

Today, we will be having our 7th lecture on the book of Psalms. /The message today is from Psalm 29. /Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name.

/Verses 1-4. Let us read. /Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness. The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

/The verse says, “O heavenly beings.” /People of God give glory to God. /Ascribe to God glory and strength. /We need to ascribe to him the glory that is due.

/The verse reads, “Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.” / “In the splendor of holiness” refers to our holy deeds. /God’s voice is over the waters. /God dwells among the sound of thunder. /His voice is powerful and full of majesty.

/God’s voice is compared to the sound of thunder. /God’s majesty is like the sound of many waters. /How majestic is the sound of water falling from a waterfall?

/Verses 5-8. /The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

/The verse says, “The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars.” /God can break down strong, beautiful people who are like the cedar. /Lebanon is located to the north of Galilee. /The verse says, “And Sirion like a young wild ox.”

/In Deuteronomy 3:9, Sirion is called Hermon. /God’s voice flashes forth flames. /Lightning flashes, /and the thunder and lightning strike. /God’s voice shakes the wilderness. /The LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. / “Kadesh” is also known as Kadesh-Barnea. /It is a place south of Palestine.

/Verses 9-11. /The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, “Glory!” The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

/The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth. /Deer are animals with weak hearts. / When they hear the sound of thunder, they give birth as they are startled. /God’s voice bares the mountains. /He clears the trees of the mountain with rain and flood. /We must ascribe to God the glory he deserves. /God gives his people strength, peace, and blessing.

/We will continue with Psalm 30. / “Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes in the morning.”

/Verses 1-3. Let us read. /I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me. O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

/God lifts up his believers among our foes. /When the believer cries out to God, he rescues us from the dangerous place. /Sheol in the verse refers to the grave. /In the New Testament, Sheol means hell. /The verse is talking about death.

/God lifts us out of the deep, dark pit. /Verse 4 says that we must therefore praise God, remember his holiness, and give thanks. /Verse 5 tells us that God's anger is but for a moment.

/However, God rains down his grace and peace during our entire lifetime. /In the night, our eyes may shed tears. /At this time, we face many hardships. /We are deeply troubled. /We are sad.

/The believer repented and cried out to God. /In the morning, great joy will find us. /If we wait for the right time, God's comfort and glory will come upon us. /There are times when God punishes us. Do not be dismayed. /We do not despair in our faith.

/Verses 6-10. /As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved." By your favor, O LORD, you made my mountain stand strong; you hid your face; I was dismayed. To you, O LORD, I cry, and to the Lord I plead for mercy: "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me! O LORD, be my helper!"

/I am speaking while I am at peace. /I will never be moved. /God in his grace has made me stand strong. /However, God turns his face away from us when we sin or do unrighteous deeds. /

/Great trouble and disappointment finds us. /When this happens, we cry out to God and seek his mercy. /Verse 9 says, "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the pit?" /What hope is there?

/God, please listen to my prayer. /God is my helper, so I shall not be afraid. /Thus we must not become proud. /We must not become arrogant. /We need to be cautious in all we do.

/Verses 11-12. /You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

/God turns my mourning into dancing. /He removes my sackcloth and clothes me with gladness. /Verse 12 says that my glory may sing your praise. /Now, I will not be silent. /I will forever praise God and give thanks.

/We will continue with Psalm 31. /What is the source of our pain?

/Verses 1-5. Let us read. /In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me! Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily! Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me! For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me; you take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

/I take refuge in you LORD; let me never be put to shame. /Deliver me in your righteousness. /You are my rock and my strong fortress of salvation. /When do believers fail? /We fail when we follow our greed.

/We fail when we are proud. /When we dwell in sin. /Therefore we must repent and return to God. /We need to cry out to God. /We must do this because God is my rock and my fortress.

/I trust in you God, so please rescue me. /Verse 4 say, "You take me out of the net they have hidden for me." /Verse 5 says, "Into your hand I commit my spirit." /David is putting his entire life into God's hands.

/Verse 5 says, "You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God." /There is an important key in this verse. /It is the key that solves problems. /God protects the believer who dwells in truth.

/Believers! Stand firmly on the word of God. /Do not yield it to anyone. /Do not compromise with the world. /The world demands that I give up the truth.

/Verses 6-10. /I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD. I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have known the distress of my soul, and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; you have set my feet in a broad place. Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away.

/I do not worship idols. /I trust only in God as I move forward. /God is my only joy and grace. /God knows about my suffering and hardship, and he is watching me. /Verse 8 says that God will not deliver me into the hands of the enemy.

/He sets my feet in a broad place. /We do not create idols and worship them. /What idols do believers worship? /The Ten Commandments say, "You shall have no other gods before me."

/God commands us, “You shall not make for yourself an idol. You shall not worship them.” /Today, we do not make idols and worship them. /However, there are idols within our hearts. /Money is our idol. /Anything we love more than God is an idol.

/Anything we trust more than God is an idol. /Anything we fear more than God is an idol. /All these things are idols. /Have you given up the word of God and benefited from doing so? /Have you become partners with the world and gained something?

/We must not eat the food sacrificed to idols. /We are believers who rejoice in God. /God shows his grace to his believers. /Right now, we have become weak with pain and distress, and our lives are wasting away with sadness.

/We are at a place where we let out a sigh at every moment. /I have become weak because of my sin. /My bones have become weak due to my sin. /Our strength fails when we sin. /We need to repent of our sin.

/Verses 11-18. /Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my neighbors, and an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. I have been forgotten like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. For I hear the whispering of many— terror on every side!— as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, “You are my God.” My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors! Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love! O LORD, let me not be put to shame, for I call upon you; let the wicked be put to shame; let them go silently to Sheol. Let the lying lips be mute, which speak insolently against the righteous in pride and contempt.

/My neighbors mock me. /My friends avoid me. /Those who see me in the street flee from me. /Verses 12 says that I am being forgotten like one who is dead. /I am thrown away like a broken vessel.

/Verse 13 says that I am hearing the criticism of many. /I feel terror from all sides. /People scheme against me and plot to take my life. /God, all of this is happening because of my sin.

/Please forgive me. /In verse 14, I now trust in God. /The Lord is my God. /In verse 15, my times are in God’s hands. /Deliver me from the hands of those who persecute me.

/Verse 16 says, “Make your face shine on your servant.” /I call upon God; do not let me be put to shame. /Let their wicked lips, let their mouths become silent. /There is hope for the believer who repents.

/Verses 19-24. /Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of the children of mankind! In the cover of your presence you hide them from the plots of men; you store them in your shelter from the strife of tongues. Blessed be the LORD, for he has

wondrously shown his steadfast love to me when I was in a besieged city. I had said in my alarm, "I am cut off from your sight." But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy when I cried to you for help. Love the LORD, all you his saints! The LORD preserves the faithful but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride. Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!

/God restores those who repent. /God shows his goodness to those who /fear God /and find refuge in him. /God makes the wicked fall victim to their own plots, /but he hides his people in the secret place.

/Verse 20 says that God stores us in his shelter from the strife of tongues. /He rescues us from the plots of the wicked. /Verse 21 says that God protects us in a strong city. /He shows me his amazing love.

/It says that I spoke in my alarm in verse 22. /I was cut off from the Lord's sight. /I cried out to God. /I repented. /Now, God hears our voices.

/Verse 23 tells all his saints to love God. /God preserves the faithful. /The faith person knows how to keep the word in his heart. /God abundantly repays those who act in evil.

/We need to be courageous as we wait on the LORD. /God makes our hearts strong.

/We will continue with Psalm 32. /Blessed is the one who is forgiven by God.

/Verses 1-5. Let us read. /Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah* I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*

/Our transgressions have been forgiven. /Our sins are covered. /We are blessed people. /What are transgressions? /Transgressions are violations. /To transgress means to violate something. /Transgressions are sins.

/What are sins? /To sin means that the arrow has missed its target. /It has gone astray. /The arrow has strayed from its path. /It has crossed its boundaries. /This is what sin is. /It is to cross the boundaries of God's truth.

/Verse 2 says, "Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity." / "You are a sinner." /Blessed is he who does not hear this from God. /However, right now I am a sinner. /I am punished by God.

/Verse 3 says that I groan all day long. /My bones are wasting away. /God's hand is heavy on me day and night. /The things within me have escaped my body. /I am

suffocating and my strength has dried up. /I am like the grains drying up in the rainless summer heat.

/I am in a drought, and I cannot bear it. /God's grace does not fall on me. /God's comfort does not come upon his believers. /Can we live like this? /Verse 5 says that I acknowledged my sin to God.

/God, I have sinned in this way. /I am a sinner. /I will not hide my sin, but I will confess them. /There is hope for the person who repents in this way. /When we do this, God forgives us of our sins.

/Verses 6-11. /Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. *Selah*

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you. Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

/The verse says, "Let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found." /There is a time when we may encounter the LORD. /God gives us the opportunity to repent. /We need to repent when we are given the chance. /Hebrews 12:16.

/We must not miss the opportunity to repent. /God protects the believer who repents. /Even the rush of great waters will not reach him. /Verse 7 says that God is our hiding place, our protector.

/Verse 8 says, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you." /I will teach you, so you will look at what I tell you to see. /I will talk to you, so you will listen. /You must not act carelessly.

/Verse 9 tells us not to be like horses or mules. /Horses and mules only listen when we pull on their reins. /Do not be stubborn. /Do not be proud. /Do not do whatever you want. /Why are you trying to run from God's will and do as you want?

/If horses and mules are not curbed with bit and bridle, they do not listen. /There are believers in the church who never listen. /They do not repent of their pride. /They do not obey the word of God.

/They ignore the order of the church. /They do not receive the guidance of their superiors. /They do whatever their heart wants to do. /These people are believers of the Lord, /but they will suffer many pains.

/However, if they repent and trust in God, God will love them. /Verse 11 says, “Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous.” /God gives joy to those who are upright in heart.

/What proves that we have abandoned the word of God? /Proof is seen when God takes his grace from us. /Then, our joy and satisfaction disappear. /At this time, we must repent.

/We will continue with Psalm 33. /We need to be believers who rejoice in God.

/Verses 1-5. /Let us read. /Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

/Verse 1 reads, “Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!” /God’s joy fills us up. /We need to give thanks and praise to God. /Joy fills us up.

/In the Old Testament times, many instruments were used to sing praises to God. /Believers played instruments such as the lyre and harp. /They played beautiful melodies as they danced and sang praises to God. /Can we dance and praise God like this in the New Testament times?

/Is it an appropriate form of worship? /During the Old Testament times, God accepted ceremonial and systemic worship. /People killed and offered cows to God. /They slaughtered lamb and goats and offered them to God. /The people wrung the neck of doves. /They sprinkled the blood.

/They also burned the animals. /Can we slaughter cows or lamb today in our sanctuaries? /Do we come before God with the blood of beasts? /Old Testament worship was about formality, ceremony, and system. /What is worship like in the New Testament times?

/Today’s worship is about worshiping God in spirit and in truth. /It is spiritual worship. /This is holy worship. /We need to be solemn when we worship.

/Verse 3 says, “Sing to him a new song.” /The new song is sung by believers who are born again. /The believer who understands the grace of God is singing these songs of praise. /We praise everything that God does. /We praise his righteousness, justice, and love.

/Verses 6-9. /By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

/Verse 8 says, “Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!” /God created everything in the world with his words. /God created the skies. /With his words, he also created everything in the world.

/Verse 7 reads, “He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses.” /God puts the deeps in storehouses.

/Verses 10-17. /The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations. Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds. The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength. The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.

/God brings the plans of the wicked to nothing. /He erases the plans and counsels of the wicked. /Everything happens according to God’s will. /Verse 12 says, “Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!”

/God looks down from heaven and sees the children of man. /He observes their deeds. /Verse 16 says, “The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.” /Salvation is not earned through military power.

/The warrior is not delivered by his great strength. /We should not boast of our great strength before God. /Do not boast in your skills or wisdom. /Do not boast in your experiences. /The one who does not boast is the wise person.

/Verses 18-22. /Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine. Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

/God watches over those who fear him. /He delivers their souls from death. /God delivers his believers in famine. /Amos 8:11. /There are times of famine and starvation during which we cannot hear the word of truth.

/In famine, God rescues those who fear him. /God is my help. /The Lord is my shield.

/We will continue with Psalm 34. /How can we live to an old age?

/Verses 1-5. Let us read. /I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together! I sought the LORD,

and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

/Verses 6-7. /This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

/David blessed God and sang praises to him alone. /Verse 2 says, “My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.” /Verse 4 says, “I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.”

/God delivers me when I am in a place of danger. /I looked to God, and his face shone with light. /God listened to my prayers when I was humble.

/Verse 6 says that God saves his believers from their troubles, and verse 7 says that God sends angels to protect those who fear him. /God sends his angels and rescues those who fear him.

/Verses 8-10. /Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

/Blessed is the one who takes refuge in God. /Those who fear the LORD lack nothing. /We have studied Psalm 23 before. /The LORD gives good things to those who seek him, and he makes them lack nothing.

/Verses 11-14. /Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

/Verse 11 says, “Come, O children.” / “Children” refers to humble believers. /The verse continues to say, “I will teach you the fear of the LORD.” /There is a way to desire life and live a long life.

/Verse 13 says, “Keep your tongue from evil.” /Keep your lips from speaking deceit. /Turn away from evil and do good. /Seek peace and pursue it. /The Bible is telling us to speak words that are good. /To speak words that are in accordance with the truth. /Will God delight in such words?

/Verses 15-18. /The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

/Where do God's ears lean towards? /Where do God's eyes look? /They are towards the righteous. /God turns his ear toward the cry of the righteous. /James 5:16 says, /
"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. /The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

/God's ears are leaning towards them. /The LORD's face is towards them. /God listens to their cries, and he delivers them from trouble. /We need to be humble and poor in spirit. /
We need to have a heart that is repentant and remorseful.

/Verses 19-22. /Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

/Many are the afflictions of the righteous. /However, the LORD delivers him from all affliction. /Many are the punishments of the wicked. /God redeems the souls of his servants. /He delivers everyone who takes refuge in him.

/I hope you are thankful for God's grace. /Thank you.