Psalm 130 - Review

In chapter 130, part 1, we learned this is the *eleventh* Psalm in a series of fifteen Psalms (120-134), which are the "Song of Degrees", and refers to the "degrees" on the sundial of Ahaz, by which the shadow of the sun went *backward* in the days of his son, Hezekiah (2 Kings 20:8-11; Isa 38:7-8, 20). And, because it's the *second* song in the *fourth* 'group' in this series of 'Song of Degrees', the subject/title was (yet again) "***Trust in Yehovah***" (as it was in Psalm 121, 124 and 127). And that's why we saw Hezekiah call unto the 'Lord' (Yehovah, i.e. YHVH) for help; for he *clearly* knew who the *true* God is *and*, that He was the *only one* who could help him out of 'the depths' of his distress. And we also learned that, when we 'call upon' the Lord (YHVH) in *earnest* prayer, we must *also* be willing to *seek* for answers in His word (2 Tim 2:15), as well as to 'knock' (Matt 7:7-11), which simply means to pray freely, honestly, sincerely and without guile. And that means we must *also* be open to what He has to say to us; for we *might just* need to change some things in our own life (and/or heart and mind) *before* He will give us what we're asking for. Further, we must also *trust* that He hears us *and* will respond… in the way, and time, that is best for us. For truly, He *will* hear us *and* help us… *when* the time is right, and in His *own* way. So, it is really important for us to *continue* to 'remind' our Heavenly Father of His promises *and point out* that we are *earnestly* trying to fulfil the *conditions* needed to be met to *receive* His promises (Isa 43:26). So, whether you are needing guidance, strength, understanding or help with an 'adversary' (as Hezekiah was), it's paramount for us to *continue* to pray (earnestly) to the Lord (YHVH) for help *and* 'remind' Him of His *promise* to help!

And then we saw Hezekiah point out how, because the Lord (YHVH) counts *every one* of our 'iniquities' (i.e. sins), *none* of us can stand before Him - for ***no one*** is truly (on their own merit) worthy of forgiveness (Rom 3:23; Isa 64:6) let alone receiving eternal life from Him. However, we also learned that, even though *none* of us can 'stand before' Him *when* we've still got our iniquities (sins) to account for, our Heavenly Father *has* made a way we *can* be forgiven. And, back in the days, the people were supposed to offer blood sacrifices to obtain forgiveness with God (Lev 4-6, etc.). However, those were only 'types' for the *true* Sacrifice which was to come, which is (of course) Jesus Christ (Heb 10:8-12; 1 Peter 1:18-19; John 1:29; Isa 53:7; Rev 5:6-13, etc.). So, today it is our *earnest* faith in (and *obedience to*) Jesus Christ that gives us forgiveness from God… *so long as* we truly do repent *and* work to turn away from our sins (Acts 26:18, Eph 1:7; Col 1:14; Rom 3:23-25; Heb 9:11-15). And that's *why* we truly should 'fear' Him, i.e. fear to disobey Him *and* give Him the *full* honor, glory, love, respect, devotion *and* obedience He *truly* deserves.

In part 2 we learned *how much* Hezekiah trusted in the Lord (YHVH). For he didn't just *wish* He would help him but, he truly *trusted* (with great anticipation) that He *would* do so. And that's because Hezekiah had, not only learned His Word, but was also *trying hard* to obey it. And not only in his own life; Hezekiah *also* worked hard to clean things up (the idolatry) in the southern

kingdom of God. For, he not only opened the Temple of the Lord (YHVH), just a few months after taking the throne, but He also commanded the priests to clean it up (and themselves) so they could keep the Passover (which had not been done in a *long* time). And he also purged out the idols, groves and illegal places of worship in the southern kingdom of Judah. So, he *really was* sincere in his faith *because* his 'works of faith' *proved* He truly believed in God's promises to punish Israel for their unrepentant sins… and that's because he realized Israel's current troubles (in *both* the northern kingdom *and* in his southern kingdom as well) were *on account of* their rebelliously sinning against the Lord (YHVH).

So, Hezekiah wrote this Psalm, in remembrance, for the time in his life when Jerusalem was surrounded by the Assyrians, who were threatening to besiege the city if they didn't surrender. And that's why he also wrote that he *eagerly* awaited God's Word (promising help, which He did send via the prophet Isaiah) *as much as* a watchman eagerly waits for his shift to end at the break of dawn. And, because the Lord (YHVH) did indeed deliver Jerusalem from the Assyrians (along with *all* of the people in the southern kingdom of Judah) – *and* healed him from his sickness he had at that time – Hezkiah called <u>all</u> of Israel (*wherever* they were) to 'hope' (trust with earnest expectation) in the Lord *because* He truly is merciful (kind) to deliver (redeem and help) those who *sincerely* repent and work to change their sinful ways. So, because Hezekiah had experienced God's amazing grace (forgiveness of sins) and redemption (deliverance from the Assyrians) in his own life, he thus ended the precious Psalm by *prophetically* stating that <u>all</u> of Israel will be redeemed (freed from) their iniquities (morally perverse, i.e. evil sins). And that's why this Psalm was, yet again, a wonderful example for us living today. For those of us who know what lies ahead (the 'great tribulation') should also call the people of the world (at the guidance of the Holy Spirit) to turn from their sins and worship (obey) the *true* God (YHVH) who sent His Son (Jesus Christ) to pay for our sins. For there is one coming (the antichrist, who is Satan himself) who will pretend to be 'God' our 'Savior'… and *many* unsuspecting Christians will even fall for his lies (and miracles) *because* they are ignorant of what God's Word really says, thanks to the 'traditions of man' so commonly taught in Churches today.

Therefore, just as Hezekiah still pleaded with the stubborn, and hard-hearted, Israelites in the northern kingdom - so too should we still warn the people on earth <u>not</u> to worship Satan *nor* participate in his wicked 'beast' system… for doing so will bring upon them *great* wrath from God, as many Scriptures (especially Rev 16) warn us about. Further, just as Hezekiah waited on the *true* God (YHVH) for deliverance (from the Assryians, who are a type for Satan and his fallen angels) so too should we patiently 'wait' (trust and hope with *earnest* expectation) on the *true* Savior (Jesus Christ) to save us during that great time of tribulation (Mth 24:21). So, yet again we see how prophetical these precious Psalms truly are! So, anyone who tries to tell you the Old Testament is 'outdated' or is 'irrelevant' to our life (now that Jesus has come), is *full of crap.* They either don't know what they are talking about (i.e. are ignorant of the Scriptures) or are being *very* deceptive (i.e. lying). For, over and over again, these precious Psalms have shown

us just *how much* we can *still* learn from them and, how much *prophecy* is within them, *still yet to be fulfilled*. And much of that is because, "*The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and* ***there is no new thing under the sun***" (Eccl 1:9). So, history gives us many 'types' of what is, either happening now, or will happen in the future. So, it behooves us to continue to study ALL of God's Word so we can prepare *for what is coming*. And we've *got* to learn to 'trust in Yehovah' IF we are going to be found faithful *to Him* when the true Jesus Christ *finally* returns…

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, ***to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;***
17 ***That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith****; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,*
18 ***May be able to comprehend*** *with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;*
19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, ***that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.***
20 ***Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us****,*
21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus ***throughout all ages****, world without end. Amen.*
Eph 3:14-21

AMEN.