

PSALM 33

Praise to the Creator and Preserver

INTRODUCTION.

- A. From Roy H. Enoch (03-23-94).
- B. "A New Song of Praise to God."
- C. This psalm has no superscription and is the fourth and last in Book I of the psalms. The other three are 1, 2, and 10.
- D. The Septuagint or Greek translation of the OT made in about 250BC lists David as the author.
- E. A general organization for the psalm is as follows:
 1. Introduction (33:1-3).
 2. Body (33:4-19).
 3. Praise for the creative power of God as creator (33:4-11).
 4. His creative power with reference to salvation (33:12-19).
 5. Conclusion (33:20-22).

COMMENTS.

- A. Introduction.

Sing for joy in the LORD, O you righteous ones;
Praise is becoming to the upright.

2 Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.

3 Sing to Him a new song;
Play skillfully with a shout of joy.

[v1-3] "...praise from the upright is beautiful." The Lord accepts worship from the righteous, but the wicked are never told to worship God. They are told to turn to the Lord.
"Praise the Lord with the harp;..." Coffman says that the use of instrumental music into God's worship was "David's error" and that "God's prophet Amos most certainly announced God's disapproval of it." But see 2Chron. 29:25. Amos does not seem to be talking about worship, but the life of luxury and ease that characterized those in Jerusalem (Zion) and Samaria. Read Amos 6:1-8 to look at the context of verse 5.
- B. Praise for the Creative Power of God as Creator.

For the word of the LORD is upright,
And all His work is *done* in faithfulness.

5 He loves righteousness and justice;
The earth is full of the lovingkindness of the LORD.

6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
And by the breath of His mouth all their host.

7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap;
He lays up the deeps in storehouses.

8 Let all the earth fear the LORD;
Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

9 For He spoke, and it was done;
He commanded, and it stood fast.

10 The LORD nullifies the counsel of the nations;
He frustrates the plans of the peoples.

11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
The plans of His heart from generation to generation.

[v4-11]

 1. *God is praised for He reveals his righteousness (33:4,5).*
 2. *God is praised for being creator of the natural world (33:6,7).*

“By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,...” Genesis chapter one records how God spoke the heavens and earth into existence and fitted them for the habitation of man. The NT identifies the Word as becoming flesh and dwelling among men. See Jn. 1:1-3,14; Heb. 1:1-3.

3. *God is praised for sustaining the natural world (33:8,9).*

“...He commanded, and it stood fast.” As we saw in Heb. 1:3, Christ is “upholding all things by the word of His power.”

4. *God is praised for being able to baffle the counsel of nations and all who oppose His will (33:10,11).* He is able to make His counsel stand as well as make the counsel of men to fail.

C. God is Praised for His Power in Salvation.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,

The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

13 *The LORD looks from heaven;*

He sees all the sons of men;

14 *From His dwelling place He looks out*

On all the inhabitants of the earth,

15 *He who fashions the hearts of them all,*

He who understands all their works.

[v12-15]

1. *God is the God of all nations (33:12-15).*

“Blessed is THE nation whose God is the Lord,...” A special blessing is on a nation that serves God, but God will bless every individual who serves Him. “He sees all the sons of men.”

“He fashions their hearts individually; He considers all their works.” Even those who will not serve Him are still accountable to Him.

2. *Jehovah is a better defender and Protector than any man (33:16-19).*

Kings trusted in great numbers of men and the strength of horses. That trust is misplaced because the Lord is in charge.

D. Conclusion.

Our soul waits for the LORD;

He is our help and our shield.

21 *For our heart rejoices in Him,*

Because we trust in His holy name.

22 *Let Your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,*

According as we have hoped in You.

[v20-22] The psalmist concludes with a wonderful statement of faith. The Lord is his strength and hope. We must be true to him for he will be just in His treatment of us.