## Adoration for Jehovah (Part 2 of #23)

Nehemiah 9: 4-15

In our last study we began to consider the prayer of praise that the people of Jerusalem offered unto the LORD for all of His many blessings in their lives. They had endured the difficulties of bondage as well as all they faced restoring the city, but through it all God had been faithful to them.

Our lives are vastly different from those within Jerusalem, but God has been faithful in our lives as well. Our every need He has supplied. We too have been blessed beyond measure and have much to praise our God for.

Let's take a moment to look at what we discussed last time as we continue to consider the attributes of God that are revealed in this passage. I want to continue with the thought: Adoration for Jehovah.

**<u>I. Praise for His Glory</u>** (5) – He is the LORD.

II. Praise for His Preeminence (6a)

III. Praise for His Power (6)

A. He is the Creator – Thou hast made...

**B.** He is the Sustainer – Thou preservest them all.

IV. Praise for His Grace (7-8)

A. The Choosing (7)

**B.** The Covenant (8)

<u>V. Praise for His Faithfulness</u> (8) — And foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give it, I say, to his seed, and hast performed thy words. The people had endured the difficulties of bondage, being led away from the Promised Land due to their sin, and yet through it all God was faithful. He had kept His word; He had allowed them to return unto the land that was promised them through Abraham.

• As we consider the whole of Scripture we find that God is always faithful. He always keeps His word and fulfills His promises. Deut. 7:9 – Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his

commandments to a thousand generations. We would all have to admit that God has been faithful in our lives as well. We can rest assured every promise our God has made will come to pass. There is much in this life that we may not be able to depend upon, but our God will never fail. 1 Cor.1:9 – God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

## V. Praise for His Faithfulness (8)

<u>VI. Praise for His Righteousness</u> (8b) – for thou art righteous. The people sensed and knew that God was righteous. They were fully aware that they served a holy and righteous God. There was no sin or iniquity in Him. He would always be just and right in His dealings. They may not have enjoyed all that they had experienced by the hand of God, but through it all they knew that God had dealt with them in a righteous manner.

- We ought to praise our Lord tonight because He is righteous. That is likely the one attribute that best describes our Lord. His very essence is righteousness. He will always continue is a state of complete righteousness. His holiness is the essence of His being.
- Righteousness demands righteousness; it can have no communion with sin. Because of our sin we were at enmity with God. If our fellowship was to ever be restored, we had to be accounted righteous. That is where God stepped in and provided the righteousness He demanded but that we could never obtain. Through the sacrifice of His Son, all who come to Christ by faith can have His righteousness imputed to their account. God sees us as worthy through the blood of His Son.

<u>VII. Praise for His Compassion</u> (9) – And didst see the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and heardest their cry by the Red sea. The people rejoiced as they were reminded of the compassion of God for their fathers. We all know the biblical story of the Egyptian bondage well. Hundreds of years after the influence of Joseph, God's people found themselves under the heavy hand of Pharaoh, suffering in slavery. The people began to cry out unto the Lord and He heard their cries. Through His mercy and compassion, God brought them out of Egypt's land.

• Many today may feel as if no one cares. Some even ask if God really cares. I can assure you that He does. He is a God of compassion, seeking those who are desperate and needy. He would have still been God to have left us in our sinful state, but He came to us in compassion, offering forgiveness of sin and reconciliation to Him. John 3:16 – For God so loved

the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Gal.1:4 – Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father. You may be a child of God and at times feel as if no one cares, but God is aware of your situation and He is concerned with your need. Lament.3:22-24 – It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. [23] They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. [24] The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. Rejoice in the compassion of our God!

V. Praise for His Faithfulness (8)

VI. Praise for His Righteousness (8b)

VII. Praise for His Compassion (9)

<u>VIII. Praise for His Deliverance</u> (10-11) – As Moses was sent of God to lead the people out; Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not let the people go. He increased their burdens and it appeared that they would never escape. God sent the plaques upon Egypt to reveal His glory and the feebleness of their many gods, creating a desire to release the people. He led them out of Egypt with a mighty, strong hand and delivered them at the Red Sea. When it seemed they would surely perish, God made a highway in the midst of the sea.

■ There is much that we can praise our Lord for, and He is worthy of it all, but praise for my deliverance has to rank near the top of my list. I too was like the children of bondage in Egypt. I served a brutal taskmaster who refused to let me go. He did everything he could to keep me bound. But one glorious day the Lord came to me and delivered me from the bondage of sin. When it seemed that I would surely perish in my sin, the Lord came right on time. The great wall of sin, guilt, and shame stood between me and redemption, but Christ my Lord made a way for me to pass over from death unto eternal life. Col.1:12-14 – Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: [13] Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: [14] In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

<u>IX. Praise for His Guidance</u> (12) – Moreover thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar; and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go. Throughout their wilderness wanderings, God was faithful to lead and guide the Israelites. They did not know which way to go, but God was leading them in His way day and night.

• Aren't you glad for the guidance our Lord today? I rejoice that it isn't up to me to make my own way or discover the right path. We have His Word to guide us and the indwelling Holy Spirit. We are not alone and we are not forsaken. God is there to mark our steps and guide our paths. Ps.37:23 – The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. Is.58:11 – And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. John 16:13 – Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

V. Praise for His Faithfulness (8)

VI. Praise for His Righteousness (8b)

VII. Praise for His Compassion (9)

VIII. Praise for His Deliverance (10-11)

IX. Praise for His Guidance (12)

X. Praise for His Word (13-14) – Here the people rejoiced and praised the Lord for His Word. They were reminded of the giving of the precepts of God unto Moses upon Mount Sinai. They hadn't always lived according to God's Word, but they were surely thankful for it. They were aware of the benefit of the Word. God had given right judgments, true laws, good statutes and commandments.

- We certainly ought to praise the Lord for His Word this evening. It is through His Word that we learn of Him, that we know Him and hear from Him. God's Word brings conviction to our hearts, causing us to realize our sin and need of a Savior. Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. 1 Cor.1:21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.
- We can rejoice in a sure Word today. We have not been given a book that contains God's Word; we have been given His complete revelation to man in His Word, without any mixture of error. Ps.12:6-7 The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. [7] Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

XI. Praise for His Provision (15) – And gavest them bread from heaven for their hunger, and broughtest forth water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and promisedst them that they should go in to possess the land which thou hadst sworn to give them. God did not abandon His people on the banks of the Red Sea or in the wilderness. He daily supplied their needs, giving manna from heaven and water from the rock. He promised a good land, full of milk and honey, in which to dwell, and He kept His word. The providential hand of God led them all the way from Egypt to the Promised Land, continually and consistently providing for every need they had.

- Surely we ought to praise the Lord for His provision in our lives as well. Our every need He has supplied. He never promised to supply all our wants, but He will care for His own. He daily meets our needs. We have plenty to eat, clothes to wear, a place to sleep, and much, much more. Our God has been good and He has blessed us abundantly.
- Even while we were in sin, separated from Him, God cared for us. He kept us until we had the opportunity for salvation. He provided the way, through His Son, for our salvation. We have enjoyed the good hand of God both physically and spiritually. He is worthy of our praise and adoration!

This prayer of the people of Jerusalem has challenged me to be more mindful and appreciative of all the Lord has done and will do for us. We must take the time to worship Him and offer thanksgiving every day. He blesses us each day and He is worthy of our praise each day.

You will have to admit that God has been far better than we could ever deserve. I know that each of us have benefited greatly from His abundant blessing. Will we recognize His goodness and praise Him or selfishly enjoy those blessings without as much as a thank you?