

Rejoicing in the LORD

Psalm 9: 1-12

Many scholars agree that Psalm 9 and 10 were actually written as one Psalm, instead of being separated as they are in our Bibles today. Psalm 9 is an offering of praise for the deliverance God provided, and Psalm 10 continues to acknowledge the hand of God in the lives of His people.

Many of the Psalms David wrote are prophetic in nature. These two are no exception. They actually deal with the coming of Christ and His reign in the millennial kingdom. While they reveal prophesy of coming events, there is also practical application for our daily lives. I am sure David had experienced what he wrote of in our text this evening. Our lives are much different, but there is application for us as well.

There is much to cover in these verses, so let's examine the [reflections](#) of David as we consider: [Rejoicing in the LORD](#).

I. His Delight in the LORD (1-2) – The opening thoughts reveals David's great delight in the Lord. Notice:

A. The Commitment (1a) – [I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart](#). Through all the trials and adversity David had faced, the Lord had been a constant strength and guide for him. He had never been forsaken; God had always provided. David was overwhelmed with praise and adoration. He was committed to praising the Lord with his whole heart, with all of his being!

B. The Confession (1b) – [I will shew forth all thy marvellous works](#). In fact, God had so blessed David, he could not keep it to himself. As he pondered the Lord's goodness in his life, David could not be silent about it. He was compelled to tell others of God's goodness, publicly proclaiming the marvelous works of God.

C. The Consolation (2) – [I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High](#). Although he faced many difficulties, David enjoyed great peace and joy. The trials of life could not compare to the joy he felt when he considered all he had received in the Lord. David was comforted in the Lord and was moved to sing praises to the most High!

II. His Defense in the LORD (3-9) – The enemy raged around him; and at times it seemed defeat was certain, but through it all, God had shielded and defended David. We discover:

A. God had Dispersed (3) – *When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence.* Even while being greatly outnumbered at times, David enjoyed victory after victory. Many times he had witnessed the defeat of the enemy, even when he knew he was unable to obtain victory in himself. David was well aware that God had often intervened on his behalf, dispersing the enemy, as David watched triumphantly in victory!

B. God had Defended (4) – *For thou hast maintained my right and my cause; thou satest in the throne judging right.* David was quick to acknowledge God, giving Him the glory for the many victories he had enjoyed. It was God who maintained David, ensuring that truth and right prevailed, even when those who sought to do evil seemed to have the upper hand. God had prevented David from defeat and evil from prevailing. He was confident in the righteous nature of the Lord.

C. God had Denounced (5a) – *Thou hast rebuked the heathen.* As I consider the many battles David endured, I was reminded of the slander of many. He faced ridicule from Goliath; slander from Absalom and unmerited accusation from Cush the Benjamite. In each of these situations, David did not have to defend himself. God took care of David's reputation. God rebuked those who sought to mar David's character. The Lord watched over every aspect of David's life, fully providing for him.

D. God had Defeated (5b-6) – *thou hast destroyed the wicked, thou hast put out their name for ever and ever.* ^[6] *O thou enemy, destructions are come to a perpetual end: and thou hast destroyed cities; their memorial is perished with them.* Here David rejoiced in the strong arm of the Lord. Time and again, in battle after battle, David had experienced great victory through the power of the Lord. When he was unable to overcome, God always came through for him. David soon realized the battle wasn't his to fight; he learned to trust in the Lord.

▪ He also learned that God brought complete and absolute victory. When He defeated an enemy, God was even able to remove all remembrance of their evil advances. God allowed David to move on after the battle without lingering memories or hindrances.

E. God had Displayed (7-8) – David was also mindful of the great display God had shown as He moved in mighty power. David had experienced the Lord in many ways, but he reveals two specific displays here. God had displayed:

- **His Presence (7a)** – *But the LORD shall endure for ever:* There seemed to be no shortage of enemies. When one was defeated, another would always rise up, seeking to take their place. David faced great adversity, but he trusted in the eternal God. Men would live and die, but David never feared the presence of God being removed. He had worked among men prior to David's reign, and He would remain long after David was gone. No doubt this brought great comfort and assurance to David.

- **His Preeminence (7b-8)** – *he hath prepared his throne for judgment.*^[8] *And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.* Many strong enemies had come against David. He had endured attacks from those who possessed great strength, large numbers, and formidable weaponry, but even they couldn't overcome the power of God. David rejoiced that his Lord occupied the throne of heaven. He was in control of the earth, the winds, the animals, and all mankind. David knew none compared to the Lord. God would ensure righteousness prevailed, regardless of the desires of the enemy.

F. God had Drawn (9) – *The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.* David often found himself outside the safety and security of home or city walls. He was often sleeping under the stars with no defense around him. He rested even in those situations because the Lord was near. He knew God had drawn him to His side, and he was secure within the presence and safety of the Lord. God was his refuge, even in times of trouble and despair.

III. His Dedication to the LORD (10-12) – David was deeply committed and dedicated to serving the Lord. He had not lived a perfect life, but he always had a deep desire to please the Lord. This dedication was brought about through God's dealings with David. He learned he could trust the Lord and depend on Him. David reflects upon why he is so dedicated to the Lord. He speaks of:

A. God's Faithfulness (10) – *And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.* David learned to fully trust the Lord because of His faithfulness. He had never been forsaken of God. There was never a time David could remember when the Lord had failed to meet his needs. God had always been there and David never entertained the thought of God leaving him. He had proven Himself faithful time and again!

B. God's Righteousness (11) – *Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings.* Man's actions and motives are often tainted or influenced by the flesh. Sin caused many to behave or treat others in a way that wasn't right or pleasing. God was (and is) always consistent. David rejoiced in the righteous, unchanging nature of the Lord. He enjoyed fellowship with God and desired to worship Him. He wanted to share God's goodness with others, encouraging them to do the same. David was compelled to worship the Lord when he paused to consider the righteous nature He possessed.

C. God's Graciousness (12) – *When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them: he forgetteth not the cry of the humble.* David also rejoiced in the grace he had received. He knew God was continually aware of the needs and cries of His people. He would never forsake them or abandon them in their time of need. David knew this was not deserved, but God had chosen to be gracious to those who sought Him. He had experienced the grace of God too many times to doubt it. He offered praise for the grace he and others had received.

Conclusion: Few, if any of us can really relate to David in regard to this Psalm. I have never faced the horrors of battle. I was not asked to face a mighty giant while still a very young man. I have not been pursued by one of my children who sought my life. However, we all have faced battles and struggles in life that are very real. We have all dealt with the attacks of the enemy. I will have to admit they weren't enjoyable times, but God was always there. In the midst of trouble, He did not forsake me. He is the one constant in an ever changing world.

I rejoice for all I enjoy through a relationship with the Lord. This is all possible through salvation. The believer is secure in the mighty hand of our Lord. Do you enjoy that peace and security? If you are saved, you should. If you haven't been saved, I urge you to come to Christ as He leads. He wants you to be delivered from the penalty of death and enjoy the many benefits He provides. Will you come?