

PSALM 116 - What Can I Offer to the LORD? I Will Take the Cup of Salvation and Offer the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving!

3/31/18 Sat Morn Prayer – Phil Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

Psalm 116 - I Love the Lord, Because! –

BLESSED ASSURANCE – Fanny Crosby -Billy Graham Choir

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; Angels, descending, bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. Refrain

Biblical Background:

Mar 14:26 *And when they had sung a hymn (or hymns), they went out to the Mount of Olives.*

The Psalms usually sung at the close of the feast are Hallel *Psalms 115-118*. *Psalm 115* tells how the dead praise not the Lord, but we will praise Him from this time forth forever. **Psalm 116 proclaims that the Lord has delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.** *Psalm 117* bids all the nations praise the Lord, for His merciful kindness is great and His truth endures forever. And *Psalm 118* rejoices because, although all nations compassed me about, yet I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the Lord; and because ***“The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone.”***

This Psalm, 116, from the lips of the Perfect One, could be no "dying swan-song." It uplifted that more than heroic heart to the wonderful tranquility which then said, ***"But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee."*** It is full of victory. And now they go unto the Mount of Olives.

Psa 116:1-3 *I love the LORD, because He has heard My voice and my supplications. [2] Because He has inclined His ear to me, Therefore I will call (qara - 4X) upon Him as long as I live. [3] pains of death surrounded me, And the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow. The joy and gladness of the first Resurrection morning are singing throughout this Psalm. The garden tomb is empty! Christ has been raised from the dead by the glory of His Father! And now He bursts forth in a song of thanksgiving to God for answered prayer in connection with His Resurrection! Notice the beginning: **"I love the LORD."** Only four single syllable words, yet the purest worship. An encouragement to those who mistakenly think that God can only be approached in grandiose language. We need to know that the simplest statement of love for the Lord is genuine worship. But we need not stop there. Like the Savior, we can go on to recite the **great things that God has done** for us. This too is worship. The Lord Jesus overflowed with ceaseless thanks because His Father had heard His anguished supplications from Gethsemane and Golgotha. When death was tightening its ropes around Him, and the pangs of physical dissolution were laying hold of Him, when He was enduring agony beyond description, then He called to the LORD to deliver Him. And the Lord did. He did not save Him from dying, but He did save Him out of death.*

[4] Then I called upon the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I implore You, deliver my soul!"

Then I called upon the name of the Lord,.... Upon the Lord Himself in prayer for speedy deliverance; in the name of the Messiah, the only Mediator between God and man, praying, ***O Lord, I implore You, deliver my soul;*** from these sorrows and pains, from these afflictions and distresses, from death and the grave, and from wrath, a sense of it, and fears about it.

[5-6] Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; Yes, our God is merciful. [6] The LORD preserves the simple; I was brought low, and He saved me. Notice the worship continues here in telling of the excellencies of the Lord. We see in the risen Christ some of the virtues of God which were displayed in His Resurrection. God is **gracious**, that is, kind and good. God is **righteous**; all He does is **just and fair**. God is **merciful**; He is of **great compassion**. **The LORD preserves the simple**, which in the case of the Lord Jesus on the cross meant that He **preserved the sincere**, the **guileless** or the **helpless**. God saves His people when they are in danger.

[7] Return to your rest, O my soul, For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you. God deals bountifully with those who trust in Him—He is not stingy in His benefits. So the Lord Jesus says, ***"Return to your rest, O my soul."*** His **agitation**, His **anguish**, His **agony**, are **over**. God has heard Him and delivered Him. Now He enters into well-earned rest.

[8] For You have delivered my soul from death, My eyes from tears, And my feet from falling. You have delivered my soul from death - My life. You have saved me from death. This is such language as would be used by one who had been dangerously ill, and who had been restored again to health. **My eyes from tears** - Tears which he had shed in his sickness,

and in the apprehension of dying. It may refer to tears shed on other occasions, but it is most natural to refer it to this. ***And my feet from falling*** - From stumbling. That is, he had not, as it were, fallen by the way, and been rendered unable to pursue the journey of life. .

[9] I will walk before the LORD In the land of the living. In this world! This expresses a full belief that he would live, and a purpose to live “*before the Lord;*” that is, in His presence, in His service, and enjoying communion with Him.

[10] I believed, therefore I spoke, "I am greatly afflicted." [11] I said in my haste, "All men are liars." Be careful what you say in haste. Words spoken in haste often have to be recounted and recanted. It is best to cool down before you speak.

What Can I Offer to the Lord? I Will Accept the Cup of Salvation! I Will Offer the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving! –

[12] What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me? Here God has given me life. What can I give to God to really show the appreciation? In reality there is nothing in the material sense that we can give to God that isn't His already. God doesn't need anything from us. It's ludicrous to think of giving to God from a material standpoint as though God needed something from me materially. So it has to be **in the realm of spirit or myself**. It's interesting that the psalmist asks **what he shall give** to God and then he says **he will take the cup of salvation**.

[13] I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the LORD.

I can't give anything to God until I've first taken the cup of salvation and thus having a relationship with God. It is our sin that broke the fellowship and it is our sin that separated us from God, it's sin that stands in the between coming to God thus we have to first of all receive the forgiveness of our sins. We have to receive that cup of salvation that was offered to us by Jesus Christ. Once I've taken the cup of salvation the door is open for my prayers and the door is open for communion. I cannot call upon God unless I've been washed and cleansed from my sin. I've received the cup of salvation.

[14] I will pay my vows to the LORD Now in the presence of all His people. The psalmist was in trouble. Whether it was David or not we don't know, but he was in trouble. He thought he was dying. He probably made a lot of promises to God; “If you just let me live I'll really serve you Lord”. So he says that he will pay his vows in the presence of all his people. It makes you think it is probably David for a public figure like that all the things you do are always in the presence of all of the people.

[15] Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His saints. As we see death, it means decay, removal, absence—things which we do not prize. But as God sees death, He beholds something really precious to Him and, we may justly infer, precious to us, for whatever is against us cannot be precious to our Father. We are looking at the wrong side of the tapestry, where all is tangle and confusion. **God sees the right side,** where the **design is intelligent** and the **colors are harmonious**. If a person is a believer in Jesus Christ, when they die in the eyes of Lord, it is just precious because He is receiving His child home and He is bringing him to glory. They are going to have that glorious face to face confrontation. The child is going to enter into the awesome glory in the presence of God as the saint passes that veil we call death to awe that's precious. He is coming home. ***Joh 17:24 "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.***

[16-17] O LORD, truly I am Your servant; I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant; You have loosed my bonds. The bonds of death. ***[17] I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon the name of the LORD.*** Again, God is good. God has heard my prayer. Then it is only right and natural that I should thank God for his goodness, for his mercy and for his grace towards to me. In fact in Leviticus it was a part of the peace offering. A part of the peace offering was the offering of thanksgiving in the seventh chapter of Leviticus.

[18-19] I will pay my vows to the LORD Now in the presence of all His people, [19] In the courts of the LORD's house, In the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD! He said that earlier and now he's repeating it, but with a different setting. Here the singer generalizes his own experience. He finds increase of joy in the thought of the multitude who dwell safe under the same protection.

SUMMARY:

- I love the LORD, because...!
- I will call upon Him as long as I live! "O LORD, I implore You, deliver my soul!"
- God is **gracious; kind and good; righteous; just and fair; merciful**; I will walk before the LORD
- **What can I offer to the Lord? I will take the Cup of Salvation! I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon His name; I will pay my vows to the LORD**

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