

## Prayerful Proclamation of Promise

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### Psalms 89

**Vs. 3-5** What right did David have to profess and proclaim such promises of God? What we know of David is that he was a man of adultery, murder, violence, pride and resentment. However, he was, in the end, a man of much affliction and sorrow of heart and soul. He was a man of brokenness, humility and much grievous repentance.

“Though our expectations may be disappointed, yet God's promises are established in the heavens, in his eternal counsels; they are out of the reach of opposers in hell and earth. And faith in the boundless mercy and everlasting truth of God, may bring comfort even in the deepest trials.” (Matthew Henry Concise Commentary)

With God, the focus is not what you were, but what you desire to be; it is not what you are not, but what you are in Him. The promises of God are not about what you are facing but about He who faces them with you. The promises of God are not about what you hope for but whom your hope is in. They are not about what was prophesied to you, but about the Spirit of Him who is the Spirit of prophecy. Promises of God can only be secured through a prayerful heart and life. It is not simply a moment of prayer or a consecrated time of prayer that God seeks from us. It is an attitude of prayer that permeates our whole lifestyle. Prayer reveals to us, and God, what is truly in our hearts. The lack of prayer, or the motivation of your prayer, does no less the same. C.S. Lewis states, “The prayer preceding all prayers is ‘May it be the real I who speaks. May it be the real Thou I speak to.’ Infinitely various are the levels from which we pray. Emotional intensity is in itself no proof of spiritual depth. If we pray in terror we shall pray earnestly; it only proves that terror is an earnest emotion. Only God Himself can let the bucket down to the depths in us. And on the other side, He must constantly work as the iconoclast. Every idea of Him we form, He must in mercy shatter. The most blessed result of prayer would be to rise thinking ‘But I never knew before. I never dreamed...’”

**Vs. 6-18** David’s proclamation is not focused on the possession of the promises of God, but on the proclamation of Who God is, God’s glory, and the profession of decision to honor God with his whole heart. David’s motivation is the fulfillment of God’s promises, not for David’s sake or that of even his children, but for the glory of God. A.W. Tozer states, “Too many praying persons seek to use prayer as a means to ends that are not wholly and pure. Prayer is often conceived to be little more than a technique for self-advancement, a heavenly method to achieve earthly success.”

**Vs. 19** David’s spirit is prophetically reminded of He who chose him, anointed, and called him to his Kingdom purpose, destiny, and authority. There are many examples of men and women of God who faced insurmountable opposition in the natural against what they were told by God in the supernatural. Moses faced the rebellion of the Israelites and where did he go – to pray. When Joshua faced armies greater in strength and number than that of Israel, where did he go – to pray. When Jesus was about to face unimaginable suffering, death, and hell and take on all our sin and infirmities, where did he go – to pray. The apostle Paul tells us in **Romans 15:30** to do the same: *(Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me;)*

**Vs. 22** David’s soul is reassured of the hand of God that keeps and sustains him. **Romans 8:26-27** tells us *(Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we*

ought: but **the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27**And he that **searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit**, because he maketh intercession for the saints **according to the will of God.**) Charles Finney states, “The Spirit of God leads us to a deep consideration of the state of things; and the result of this, the natural and philosophical result, is, deep feeling. When the Spirit brings the truth before a man’s mind there is only one way in which he can keep from deep feeling. That is by turning away his thoughts, and leading his mind to think of other things.” When we pray in earnest and with fervency of heart, the Spirit of God illuminates the Father of truth to our minds and our souls.

**Vs. 26** The essence of who David has become; that for which such favor of God was bestowed upon him – “He shall cry unto me!” The greatest proclamation from you, of which God is jealous for, is the final and sovereign decision in your mind, heart, and soul that comes from your lips as to who God is to you; You for whom He is jealous for and for His name sake. **Psalms 4:3** tells us, “**3**But know that the LORD hath set apart **him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him.**” Is the essence of who you are, your heart’s motivation, your mind’s focus, your spirit’s natural and attentive desire that of one whose natural instinct in any given circumstance or situation and under any conditions cries out to the Lord your God?

**Vs. 32-37** Jesus is prophesied. The Spirit of prophecy is speaking of you and I and He who is God. Will you cry out to Him with your heart, mind, spirit, lips, and your entire life? Will you make your life one of a prayerful proclamation of who He is?

**Vs. 52** David’s final answer – “Blessed be the Lord forever.” When the Spirit of God brings your heart to that moment of truth, what will be your final answer? When we come to God we come with the proclamation of the knowledge of who He is. We come before Him prayerfully proclaiming “Blessed be the Lord forever.” And when we get up from our knees, no matter what the outcome or the answer He has given, we leave having resolved in our hearts and mind “Blessed be the Lord forever.”

I went to Frost Top the other night to get the family some cheeseburgers and shakes. The young girl behind the counter began to tell me of her two little girls, how she was working two jobs, taking some college classes, kicked out of her home, and how her new boyfriend had taken her and her two daughters in. I asked about the two girls, the school, and jobs, etc. in small conversation. Then I asked about the boyfriend. She replied, “He is in construction. He has been good to us.” I asked, “Does he fear God?” She snarled and asked, “Does he what?” I said, “Does he fear God?” She asked, “What does that have to do with it?” I said, “Everything. It is the most important attribute and the most important thing in your life.” You see, she had no idea of what I meant by fearing God. It is only in discovering what it truly means to have a holy fear of a holy God that you will ever know and understand the depths of His love and what real love is. It is only in a life of prayer, with an attitude of reverent worship to God, that we satisfy His jealousy for us in covenant communion. It is only here that we receive the fulfillment of the promise of life in Him.

The road to wisdom can be a difficult journey but it will lead you to the fear of the Lord and to life.