellowshiping and worshipping amongst his global body worldwide, for some it maybe in a home, at a riverside in a park or a coffee bar. The environment is not important since the church is not the building, but the people in it and true worship is not dependent upon a beautiful choir and musical instruments (thought they are nice), but upon an honest heart attitude that is devoted to God and passionate to see Christ's name exalted in the world.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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