

## How Great is our God! (Part 2)

Psalm 111: 1-10

Last week we began our study on this precious and powerful Psalm. It is full of truth regarding the attributes of our Lord and His care and provision for His own. I have been saved for almost 30 years now and I am still amazed at all that God has done and continues to do for me.

We can't dwell on the goodness and mercies of our God very long without sensing the need to worship Him for all that He does. No doubt we would all have to admit that God has been good in our lives. We are blessed beyond measure and ought to rejoice that we have the privilege of knowing Him.

I want to pick up where we left off last week, considering **II. The Works of our God**, (Vv.2-8.) We have already discovered that His works are **Great, Glorious, Gracious**, and **Generous**. Next we discover that:

**E. They are Guaranteed (7-8)** – These verses reveal the absoluteness of our Lord. **There is no variableness nor shadow of turning in Him.** He is ever the same; He never changes. Consider that:

**1. His Works are Faithful (7)** – **The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure.** We can be confident that the psalmist had faced disappointment before; we all have. No doubt there were those who had let him down, those who had not met his expectations. But when it came to the Lord, he was fully satisfied and content. When he pondered the works of the Lord, he declared that God was faithful.

➤ The word **verity** in the text means “*firmness, faithfulness, reliability, continuance, and stability.*” The very essence of God is verity! We need not worry that He has a double standard or will “switch horses in the middle of the stream.” Our God is steadfast and sure; He is ever faithful and reliable.

➤ The psalmist never feared the works of God being unjust or unfair. His ways are right and true. His works are **judgment**; they are “*just and right; decided and carried out in proper order.*” The flesh may not always like what our Lord does, but His ways are always just and right.

**2. His Works are Eternal (8a)** – **They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.** The psalmist knew that the works of God would never change and they would

never fail. His works are eternal. [They stand fast for ever and ever](#). This carries the idea of “*perpetuity, of continuous existence.*”

- I don't know just how the psalmist felt about the eternal works of God, but it continues to amaze and confound me. Everything that we know is governed by time. We live our lives in phases. When we are young we possess the strength to endure, but often lack the wisdom to decide. As we age, the roles reverse, but our work soon comes to an end. God's works are always right and they never fail or come to an end. What He has begun, He will continue forever and ever and evermore.

**3. His Works are Exceptional** (8b) – [God's works are done in truth and uprightness](#). Unlike men, God's works are always done with the right motives, with an upright purpose and end. It is interesting to note that the word [truth](#) in this verse is the same Hebrew word translated [verity](#) in [V.7](#).

- There may be times when we don't understand the ways of God. There are certainly times when we can't figure out what He is doing, but God's ways are always true and upright. I know that adversity sometimes causes people to grow bitter and blame God, but He has never done any of us wrong. Everything that God does is done in holiness and righteousness.

- We may think that God has dealt unfairly with us at times, but I rejoice that He didn't deal with me according to what I deserved. We all ought to be thankful that He dealt with us in grace rather than justice. Life will have seasons of difficulty and even despair, but even then God's ways are right!

**I. The Worship of our God** (1)

**II. The Works of our God** (2-8)

**III. The Wonder of our God** (9) – [He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name](#). This single statement had much to say regarding the wonder of God.

**A. His Compassion** (9a) – [He sent redemption unto His people](#). The psalmist was amazed that God would consider those of low estate and make a way for their redemption. He was moved by the compassion that God had for sinful men.

- It is quite possible that he was considering all that God had done for Israel in that He brought them out of bondage, caring for them in the midst of the wilderness, and even brought

them into the land of promise. Surely God had been faithful in their redemption in that regard, but I am convinced that the psalmist also was considering the bigger picture of redemption. He was looking forward in time to the coming of Messiah. He knew that God would provide a Redeemer as He said He would.

- As we consider the wonder of our God, is that not the biggest wonder of all? It has been said before that the greatest miracle ever performed was the fact that Christ came at all to this earth to provide Himself as the sacrifice and ransom for our souls. I stand amazed that God would send redemption to sinners such as we are, unworthy and undeserving.

**B. His Consistency** (9b) – He hath commanded His covenant for ever. The psalmist rejoiced to be among the chosen of God. He had made a covenant with Abraham regarding Israel that would never change.

- This covenant was not based on the merit or behavior of men; it was based on His sovereign will. Israel had strayed prior to the writing of this psalm and they would stray again. They would be led into captivity and bondage. They would be dispersed among the nations, but God's covenant would endure for all of time. He has brought His people once again to their homeland and His covenant will endure. Christ will one day rule and reign from His throne in Jerusalem during the Millennial Reign.

- We cannot claim the covenant that God made with Israel; we have no title to that claim. However, we can claim the New Covenant that He has made through Christ His Son. The saved are promised eternal life and a home in heaven. We have been made joint-heirs with Christ. We are the recipients of a better covenant. Just as with the covenant He made with Israel, our covenant will endure forever and ever, throughout all time and eternity!

**C. His Character** (9c) – He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name. As the psalmist continued to consider all that God was, it appears that he was overwhelmed with His holiness and purity.

- Above all God is holy. He is too be feared with a reverent fear and submission to His divine will. We seem to have lost our perception of the holiness of God. I can assure you that seeing God for who He truly is would bring fundamental change to our lives, our worship, our commitment, and even to our society as a whole. We need a renewed fear of God and a genuine commitment to serve Him and become more like Him.

## **I. The Worship of our God (1)**

## **II. The Works of our God (2-8)**

## **III. The Wonder of our God (9)**

**IV. The Wisdom of our God (10)** – The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever. The psalmist closes this beautiful and powerful psalm with a reflection of the wisdom of God. He knows that he is lacking and seems to desire to have more of that wisdom. Consider:

**A. The Origin (10a)** – This is a fact of doctrine that we have heard all of our lives and yet it seems as if we never fully embrace this fundamental truth. One cannot possess wisdom without fearing the Lord.

- We are all well aware that society continues on a downward spiral at an alarming rate. We continue to cast aside the moral fabric of society in favor of the pleasures and dictates of the flesh. The nation that we inhabit today is far removed from the nation that our founding fathers envisioned. America was built on Christian principles and blessed because of her biblical foundation.
- One of the elements that we desperately need among the leadership today is wisdom. You will have to agree that much of the legislation passed and enacted into law seems to make little sense. What is the problem? Our leaders lack wisdom because, for the most part, there is no fear of God.
- This is not just a problem with elected officials, but we are seeing it in the home as well. Families are struggling, separating, and facing demise due to a lack of wisdom that comes from a holy, reverent fear of God. If you desire wisdom, develop a healthy fear of God!

**B. The Obedience (9b)** – We have already touched on this, but we must be obedient to the Word and will of God if we are to possess wisdom and a good understanding in this life. We cannot pick and choose as to which areas we will follow the Lord and those we will not. We must commit to living our lives in accordance to all of His commandments!

- Are you interested in positive change in our homes, churches, and society as a whole? Do you desire to see God move in our midst as He has in the past? Do you sense the need for wisdom to lead in the midst of such a dark and dismal time? If so, we must submit our lives to the ways of God to achieve the wisdom we need to bring about real change.

**C. The Outcome** (10c) – The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever. We have little information regarding the social or spiritual climate of that day, but it would likely be foolish to assume that all those the psalmist knew desired to live for God, worship Him, and obtain godly wisdom. We do find though that the psalmist was not discouraged. He was confident that as long as time lasted, and even beyond, the praise of God would endure.

- This psalm ends with wonderful encouragement. We are living in the darkest hour that our modern culture has ever known. Church attendance and commitment to the Lord are decreasing every year. It seems that the church is now the minority among society. That ought to burden us, but it should not discourage us. We are part of the family of God. As long as time lasts there will be those who offer heartfelt praise to the Lord. When time is no more, we will gather around the throne and worship the Lord for all eternity. The praise of God will endure!

I have really enjoyed our study of this song of praise. It begins with Hallelujah and ends with a promise that the praise of God will endure. We are a people of hope because we belong to the God of glory.

Difficulties will come, but God is watching over us and providing for us. Let us praise Him while we live in this life and I know that the redeemed will praise Him in heaven.