

Today, we will be having our 5<sup>th</sup> lecture on the book of Psalms. We will start with Psalm 19. /Psalm 19 tells us to desire God's word more than we desire fine gold. /His word is sweeter than honey.

/Verses 1-6. Let us read. /The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

/God has created the natural world. /The heavens declare God's glory, and the sky proclaims his handiwork. /Day pours out speech to day, and night reveals knowledge to night.

/The natural world functions all year around, 365 days a year, in an orderly fashion. /The countless stars in space revolve in an orderly way. /In space, there is no contribution of human science or intelligence.

/The universe contains God's wisdom and knowledge. /In the universe, there is no language or words. /The trees and stones do not talk. /But still, the natural world functions properly. /Their voice goes out through all the earth.

/God's word reaches the ends of the earth. /God's word is referring to the natural world. /Here, we can see God's provision and work. /When spring passes, summer comes.

/We know that when summer goes by, fall will come. /Summer is hot, while winter is cold. /In fall, the winds blow and the leaves fall. /Wind cannot be seen. /God reveals himself through nature.

/God's work is revealed in nature. /Natural disasters are also revelations. /For the sun, God has set a tent. /The tent is talking about the entire sky, the entire universe.

/The sun comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber. /The sun is brightly rising in the morning. /It also says that the sun runs its course with joy. /The sun powerfully shines its light all day long. /We human beings cannot endure the sun's heat.

/Although we lie far from the sun, we can feel the sun's heat. /God created the sun. /We need to understand God's power and grace. /How does God show himself to us? /He shows himself through his word.

/Verses 7-11. /The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous

altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

/God's word is perfect. /His word revives our soul. /John 5:39 says we think we can have eternal life in the Scriptures. /The Bible can be understood as a witness about Christ, /his teachings, /his commandments, /the way of fearing the LORD, /and the LORD's statutes.

/In this way, God's word is expressed in many forms. /This is completely evident. /The word of God makes the fool wise. /His words are right, and they bring us joy.

/His words are pure, and they enlighten our eyes. /They give us eyes to see what was once hidden and unseen. /The word teaches us discernment. /This is wisdom.

/Verse 9 says the fear of the LORD is clean. /It endures forever. /The rules of the LORD are true. /His word is always righteous. /Therefore we need to desire God's words more than we desire pure gold.

/We like gold. /We like having a lot of money. /We would be delighted to have a large lump of gold. /However, we need to desire God's word more than we desire gold.

/The words of the LORD are more valuable than gold. /The word is life. /It is the most valuable thing in the world. /His word is sweeter than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb. /Sweet water drips from the word of God. /I encourage you to deeply read the word of God. /Remember his words. /Make an effort to deeply understand the word.

/Verse 11 says by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. /When we live by the word, we are protected. /If we obey God's word, God will reward us.

/Verses 12-14. /Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

/The blessed person knows how to realize his mistakes. /The blessed person finds his deeply hidden sins. /When our faith grows, we discover even the smallest sins. /God lets us see through a microscope.

/The Bible tells us to not look at the speck in our brother's eye. /It tells us to take out the log in our own eye first. /When we pray, we can see all the errors in our eyes. /Then we can repent and become pure.

/The writer asks God to protect his servant from presumptuous sins. /Sins that are intentionally committed are dangerous sins. /They are sins that go against God. /God hates these sins. /We need to pray to God that those sins do not have dominion over us.

/The writer of the Psalm prays, “O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.” /We hope that the words of our mouth, /our lips, /and the meditations of our hearts are conveyed to God. /Our words need to be free from error. /Also, when we pray, we need to be careful not to pray out of greed. /God’s word is precious. /It is more valuable than pure gold.

/Now we will study Psalm 20. /Psalm 20 says God will reply to the believer who prays.

/Verses 1-3. Let us read. /May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion! May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices! *Selah*

/If we pray to God on the day of trouble, God will answer us. /God lifts up those who trust in the LORD. /He sends us up from the sanctuary. /God remembers our sacrifices and efforts.

/Deuteronomy 8:17 says /”Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’” /We must not think that our efforts have brought us our wealth. /God watches us to see if we think this way.

/Verses 4-5. /May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans! May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners! May the LORD fulfill all your petitions!

/God grants us the desires of our hearts. /Does God grant us every desire we have in our hearts? /The desires must be in line with the word of the Bible. /They must be compatible with God’s will. /Then, things will happen as we plan.

/Also, God gives us desires. /We need to have righteous desires. /According to our righteous desires, God gives us victory. /Then, our requests will be fulfilled according to God’s will.

/Verses 6-9. /Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright. O LORD, save the king! May he answer us when we call.

/Verse 6 says, “Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed.” /Who is the anointed? /In the Old Testament, depending on the time frame, people from three occupations were anointed. /The king was anointed.

/The prophet was also anointed. /Finally, the priest was anointed. /In the New Testament, Jesus Christ is the anointed one. /The word “Christ” means “the anointed one.”

/The Old Testament calls him the Messiah. /God is the God who saves his anointed kings and the Christ. /God saves, and he answers with his saving right hand.

/What do people trust in? /They trust in chariots. /They trust in horses. /They trust in their weapons. /There are certain things we all trust in. /Children trust in their mothers. /They trust in their parents.

/However, God is the most trustworthy of them all. /God answers those who trust in him. /God is power and he is our salvation. /Our enemy falls down and perishes, but we will stand up.

/Verse 9 says “O LORD, save the king!” / “May he answer us when we call.” /David prayed to God in the midst of his suffering.

/Now we will study Psalm 21. /God gives great joy to those who trust in him.

/Verses 1-3. Let us read. /O LORD, in your strength the king rejoices, and in your salvation how greatly he exults! You have given him his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. *Selah* For you meet him with rich blessings; you set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

/Because God helps us with his strength, we can rejoice. /God grants us the desires of our heart. /He does not reject the request of our lips. /Hebrews 5:7 says /Jesus prayed in the days of his flesh. /He offered prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears.

/We too need to pray. /We need to pray to God and tell him the desires of our hearts. /We need to be people who cry out to God. /Verse 3 says God meets him with rich blessings; he sets a crown of fine gold on his head. /God gives us his blessings and his grace. /He gives us his glory.

/Verses 4-7. /He asked life of you; you gave it to him, length of days forever and ever. His glory is great through your salvation; splendor and majesty you bestow on him. For you make him most blessed forever; you make him glad with the joy of your presence. For the king trusts in the LORD, and through the steadfast love of the Most High he shall not be moved.

/David trusts in the LORD. /God gave David life, /and he clothed him with splendor and majesty. /God gives his believers his blessings, and he gives them joy. /David knew that God's steadfast love would never be moved.

/God's steadfast love keeps us from being moved. /Who is moved? /If we do not dwell in the truth, we will be shaken. /We will be strong if we stand in the word of God. /God will hold onto us.

/Verses 8-13. /Your hand will find out all your enemies; your right hand will find out those who hate you. You will make them as a blazing oven when you appear. The LORD will swallow them up in his wrath, and fire will consume them. You will destroy their descendants from the earth, and their offspring from among the children of man. Though they plan evil against you, though they devise mischief, they will not succeed. For you will put them to flight; you will aim at their faces with your bows. Be exalted, O LORD, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.

/We all will find out who are enemies are. /God will find those who hate God's chosen people and the church. /When he appears, it will be the time for judgment. /With fire, God will consume the enemies of the church.

/2 Peter 3:10. /God will destroy the enemy. /Mordecai was saved from Haman's plot. /Esther 7:10. /Daniel was saved from the lion's den. /Daniel 6:24. /God is a God who saves his people.

/Sometimes, those who live by faith are martyred. /That is a special grace of God. /God has already chosen his martyrs. /There is no need for us to worry about being martyred.

/Only those whom God has selected can be martyred. /God will give them the strength and joy to endure their martyrdom. /God judges the enemy, /but he saves his chosen people.

/The wicked are destroyed from among the people. /God punishes their descendants as well. /They plan evil and devise mischief. /However, none of their plans succeed. /Whom should we fear? /Who should we be afraid of?

/We need to fear God. /Then God will lift us up and bless us so that we will be able to sing his power.

/We will begin looking at Psalm 22. /God fulfills everything. /Here, we see records prophesying Jesus Christ's suffering. /People casted lots for Jesus's clothes.

/Verses 1-2. Let us read. /My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

/David felt like God had forsaken him. /Here, the title says the Psalm is written according to Aijeleth Shahar. /Aijeleth Shahar means "The doe of the dawn."

/David says, "I am groaning, but why aren't you answering me, God?" / "I am crying out to you, but why won't you answer me?" /I cannot rest at night." / "I am suffering in my hardship." /This prophesies Jesus's coming and the pain that Jesus will endure.

/Verses 3-5. /Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

/Because David's fathers in faith trusted in God, God answered their prayers and delivered them. /Because they relied on God, they were not ashamed. /However, David now is enduring pain and sadness.

/Verses 6-11. /But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!" Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

/David says he has become a worm. / "People scorn me and despise me." / "All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me and laugh at me." / "They talk." / "He who trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him."

/ "Let God rescue him, for he delights in him." /People mocked David and laughed at him. /They also laughed at Jesus. /They mocked Jesus by saying "You who raise the dead, come down from the cross." / "Don't save others, save yourself first." /In this way, Jesus was mocked. /He was put to shame.

/Verse 9 says "Yet you are he who took me from the womb." /God is our God since the day of our birth. /The LORD is my God. /God does not stand far away, but he stays close to us and helps us. /People who are like bulls and lions stand against us. /They run towards us with their mouths open. /We are weak and helpless.

/Verses 12-15. /Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

/The believer is exhausted. /David was poured out like water. /His bones were out of joint, and he melted like wax. /David's strength was dried up, and his tongue stuck to his jaws. /He felt like he was trapped in the dust of death.

/The dogs are scoffing at the believer. /Wicked men mock David. /They say, "If you are the son of God, /don't save others, but save yourself first. /Matthew 27:43.

/Verses 16-21. /For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet— I can count all my bones— they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul

from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

/People like dogs laugh at David. /They pierced my hands and feet. /It is a prophesy about Jesus's hands and feet being nailed to the cross. /Verse 17 says "I can count all my bones."

/Verses 18 says, "They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." /Jesus prayed and was troubled about his cross. /He said, "I am going to die."  
/Matthew 26:37.

/David trusted in God and gained strength. /The Roman soldiers took Jesus's clothing and casted lots for them. /John 19:24. /They divided his outer garments and under garments among themselves. /They brought great shame to Jesus.

/Verse 19 says "O LORD, do not be far off! /O you my help, come quickly to my aid!" / Verse 20 says my life is in front of the sword. /My one life is placed from the power of the dogs. /Their mouths are like the mouths of lions and their horns are like those of the bulls. /God delivers his church and his people.

/Verses 22-24. /I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

/Because of the cross of Jesus Christ, we can be victorious. /We need to praise the LORD. /Verse 23 says "You who fear the LORD, praise him!" /It says, "All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him."

/We need to be believers who fear the LORD. /God does not ignore our pain. /We need to be patient and enduring in our suffering. /We need to stand at a place where God finds joy in where we stand. /We need to do things that bring God joy. /We need to endure.

/Verses 27-31. /All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

/All the ends of the earth shall remember God and turn to him. /God's chosen people worship the LORD. /God's kingdom belongs to God, /and God reigns over his nations.

/Verse 22 says God's people praise God. /Verse 29 says "All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship." /They all praise God. /They bow down to God and praise him.

/We all deserve to be destroyed as the price of our sins. /We cannot help but encounter death. /However, if we believe in Jesus and are saved, we become people of God. /We and our children need to serve the LORD.

/The Gospel must be handed down to our future generations. /Jesus also gave us this commandment. /He tells us to spread the Gospel to Judah and Jerusalem and to the ends of the earth. /He tells us to baptize them and to make them disciples of God.

/We need to spread the word of God until eternity. /We need to be ones who deliver the Gospel.

/Now we will study Psalm 23. /The Psalm says that the LORD is my shepherd.

/Verses 1-3. Let us read. /The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

/The verse says, "The LORD is my shepherd." /Isaiah 40:11. /John 10:11. /Those who accept the LORD as their shepherd are not in want. /We are sheep who dwell in Jesus Christ. /The LORD is my shepherd.

/Is this person in want? No, he lacks nothing. /Therefore, we do not thirst. /We do not hunger. /Verse 3 says "He restores my soul."

/Psalm 84:10 says, / "Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere." / "I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked."

/Habakkuk 3:17 says / "Though the fig tree should not blossom, /nor fruit be on the vines, /the produce of the olive fail /and the fields yield no food, /the flock be cut off from the fold /and there be no herd in the stalls, /yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation."

/If I have God, then I am happy. /I hope that you have a faith like that. /Whoever has the LORD as their shepherd is not in want. /Verse 3 says, "He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

/God revives our soul. /Ephesians 2:1. /He revives us who were once dead in our sin. /There may be times when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death.

/Verse 4. /Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.



/Sometimes, there may be places like the furnace or the lion's den. /The apostle Paul must have felt this way when they sentenced him to death. /There are times when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death. /Also, we may be up to our necks in our greed.

/When we pass through the valley of the shadow of death, we are not afraid. /We are not afraid because God is with us. /His rod and his staff protect us. /The rod is used to pull us out when we fall into a pit.

/God saves us. /He helps us. /His staff is also with us. /The staff is used to hit sheep that are disobedient. /Only when a staff strikes them do they listen. /There are prideful sheep.

/There are foolish sheep. /There are sheep that do not listen. /The shepherd strikes such sheep to put them in their place. /1 Corinthians 4:21 says, / "Shall I come to you with a rod?"

/2 Samuel 7:14 says / I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men." /Isaiah 10:5 says that /Assyria is the rod of God's anger. /Assyria is God's rod used for punishment.

/Verses 5-6. /You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

/For those who keep their faith, God prepares a feast. /It is in these people where God's grace and glory overflow. /David desired to dwell in the house of the LORD forever. /This ends the 5<sup>th</sup> lecture on the book of Psalms. /Thank you.