

## Safe in His Care

Psalm 33: 18-22

As we continue our journey through the Psalms, again we come to another psalm that lacks a title. This particular psalm is the fourth, and last psalm that bears no title. The others are [Psalm 1](#), [2](#), and [10](#). Most scholars agree that [Psalm 33](#) is linked with [Psalm 32](#). We can say with reasonable certainty that David wrote [Psalm 32](#), and this one appears to be a continuation of the thoughts revealed in the previous psalm.

Upon examination of both, we discover their content is different, and yet they share a common theme – praise and rejoicing in the LORD. [Psalm 32](#) offered praise for forgiveness and reconciliation while [Psalm 33](#) offers praise for God’s hand of provision and blessing in a time of crisis. The previous psalm closed with a call for rejoicing, and this one opens with the same call.

Our text verses appear to be a summation of the thoughts revealed in both psalms. While these were written thousands of years ago, believers can relate to these timeless words. I want to examine the [assertions](#) penned by the psalmist as we consider the thought: [Safe in His Care](#).

**I. The Attention of the LORD** ([18-19](#)) – Here the psalmist spoke of the gracious attention and loving care of the LORD toward those who belong to Him. Consider:

**A. His Perception** ([18](#)) – [Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy](#). As we consider this gracious awareness, I realize we serve a sovereign God. He created the vastness of our universe, and all who dwell upon the earth. All of creation is the work of His mighty hand. Isn’t it amazing and humbling to think that the Creator is aware of you and me? His watchful eye is upon us as we journey through life. We never face any situation that our Lord is unaware of. We are continually within the watchful gaze of our Lord.

- While He is aware of all creation, with nothing being hidden from Him, the psalmist speaks of the watchful eye of our Lord upon those who fear Him and hope in His mercy. I thought of such a gaze in light of a loving Father watching over His children. No doubt we all encounter much that catches our attention throughout the day. We experience much that causes us to stop and think, but our eye is especially attentive to our children and those we love. Such is the gaze our Lord has upon those who trust in Him!

**B. His Provision** ([19](#)) – [To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine](#). If in fact this psalm was written in a time of national crisis for Israel, the psalmist recognized the gracious

provision of the LORD. He was able to preserve their lives and keep them from starvation in a time of famine and lack of provision. When hope seemed lost, and death seemed imminent, the LORD made a way for them. He provided during their time of greatest need.

- Surely we would all have to offer praise to the Lord for His gracious provision in our lives. We have watched the horrifying images of starving people in other parts of the world, and yet the Lord has been gracious to us. We are no better or more deserving than any other; we have just enjoyed the good hand of God on our land. We cannot deny that God has blessed us abundantly.

- I fear I would be unfaithful to the text and the Gospel of our Lord if I failed to make a spiritual application here as well. Through His marvelous grace, Jesus provided for our salvation and eternal life as He offered Himself the atoning sacrifice for our sin and rose again triumphant from the grave. He graciously delivered the saved from eternal suffering and death. We are spiritually alive today because of His grace, not having to suffer the misery of spiritual famine. He has given His eternal Word to feed and nourish our souls. Surely you will agree we have been blessed.

**II. The Appreciation for the LORD (20-21)** – These verses contain the psalmist appreciation for the LORD. No doubt they serve as a challenge to the reader to ponder His goodness with grateful appreciation as well. Notice:

**A. Our Patience (20a)** – *Our soul waiteth for the LORD.* The psalmist revealed his patient anticipation in the LORD. He waited for the LORD. This has the idea of waiting or longing for the LORD to move in the midst of a particular situation. No doubt the psalmist had experienced the hand of God in previous difficulties, and his faith remained in this moment of calamity. He was patiently waiting for God to move in their midst, according to His divine plan. The psalmist exercised great faith as he waited on the Lord to meet his need.

- While many of us lack patience, we too must learn to wait upon the Lord. He has never failed in our time and need and we have no reason to fear in our current adversities and trials. I have often made the situation worse by stepping out on my own, failing to wait upon the Lord to move in my situation according to His divine will. We must patiently trust the Lord even when we see no way out of a difficult situation.

**B. Our Prosperity (20b)** – *Our soul waiteth for the LORD: he is our help and our shield.* The psalmist was able to wait patiently because he understood and appreciated the character of God. He knew the LORD was his help and shield. He was able to provide assistance and protection at the same time. God had been faithful to provide the help needed, while providing a shield of protection.

- Are we not blessed beyond measure? Has the Lord not been faithful to meet our needs in every situation? Has He not provided the help and protection we needed? I am humbly aware that everything I enjoy in this life has been provided by the gracious hand of my Lord. He is my help and my shield in the times of adversity. In fact, He is my help and shield daily, continually providing for me when I am unaware of my need. What a Savior we serve!

**C. Our Praise** (21) – [For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.](#) The psalmist was overcome with a desire to praise the LORD. His heart was filled with rejoicing as he pondered the goodness and grace of God. He had placed his trust in His holy name, having nothing to fear, securely kept within His grace.

- If our Lord's grace and provision doesn't stimulate an attitude of worship and praise, I know of nothing else that could. When I pause to ponder all I have received in Him, forgiveness of sin and reconciliation to God, being placed within the body of Christ and promised eternal life, I am compelled to praise the Lord. He loved me when I was unlovable, providing grace for one who was undeserving. I am kept within His hand of grace! My heart sings praise unto my Redeemer and Lord. He is worthy of our praise! [Heb.13:15 – By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.](#)

**III. The Appeal unto the LORD** (22) – [Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.](#) The psalmist closed this powerful psalm with a heart-felt appeal unto the LORD. Notice:

**A. The Desire** (22a) – [Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us.](#) The psalmist had experienced the blessing of God before and he had no desire to live a single moment without it. He sought the LORD for continued mercy upon him and all the people of Israel. He knew God's provision and blessing were needed if they were to remain, and prayed for continued blessing.

- Unfortunately, we live in a land that has forsaken the Lord. We once were a nation that recognized the good hand of God upon us, and offered praise for His blessing. Many sought to walk with the Lord and desired His continued blessing. Those days are in the past, and likely will not return. The majority today think nothing of the Lord, and have no desire for His hand of blessing. They refuse to acknowledge God or His blessing on our nation. Like the psalmist, I desire His continued mercy and blessing. We would surely perish if it were not for the good hand of God. I know the saved by grace are secure within the hand of Christ, but our nation would suffer greatly if the Lord removed His hand of provision. We must seek the Lord to provide for us in these difficult days!

**B. The Dependence** (22b) – *Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.* The psalmist admitted the hope of Israel rested solely in the LORD. He knew apart from His hand of provision and mercy, they would perish. He acknowledge his submission and dependence on the LORD for every need they faced.

- As I read this statement, I was reminded of the familiar phrase in the old hymn – My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness! We are totally dependent upon the Lord of our salvation. He has graciously provided every blessing we enjoy and our future rests securely in His sovereign hand. I am nothing within myself and remain dependent upon His grace each day I live.
- If you or I accomplish anything of lasting value, it will be accomplished through His power and provision. He stands as our hope. In Christ alone we live and breathe. He is the source of life upon earth and throughout eternity! Such dependence should create an attitude of reverent fear and rejoicing in the Lord. We are all products of His good grace! For the believer, there is nothing to fear in this life or the future that awaits; we are secure in Christ!

**Conclusion:** While this psalm was written hundreds of years prior to the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, it offers a stirring reminder of the provision available in Him. I am thankful, and filled with praise for all Christ accomplished for me. He is worthy of our praise and adoration. Are you part of the body of Christ, saved by His grace? If so, you ought to praise Him today for the provision He has provided. You are safe with His care. If you are yet unsaved, I urge you to respond to His offer of grace and receive the salvation He provided. There is no other way of salvation. Christ alone is our hope and life!