

Psalms Chapter 90 - Review

In part 1 we learned we've come to a new 'phase' in the Book of the Psalms, which is the "Numbers Book" – and the 'theme' of it is "*The Earth and the Nations*". And the subject/title of this 90th chapter was "*Rest. Lost and Needed.*" And it's also a *Prayer of Moses the man of God*, which means it was Moses' intercessory prayer, for Israel, when they were wandering in the wilderness. And they were stuck wandering in the wilderness, for forty years, because all the fighting men (20 years and older) were condemned to die in the wilderness *because* they refused to invade the Promise Land when God told them to. And Moses began this precious 'intercessory prayer' by giving our Heavenly Father 'due respect' in acknowledging the power, might and strength He has over *all* of His creation (Rev 4:11, Ezek 18:4). And Moses also pointed out that, the Lord had been their dwelling place throughout all the time they had been in the wilderness - which is symbolic for how He is truly our 'dwelling place', *spiritually*, when we keep our heart and mind *firmly on Him*, His Word and Son, Jesus Christ *and strive* to sincerely *obey* Him as well. And truly, because our Heavenly Father created this beautiful earth for us to live in, that's another reason we could say that He has been our 'dwelling place'. For even the earth we live on, and the air we breathe, *belong to Him*. And Moses also brought out the fact that our Heavenly Father existed *before* the mountains were created (at the beginning of this earth age), *and even before* the earth was formed (in the first earth age). Clearly, that's because HE created them.

In part 2 we learned how truly temporary our flesh life is. So short, in fact, that Moses likened it to grass that grows up and flourishes in the morning (which is symbolic of when we are young) but then wilts when the sun hits it, and ends up withering away by the evening (which is symbolic for how we grow old and then die). And Moses also pointed out how God has appointed *all* of us to die in the flesh body (Heb 9:27) because that's a part of His plan of salvation. We *must* experience what death is so we know *how serious* death of our soul and spirit is. But, unlike most of us, the men living during the time this Psalm was written *literally* knew that 'their days were numbered', because God had condemned them to die within forty years of their refusing to enter the Promise Land (Num 14). And that's why Moses reiterated *how* frail our flesh bodies are and also how short our lives in the flesh are too. And there must have been *a lot* of people dying at that time because he likened their many deaths to God sweeping them away 'as with a flood'.

But Moses was also careful to point out the *great contrast* to the fragility, and mortality, of flesh man with the *eternality* of our Heavenly Father. While we on earth are consumed by time (because of the inevitability of our flesh dying), God is not - because death has *no power* over our Heavenly Father. Nor did death have power over His Son, Jesus Christ, who *literally* raised from the dead and *still lives yet to day* in heaven (Heb 2:14). And that's why Moses said that a thousand years to us are as but yesterday (one day) to our Heavenly Father – even as a 'watch' (merely a few hours) to Him. And that's why He is *so very* patient to make sure His plan of

Salvation (through Jesus Christ) is perfectly carried out. For He wants *all* His children to have the opportunity to come to Him, through faith in Jesus Christ (2 Pt 3:9), before ‘the end comes’ (i.e. before Jesus’ Second Advent).

In part 3 we learned more about how things were ‘in the wilderness’ when Moses wrote this Psalm. Earlier in the Psalm (vs 5) Moses pointed out that there were *so many* people dying, at that time, that it was as if God was sweeping them away ‘with a flood’. And he continued on to explain the reason for this: it was because they continued to stir up God’s wrath by their lack of faith in Him, ingratitude and outright rebelliousness. Moses also pointed out how God saw all of their iniquities (perverse/corrupted spirits) *and all* of their ‘secret sins’. And that’s because God can see into all of *our* hearts and minds (still today too). So, there’s no thought we have, nor anything we long for, that He doesn’t know about. So, not only are our actions an ‘open book’ to Him, so are the thoughts and desires of our mind and heart. There’s *nothing* that we have done, nor anything that we ‘secretly desire’, that He doesn’t know about! And that’s why God alone is the perfect judge. And so, He rightly judged that rebellious generation to die in the wilderness. So, unlike all other generations, their days (left to live) were quite literally ‘numbered’. Therefore, they were not living past the age of eighty, no matter how hard they tried (with few exceptions such as Moses, Caleb and Joshua of course). And Moses also pointed out that our Heavenly Father’s wrath is only towards those who *don’t* fear Him. And that’s in the sense of fearing to do evil *as well as* respecting Him too. So, it was because the Israelites *didn’t* fear to sin against Him, and thus clearly had *no respect* for Him, that He therefore judged them to die in the wilderness. And they truly deserved it. And Moses knew this.

Yet, he still prayed that God would teach them to ‘number’ their days so they could apply their hearts to wisdom (God’s wisdom, of course). Essentially, Moses was asking God would help them make a good repentance before they died and that the younger generations would learn not to be rebellious. And this, therefore, is wise advice for us today too. For while we don’t know *when* we’ll die (like those Israelites did) we do know it’ll come *someday*. And that ‘day’ *might* be *tomorrow*! So, we too should live our life to serve, and please, our Heavenly Father *instead of* for the ‘lusts of the flesh’ - as most of the rebellious Israelites living in Moses’ day did. This not only makes for a happy life in the flesh (it gives us true peace of mind) but it also ensures we’ll die with peace in our heart, knowing we lived our life to serve our Heavenly Father the best we possibly could. And that is what takes the fear out of departing from our flesh body (dying).

In part 4 we saw Moses delve into the ‘intercessory’ part of his prayer. Thus, he asked the Lord (YHVH) *how long* He would stay mad at Israel and keep His distance from them; it had apparently been a while since Moses heard from God. And so, he then asked the Lord (YHVH) to *have pity on* Israel and *console them* by giving them His mercy (kindness) to ‘sate’ (lift up) their grief-stricken spirits, which were pretty low due to all the people dying off ‘as a flood’. Moses also asked the Lord (YHVH) to grant Israel gladness for as long as they had experienced

sorrow, because of the chastisements of the Lord (YHVH). Israel was only a couple of years away from entering the Promise Land. And those who would be allowed to enter (the younger generation) needed to keep their heart and mind focused *on that*, and not allow themselves to be depressed by all the death they saw. And Moses also wanted the *younger generation* (59 years and younger) to be able to see God's mighty works (and his wondrous glory) *to prepare them* to enter the Promise Land. In other words, he wanted the younger generation to be assured that the Lord would indeed help them inherit the Promise Land, just as He had freed their forefathers (and even some of them) from Egypt. That's why he also asked that the Lord's (YHVH's) favors, and power (glory), be shown to them and their children (grandchildren, etc.) as well.

And Moses ended his intercessory prayer by asking the Lord (YHVH) God Almighty (our Creator) that His delight (and therefore grace) would be upon them and that He would 'establish' the work of their hands; and he asked for that *twice - for emphasis*. And the 'work of their hands' they were to do was to *serve the Lord* (YHVH)! After all, as Moses points out several times in this Psalm, they were *His* 'servant nation' (Deut 14:3, 26:16-19). And they were *supposed to* serve Him by *obeying* His Law, which included His Commandment, Statutes, Judgments and (at that time) ordinances too. And the *purpose* for their being God's 'servant nation' was to *conquer* the heathen nations and *bring peace to the world* (Isa 41:8-10, 44:1-2, 21, 48:20, Isa 49:3; Jer 51:19-21). That's why God told Abraham, Isaac and Jacob/Israel that their 'seed' (i.e. their descendants, which especially looked forward to Jesus Christ, the Messiah) would be a blessing *to all nations* (Gen 12:3, 18:18, 22:18, 26:4, 28:14). So, essential, Moses asked the Lord to help Israel fulfill her destiny to inherit the Promise Land so *they could* take the 'Gospel' to the world. And, despite their sins and short falls, *they would do so* because our Heavenly Father's Word *always* comes to pass. It was His will to use Israel to share the truth (i.e. the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which even the OT teaches) to the world. And, *through Jesus Christ* (who is of Israel, Heb 2:14), that *has* been fulfilled, *is* being fulfilled and *will continue* to be fulfilled!

So, even though Israel was in a rather depressing time period when this Psalm 90 was written, Moses had the foresight, and love, for His people (and his God, Yehovah) to ask the Lord to help Israel *get ready* to fulfil their destiny *and* to inherit the Promise Land. And, in like manner did Jesus Christ make a beautiful intercessory prayer [<https://t.me/BibleStudyGodsWord/467>] for His servants too, in John 17. As the study on **Point A To Point B** explains so very well [which you can read via this link: <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/489>] Jesus prayed we would remain on earth *to serve Him* during the 'great tribulation' (Mth 24:21). The *purpose* is so that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will be published *throughout all the world* - for a witness unto all nations – *before* Jesus Christ returns (i.e. 'the end' comes) (Matt 24:14, Mark 13:10). And, just as God *did* strengthen Israel, and help them inherit the Promise Land, so too will He do for all of us who remain *faithful* and *fervent* servants of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ...

AMEN.