PSALMS 6-8

REVIEW…

- Meaning of Psalm…
  - PSALM [מִזמוֹר] – meaning MELODY – poems that are the Hymns of Israel…
  - PSALMS [ψαλμός] – to strike a chord on a musical instrument…
  - The obvious idea – PSALMS were meant to SUNG along with musical INSTRUMENTS!
- Hebrew POETRY…
  - Hebrew POETRY does not attempt to RHYME words – it is not based on similar sounds…
  - Hebrew POETRY is formed by the COMPARING or CONTRASTING ideas!
- Psalm 3 – Consequences
  - A Psalm of Lament David wrote while running for his life from his son Absalom…
  - A CONSEQUENCE of his sin with Bathsheba and Uriah…
  - But the Lord was still with David – his SHIELD – protecting him from harm!

- Because God had NOT rejected David – and SALVATION [יְשׁוּעָה] – belongs to the LORD!
- Psalm 4 – Provision
  - David taught the people of Israel a PSALM – to remember how to PRAY for PROVISION…
  - We must be SET apart [HOLY] not believing the lie the world has answers…
  - Then when we TRUST in the LORD – we will find PROVISION from the LORD!
- Psalm 5 – Guidance
  - David taught the people of Israel a PSALM – to remember how to PRAY for GUIDANCE…
  - The KEY was to spend time [morning] with the LORD – then we will be LED by the LORD!

Psalm 6 – New Beginning

- **1st – New Beginning… vs. 1**
  - 1st – Introduction…
    - To the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments… A Psalm of David!
    - PSALM of DAVID – Psalm written for the people to SING…
    - CHIEF Musician – the one who plays [piel] the music…
    - PSALM of CONFESSION - David wrote it crying out the LORD for help!
  - 2nd – EIGHT strings…
    - On an eight-stringed harp.
    - EIGHT stringed – could speak of an OCTAVE…
    - In music there are SEVEN notes [A-G] – the EIGHTH note is a new OCTAVE!
    - We are NOT sure WHEN David wrote this – but presumably after he SINNED!
    - And he LONGS to start over [octave] – have a new beginning in the LORD!
    - **Psalm 51:10** – "Create in me a clean heart - O God - and renew a steadfast spirit within me!"
- **2nd – To the LORD… vs. 1-5**
  - 1st - Do not REBUKE… vs. 1
    - O LORD - do not rebuke me in Your anger - nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure!
    - REBUKE [יָכַח] – do not let your ANGER cause you [hiphil] to JUDGE me…
    - CHASTEN [יָסַר] – to PUNISH me intensely [piel] because of your RAGE…
    - David is asking the LORD not to REACT to his SIN!
    - I can remember when I was a kid – my dad would send me to my room when I was BAD…
    - I thought that was PART of the PUNISHMENT – it was so he could CALM down!
    - But God NEVER reacts to us in ANGER – His punishment is ALWAYS from a heart of LOVE!
    - **Hebrews 12:6** – "For whom the LORD loves He chastens…"
  - 2nd - Have MERCY… vs. 2
    - Have mercy on me - O LORD - for I am weak!
    - MERCY [78– [חָנַן x in OT - this is the OT version of the NT concept of GRACE…
    - David BEGS [imperative] the LORD to give him GRACE – because he is WEAK…
    - WEAK – the context would seem to be morally – tendency to SIN!
    - God is NEVER surprised when we SIN – He knows how WEAK we are…
    - He does have GRACE – because he remembers we are just DUST!
    - **Psalm 103:14** – "He knows our frame. He remembers that we are dust."
  - 3rd - HEAL… vs. 2-3
    - O LORD - heal me - for my bones are troubled!
    - My soul also is greatly troubled - but You - O LORD - how long!
    - David BEGS [imperative] the LORD to heal [רָפָא] him SPIRITUALLY [context]
    - Because his SIN has caused [niphal] him to be troubled to the BONES [inner man]
    - As a RESULT – his SOUL [life] was VERY [מְאֹד] troubled!

- Sin is like a CANCER – that can eat a person up from the inside out…
- It spreads from our actions [bones] to our heart – threatening to consume us!
- **Proverbs 14:30** – "A sound heart is life to the body - but [sin] is rottenness to the bones."

o 4th - DELIVER… vs. 4
- Return - O LORD - deliver me! Oh - save me for Your mercies sake!
- RETURN – David BEGS [imperative] the Lord to come BACK and DELIVER him…
- DELIVER [חָלַץ]- to INTENSELY [piel] pull out or tear out the SIN from his life!
- I imagine if someone has CANCER – threatening to END their life…
- They BEG the doctor to pull it out – TEAR it out if needed – to SAVE them!
- When we truly realize just how DEADLY sin is – the eternal CONSEQUENCE it brings…
- We will BEG the Lord to get it out of our lives – TEAR it out of our hearts!

o 5th – In DEATH… vs. 4
- For in death there is no remembrance of You - in the grave who will give You thanks!
- The thought is – LORD spare me – so I can give THANKS in this life…
- Because once he DIED [בַּשְּׁאוֹל] – dead bodies do not PRAISE the LORD…
- NO [אֵין] REMEMBRANCE in death – this is an ASSUMPTION of David!
- The OT saints did not know what happened after the GRAVE [שְׁאוֹל] – HIDDEN from them!
- This is a POWERFUL example of why we do NOT make doctrine out of POETIC books…
- Because we KNOW the moment we DIE – we are worshiping before the LORD!
- **II Corinthians 5:8** – "To be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord."

- **3RD – To my ENEMIES… vs. 6-10**

o 1st - MANY tears… vs. 6-7
- I am weary with my groaning - All night I make my bed swim…
- I drench my couch with my tears!
- My eye wastes away because of grief - it grows old because of all my enemies!
- David cried a LOT – he was filling his bed / couch with TEARS…
- Because he had a LOT of ENEMIES – people who wanted him DEAD…
- Now – David ALWAYS had ENEMIES – King Saul tried to kill him many times…
- But presumably – ALL of these ENEMIES are as a RESULT of his SIN [Bathsheba]!
- Often people ask why life has to be so hard – why so MANY problems…
- The answer is CONSEQUENCES - that God uses to get our attention – turn us back to Him!
- **Hosea 8:7** – "[If we] sow the wind – [we will] reap the whirlwind."

o 2nd - The LORD hears… vs. 8
- Depart from me - all you workers of iniquity…
- For the LORD has heard the voice of my weeping!
- DEPART – David commands [imperative] his enemies to GO away…
- Because God HEARD [perfect] his weeping!
- We might think the LORD is not listening when we are CRYING out to Him…
- But He always LISTENS [perfect] and He even counts EVERY tear!
- **Psalms 56:8 –** "You have collected all my tears… recorded each one in your book."

o 3rd - ASHAMED… vs. 9-10
- The LORD has heard my supplication. The LORD will receive my prayer!
- Let all my enemies be ashamed and greatly troubled…
- Let them turn back and be ashamed suddenly!
- SUPPLICATION [תְּחִנָּה] – from the ROOT verb for GRACE [חָנַן]
- Because of GRACE the LORD HEARS [perfect] all of our PRAYERS…
- Therefore ALL of our enemies will be ASHAMED and in TROUBLE!
- God does not SAVE us from our enemies – because we are BETTER than they are…

- He HEARS our prayers – and RESCUES us – because of His GRACE…
- And if we HUMBLED by our CONSEQUENCES – and see our NEED for Jesus…
- He will come and TEAR out the sin from our lives – and give us the VICTORY!

Psalm 7 – Need for Humility

- **1st – Trust the Lord… vs. 1-2**
  - 1st - Introduction… vs. 1
    - A Meditation of David - which he sang to the LORD concerning the words of Cush - a Benjamite!
    - WHO wrote the PSALM - PSALM of DAVID…
    - WHY David wrote it – a MEDITATION – which David sang to the LORD
      - MEDITATION [2 -[שִׁגָּיוֹן]x in OT – from the ROOT word meaning to go ASTRAY [sin]
      - Perhaps meaning David sang to the Lord about one of his SINS!
    - WHEN – concerning the words of CUSH the BENJAMITE…
      - Some say this MAY be another name for SHIMEI the Benjamite – **II Samuel 16:5**
      - But there is no DIRECT reference to a person by this name in the OT…
      - Whomever it was – they viciously came after David to destroy him!
  - 2nd – Like a LION… vs. 1-2
    - O LORD my God - in You I put my trust…
    - Save me from all those who persecute me - and deliver me…
    - Lest they tear me like a lion - rending me in pieces - while there is none to deliver!
    - TRUST [חָסָה] – to seek REFUGE or PROTECTION from danger…
    - DELIVERED – to be snatched away – from ALL who PERSECUTED him…
    - Men who – like a LION – tear the soul into pieces – with NO ONE [אֵין] to stop them!
    - The picture is graphic – imagine a LION – mercilessly devouring its live PREY…
    - This is what MEN were doing with their HURTFUL words to David…
    - But David KNEW God would SAVE him – because he KNEW the LORD [יְהוָה אֱלֹהַי]!
    - A lot of people CRY out to the LORD in their hour of NEED…
    - The problem is they do not KNOW they LORD – they are a STRANGER to God…
    - As a RESULT – there is NO ONE to DELIVER them – and they are DEVOURED!
    - **Matthew 7:21** – "Many will say to Me… – Lord Lord… I will declare to them I never knew you…"
- **2nd – Check the heart… vs. 3-5**
  - 1st – Innocent… vs. 3-4
    - O LORD my God - if I have done this - if there is iniquity in my hands…
    - If I have repaid evil to him who was at peace with me…
    - Or have plundered my enemy without cause!
    - David asks THREE questions – IF – I have done THIS [accusations of CUSH the Benjamite]
    - Or I have iniquity in my hands – Or repaid EVIL to the one at PEACE with me [שְׁלֻמִי]
    - The suggestion is that David is INNOCENT – of the insults hurled at him!
    - This leads me to believe this is NOT talking about SHIMEI…
    - Because David recognized SHIMEI was a JUDGEMENT - because of his GUILT [Bathsheba]!
    - **II Samuel 16:11** – "Let him alone - and let him curse - for so the LORD has ordered him."
  - 2nd – Just judgement… vs. 5
    - Let the enemy pursue me and overtake me. Yes - let him trample my life to the earth…
      - And lay my honor in the dust! Selah!
      - If David was GUILTY – he WANTED [jussive] his enemies to overcome him…
      - TRAMPLE his life – let his DISHONOR be exposed – trampled in the DUST!
      - This leads many to believe this was written in the time of King Saul…
      - David was FALSELY accused – and hunted – because God has ORDAINED him to be King!

- **I Samuel 20:1** – "What have I done? What is my iniquity - and what is my sin before [Saul] that he seeks my life?"
- SELAH - a BREAK in the WORDS – SILENCE - a REST in the SONG…
- No matter where we are at – mocked by a SHIMEI – because we are guilty…
- Are chased by a SAUL – because we are standing up for the LORD…
- Like David it is wise to say SELAH – stop and take a moment to EXAMINE our hearts…
- See if there is something we need to CONFESS – TEST our motives!
- **II Corinthians 13:5 –** "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you."

- **3RD – JUDGEMENT… VS. 6-17**
  - 1st – For the people… vs. 6-7
    - Arise - O LORD - in Your anger. Lift Yourself up because of the rage of my enemies.
    - Rise up for me to the judgment You have commanded! So the congregation of the peoples…
    - Shall surround You. For their sakes - therefore - return on high!
    - In response to the ACCUSATIONS of his enemies – David had THREE commands…
    - STAND up [imperative] – because sin makes God ANGRY…
    - LIFT up [imperative] – in response to the RAGE of his enemies…
    - WAKE up [imperative] – and JUDGE as your word COMMANDS…
    - BECAUSE of the NATIONS [לְאֻמִּים] – so they will [jussive] GATHER around YOU…
    - The point David is making - God needed to be SEEN – His JUDGEMENT displayed!
    - When Moses first came to Pharoah – the king asked – WHO is the LORD – **Exodus 5:2**
    - Even the Jews doubted if God cared about them – **Exodus 5:21**
    - But AFTER God STOOD up - brought the TEN plagues – EVERYONE saw the LORD!
    - When WICKED people are allowed to SIN without penalty – people question the LORD…
    - People think there are no consequences – and questions if God cares – or if He is even real…
    - But when SIN is JUDGED – God is LIFTED UP – and people SEE Jesus!
  - 2nd – The TEST… … vs. 8-10
    - The LORD shall judge the peoples. Judge me - O LORD - according to my righteousness…
    - And according to my integrity within me!
    - Oh - let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end - but establish the just…
    - For the righteous God tests the hearts and minds…
    - My defense is of God - who saves the upright in heart!
    - The LORD [יְהוָה] – Jesus - is the JUDGE of ALL people – **John 5:22**
    - David wanted [jussive] wickedness to come to an END…
    - For God to powerfully ESTABLISH [poel] those who are RIGHTEOUS [צַדִּיק]
    - And David ASSUMED - the RIGHTEOUS God - who TESTS the hearts and MINDS of men…
    - Would find him RIGHTEOUS – so he commands [imperative] the LORD to JUDGE him!
    - What David could not see – was that his heart was also WICKED…
    - He would go on to commit adultery [Bathsheba] and murder…
    - Not because of circumstances that led him to SIN – looking at a naked woman…
    - Circumstances just gave the opportunity for what was ALREADY in his HEART to come out!
    - It is EASY to see SIN in the lives of others – it is often much HARDER to see our own…
    - More often than not we are convinced we are RIGHTEOUS…
    - That is because even we cannot SEE – what is really in our hearts **– Jeremiah 17:9**
    - That is UNTIL we make a very OBVIOUS mistake – that REVEALS our heart [Bathsheba]
    - Only then do we really appreciate – that we are SAVED by GRACE!
    - **Romans 3:12** – "There is none who does good – no - not [even] ONE…"
  - 3rd – Know the LORD… vs. 11-13

- God is a just judge - and God is angry [with the wicked every day] – not in Hebrew text
  - If [the wicked] does not turn back – [God] will sharpen His sword…
  - He bends His bow and makes it ready. He also prepares for Himself instruments of death…
  - He makes His arrows into fiery shafts!
  - God [אֱלֹהִים] is a RIGHTEOUS judge – God [אֵל] is ANGRY every day…
  - David goes on to describe God in terms of WAR – swords and arrows…
  - NOTE – we have LOST the use of the proper name of the LORD [יְהוָה]
  - Instead falling back to GENERIC titles for a God – whom David did not FULLY know!
- Peter thought he KNEW himself – and KNEW Jesus…
  - When the Lord told him he would DENY – Peter DENIED the DENIAL…
  - He told Jesus – he would go to PRISON – DIE for him – and he believed it…
  - But just a few hours later – the rooster would crow THREE times!
  - Not that Jesus was surprised – He did KNOW Peter – **John 14:1-2**
  - If Peter had NOT failed – he would have pointed people to HIMSELF – be like ME…
  - After his failure – he did NOT point people to himself – he pointed them to Jesus!
  - **Luke 22:32** – "When you have returned to Me - strengthen your brethren."
  - The closer we get to God – the more we are going to see WHO we really are…
  - And we may not like what we find – we are NOT good – we are SINNERS…
  - That is the point of the Gospel – not GOOD people pointing SINNERS to an angry GOD…
  - But SINNERS pointing other SINNERS to a gracious LORD - who came to DIE to save us!

o 4th – Avoid the PIT… vs. 14-16
- Behold - the wicked brings forth iniquity. Yes - he conceives trouble and brings forth falsehood.
- He made a pit and dug it out - and has fallen into the ditch which he made.
- His trouble shall return upon his own head…
- And his violent dealing shall come down on his own crown!
- BEHOLD – pay attention – this will be an ironic statement…
- David wanted us to see the how the LIES of the WICKED – become the PIT they fall into…
- But ultimately DAVID – was the one who fell into the PIT!
- A famous PREACHER once said – Spurgeon – step out of the pulpit and I can commit ANY sin…
- Because the moment we forget we are a SINNER – we stop depending on the SAVIOR!
- There is always a danger of forgetting we are no better than anyone else…
- Becoming judgmental of others – HOLIER than others - super spiritual…
- But if we FORGET – we will likely FALL – to remind us we need Jesus!
- **Luke 6:27** – "Judge not, and you shall not be judged…"

o 5th – The PRAISE… vs. 17
- I will praise the LORD according to His righteousness…
- And will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High!
- PRAISE – literally to give THANKS for the LORD because He is RIGHTEOUSNESS…
- SING – DESIRE [cohortative] to INTENSELY [piel] sing to the name of the LORD who is HIGHER!
- Let us put it ALL together – people are going to ATTACK us…
- It might be because we are ANOINTED by the LORD – **John 15:18**
- Or it might be because we have made MISTAKES – and deserve it – **Galatians 6:7**
- Either way if we are willing to EXAMINE ourselves – be HONEST with who we are…
- We will see we are SINNERS – who are in constant need of a SAVIOR who LOVE us…
- Causing us to want to THANK Him – because He ALONE is RIGHTEOUS…
- He is the ONLY one who is HIGH and lifted up – worthy of all our PRAISE!

Psalm 8 – Plan of God

- **1st – In Creation… vs. 1**
  - 1st - Introduction…
    - To the Chief Musician. On the instrument of Gath. A Psalm of David!
    - PSALM of DAVID – Psalm written for the people to SING…
    - CHIEF Musician – the one who plays [piel] the music…
    - Instrument of GATH – either referring to the TUNE or the kind of instrument
  - 2nd – All the EARTH…
    - O LORD - our Lord - how excellent is Your name in all the earth…
      - LORD [יְהוָה] – You are our Lord [אֲדֹנֵינוּ] – a word that means MASTER…
      - The reason He is our MASTER – His NAME is in ALL the EARTH – **Psalms 19:1**
      - As we look at the incredible CREATION around us – it testifies to how GREAT our God is!
    - Going back to the beginning – when God created the earth – **Genesis 1:1**
      - In a universe with 200 BILLION galaxies – each with BILLIONS of stars…
      - And more than likely each of those STARS having numerous PLANETS [ours has EIGHT]
      - Only our little blue green spec in the cosmos gets the honor of being NAMED – the EARTH!
      - Because the EARTH is UNIQUE – nothing else like it - 12,742km wide…
      - With a 23.5° tilt – allowing for 85% of the earth to be HABITABLE…
      - Perfectly placed - 149 million km from the sun – in the GOLDILOCKS zone [liquid water]
      - Everything about the earth is perfectly DESIGNED to sustain life!
  - 3rd – Above the HEAVENS…
    - Who have set Your glory above the heavens!
      - HEAVENS [הַשָּׁמַיִם] – used 420x in OT – it is the plural of the root word [שָׁמָה]
      - Meaning to be lofty - perhaps alluding to space above / as well as the dwelling place of God!
      - Paul would do on to tell us in that there are THREE heavens - **II Corinthians 12:2**
      - FIRST heaven - is the sky above us - SECOND heaven is outer space...
      - THIRD heaven - is the dwelling place of God [Paul tells us it is indescribable]
    - Yet the GLORY of God is ABOVE even the THIRD heaven!
      - Meaning the most AMAZING place in all of CREATION – HEAVEN – **I Corinthians 2:9**
      - Is still not even close to being able to contain the GLORY [הוֹד] of God!
      - God is so AMAZING it will take an ETERNITY [αἰών] for us to know His GLORY!
      - **Ephesians 2:7** – "In the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace…"
- **2nd – In Gospel… vs. 2**
  - 1st – Simple Message…
    - Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength!
    - When Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday – the people cried out HOSANA…
    - The Pharisees were NOT happy – they told Jesus to SILENCE the crowd…
    - **Matthew 21:16** – "Jesus said to them… Have you never read - Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise!"
    - Jesus was NOT talking about the people – they were NOT infants…
    - He was TALKING about the MESSAGE they were giving – Jesus SAVES – the Gospel…
    - The GOSPEL is not hard to UNDERSTAND – even little kids get it – **Matthew 11:25**
  - 2nd – Overcome Satan…
    - Because of Your enemies - that You may silence the enemy and the avenger!
    - God wants to SILENCE the ENEMY – the avenger who seeks to ACCUSE us…
    - Satan who would like nothing more than CONDEMN us to HELL – Revelation 12:10
    - But our ENEMY is SILENCES through the work of the cross - he has nothing left to accuse us…
    - Because of the simple GOSPEL – ANYONE can be SAVED – **I Peter 3:9**

- **3RD – FOR MAN… VS. 3-9**
  - 1st – What is Man… vs. 3-4
    - When I consider Your heavens - the work of Your fingers…
    - The moon and the stars - which You have ordained…
    - What is man that You are mindful [imperfect] of him - and the son of man that You visit him!
    - As David PONDERED the incredible CREATION of God – STARS – MOON…
    - He had ONE question – what is MAN [אֱנוֹשׁ] – generic name for MANKIND…
    - What is the SON of MAN [אָדָם] – ADAM – the one who first REBELLED against God!
    - God who is so FAR above us – so much GREATER than us – HOLIER than we will ever be…
    - Why does He bother with us - a bunch of SINNERS - Good question!
  - 2nd – The purpose for man… vs. 5-8
    - You have made him a little lower than the angels…
      - ANGELS [אֱלֹהִים] – the word ELOHIM translated here in context as ANGELS…
      - Both ANGELS and MEN are created by God – **Colossians 1:16 / John 1:3**
      - But ANGELS are certainly more POWERFUL than MEN – **Isaiah 37:36**
    - You have crowned [piel] him with glory and honor!
      - Although MEN are LOWER than ANGELS – God CROWNED men with glory and honor…
      - Speaking of the position God gave men – created in His IMAGE!
      - **Genesis 1:27** – "God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."
    - You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands…
      - You have put all things under his feet - all sheep and oxen - even the beasts of the field…
      - The birds of the air - and the fish of the sea - that pass through the paths of the seas!
      - When God created Adam and Eve – He gave them DOMINION over ALL [כֹּל] the world!
      - God put EVERYTHING under SUBJECTION to MEN – nothing was left out!
      - **Genesis 1:26** – "Let them have dominion… over ALL the earth and over EVERY creeping thing that creeps on the earth."
    - But we FAILED…
      - **Hebrews 2:8** – "But now we do not yet see all things put under him."
      - When you buy a house – you are given a DEED to show you are the owner…
      - But if give someone else the DEED – you no longer have authority over the house!
      - God created the world - gave the DEED to Adam and Eve - **Genesis 1:28-30**
      - When Adam and Eve choose to sin in the garden - rebel against God - **Genesis 3**
      - They sold the DEED of the world to satan - he had the rights to this world...
      - Satan is called the god of this world - **II Corinthians 4:4 / John 14:30**
  - 3rd – The plan of God… vs. 9
    - O LORD - our Lord - how excellent is Your name in all the earth!
    - It almost seems like the PSALM is incomplete – the question unanswered…
    - What is MAN that God that causes God to CONSTANTLY [imperfect] think about him…
    - God had a PLAN for us – but we FAILED – we did not fulfill our PURPOSE…
    - But the MISSING piece – what we SEE as the answer to the question - is found in Jesus!
    - **Hebrews 2:9** – "We see Jesus - who was made a little lower than the angels - for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor - that He - by the grace of God - might taste death for everyone!"
    - Jesus came to redeem the DEED that had been lost…
    - The price Jesus had to pay to redeem the world - was the cross!
    - **Revelation 5:2-5** - we are told the no one could open the scroll – the DEED...
    - John wept - no one was able to REDEEM the world that had been lost to satan...

- But the Angel said do not weep - behold the LION of the Tribe of Judah - Jesus!
- Jesus redeemed the world - He purchased back WORLD that had been lost…
- Because in ALL of CREATION – the ONLY thing that God LOVES – is us!