

Behold Our God! Reflections in Psalms

Psalm 115

“God is Omnipotent” – September 24, 2023



Introduction

There are many who have suffered significant trauma in life. This could be the loss of a loved one - a parent, spouse, or child. It could be a difficult divorce. Because of a broken or splintered relationship, some find themselves lost, alone, confused, and feeling unloved. As a result, they attempt to feel better and fill the void with things. These trinkets become things that they are just not willing to let go of. Unless someone from the outside comes in to help, and they are willing to accept that help, nothing will change.

When we are born, we enter a world marred by sin, and our relationship with God is broken. Unless we accept the free gift of salvation from God, we will remain lost with nothing but a collection of things - tokens, idols - that we are unwilling to let go of, facing the judgment of the All-Powerful God. We need help. We need a Savior.

Sermon Outline

1. Place Your Focus on God & Not on Yourself (vv. 1-3)
2. Place Your Hope in God & Not in Idols (vv. 4-8)
3. Place Your Trust in God & Embrace His Blessings (vv. 9-15)
4. Bless & Praise our God - Now & Forevermore (vv. 16-18)

Read & Discuss

1. Read vs. 1 – 3

The psalm begins with a prayer. The focus of the psalter and his prayer is right where it belongs, not on himself or on other people, or on anything else, but God. It is on the LORD and his name! He is the majestic, powerful, omnipotent ruler of the heavens.

Why should the focus be on God? He is the God who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. ([Exodus 34:6-7](#)) We should give thanks to God for the “progressive revelation” of His word in and through the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. ([Romans 5:6-8](#)) God is a merciful and covenant keeping God. He is also faithful. The psalmist expects God to be faithful to keep all His promises and deliver His people. When you consider your prayers, what or who is often your main focus?

As a believer today, you can know that God sees and hears all that you are going through - all the challenges and disappointments that you encounter. God's steadfast love and faithfulness will carry you through. When you leave the comfort of this gathering, do you understand that there will be scoffers? How will/do you respond to those people?

The answer to “where is their God?” is found in the word of God. ([Ps. 46:10](#)) God has revealed Himself in His word. He is omnipotent and omnipresent. Idol worship may look different for us today. As fallen, sinful creatures, the most prevalent form of idol worship is self-worship! In what or whom are you placing your hope?

Additional Reading: Acts 17

2. Read vs. 4 – 8

There are many idols and false gods competing for your attention. Is money your idol? What is it that you want to hold on to? What are the most important things in your life? Where do you go to find happiness, joy, and peace?

What is an idol? Anything other than God that we place our trust in. It is something that we set our hearts on ([Luke 12:29-31](#)), let rule us ([1 Cor. 6:12](#)), or something that we trust, fear, or serve. ([Isaiah 42:17](#); [Prov. 29:25](#)) How do you know if you're worshipping an idol? Ask yourself, “What am I sacrificing to make me happy and secure?” Are you sacrificing time with your family? Are you working yourself to death? Do you have a growing relationship with God and His people? Do you get angry when someone “pokes” your idol?

Idols are utterly useless. (vs. 5-7) Worshiping them makes you utterly useless. If you serve the living God, you will grow in the likeness of the living God and be set free to live by the Spirit of God. ([2 Cor. 3:17-18](#))

3. Read vs. 9-15

Here is a three-fold call to put your trust in God followed by a three-fold response. Here the people of God are reminded to trust in the Lord. God is your help and shield. Trust in the Lord! How has God been your help? Your shield?

God sent Jesus. We can come to Him in faith. He is God. God's help, shield and blessing are available to all who are His. ([1 Cor. 8:4](#)) Have you placed your trust in God? Do you have a saving relationship with God through Jesus?

4. Read vs. 16-18

God reigns and rules in the heavens. He is our Creator, Sustainer and Provider. Our time in this world is finite, but we serve a God who is infinite and Who raises the dead. Those of us who know the Lord should praise Him while we have breath.

When God blesses man, they are helped, strengthened, and made better off. To bless the LORD is to express gratitude and admiration for who He is and for what He has done. How then can we bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore? There's only one way and there's only one name – the name of Jesus. ([Acts 4:12](#)) Is there someone in your life who needs your help focusing on the Lord? How can you bless the Lord this week?

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at fbcum.org

Next week's sermon text: we turn to Genesis 43:1-34 "You Shall Not Covet"
--