

PSALM 30

Thanksgiving for Deliverance from Death

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Roy H. Enoch (3-2-94).
- B. A Song at the dedication of the house of David.
- C. Coffman reviews several views as to what is meant by the "Dedication of the House" in the superscription of the psalm. He then presents the following writers as views he believes are most reasonable:
 1. Calmet believed the psalm was written by David on the occasion of the dedication of the Threshing Floor of Araunah, after the awful plague that followed David's numbering of the people (2Sam. 24:25; 1Chr. 21:26).
 2. Adam Clark: "All parts of this Psalm agree to Calmet's opinion so well, and to no other hypothesis, that I feel justified in basing my comment upon this understanding alone."
 3. Leupold also accepted the same understanding of the occasion for this psalm, pointing out that, "1Chr. 22:1 uses the identical words that appear in the heading of this Psalm, namely, 'Here shall be the house.' We feel that this Psalm fits this historical situation as a glove fits the hand.
- D. Coffman then heads the paragraphs of the psalm accordingly:
 1. Thanksgiving is offered for a great deliverance (1-3).
 2. The people are invited to join in the thanksgiving (4-5).
 3. David confesses his sin which was to blame for the catastrophe (6,7).
 4. David's appeal to God and his earnest supplications (8-10).
 5. The sudden and complete relief, the burst of joy, and the pledge to praise God for ever (11,12).

THE TEXT.

30:1 I will extol You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up,
And have not let my enemies rejoice over me.

2 O LORD my God,
I cried to You for help, and You healed me.

3 O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;
You have kept me alive, that I would not go down to the pit.

4 Sing praise to the LORD, you His godly ones,
And give thanks to His holy name.

5 For His anger is but for a moment,
His favor is for a lifetime;
Weeping may last for the night,
But a shout of joy *comes* in the morning.

6 Now as for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I will never be moved."

7 O LORD, by Your favor You have made my mountain to stand strong;
You hid Your face, I was dismayed.

8 To You, O LORD, I called,
And to the Lord I made supplication:

9 "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your faithfulness?"

10 "Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me;
O LORD, be my helper."

11 You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
You have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness,

12 That *my* soul may sing praise to You and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

COMMENTS.

- A. Thanksgiving for a Great Deliverance.

[v1-3] David gives thanks for five blessings:

1. God has raised him up (from great depression?)
2. God has not allowed his foes to rejoice over him
3. God healed him (of mental suffering from guilt?)
4. God brought up his soul from Sheol, or the grave
5. God kept him alive

B. The People Were Invited to Join the Thanksgiving.

[v4,5] "You saints of His" v. 4, refers to faithful Israelites who were keepers of God's covenant.

C. David's Confession of Sin.

[v6,7] "...You hid your face, and I was troubled." God's disapproval shook David out of his self-confidence and self-sufficiency, leading him to cast himself upon God for mercy. The word here translated "troubled" is a very strong word implying shattering terror.

D. David's earnest Supplications.

[v8-10] "What profit is there in my blood..." We should ponder the questions:

1. What profit is there to the Lord in my life?
2. What benefit am I to the Lord at any time?
3. Am I really a blessing to the Lord? Am I really working in His service?
4. Am I active in declaring His truth?

"Hear, O Lord, and have mercy on me;..." David is no longer confident, but depending completely on the Lord. The reason for his numbering the people was a trust in earthly power.

E. Sudden Relief, Abounding Joy, Praise God For Ever.

[v11,12] "You have turned...my mourning into dancing..." See 2Sam. 24:18. David was told what to do to stop the plague. The greatest despair is in not knowing of anything that will help. When David was told what to do, he began immediately to follow God's instructions.

"I will give thanks to you forever." True gratitude desires to show appreciation. Those who really love God and are grateful for salvation want to worship and serve Him.