

Series: Psalms

Title: For the Poor and Needy

Text: Psalm 9: 18

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Place: SGBC, New Jersey

Though it may appear that wickedness is prevailing in this world do not judge by outward appearance, but judge righteous judgment. Hear the word of God and you will know who is really prevailing in this world right now.

**Psalm 9: 16: The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgsion. Selah. 17: The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.**

- Infant Moses—God overruled the work of wicked hands—put Moses in Pharaoh's house
- Mordecai—God overruled the wicked hands of Haaman who built gallows to hang Mordecai—on which Haaman himself was hanged.
- Christ on the cross—Ps 2: 1-4; **Acts 4: 28: For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.**

Like no other time in history before or since, when it appeared that wickedness had prevailed, by the judgment of God, the wicked were taken in the net they laid, in the works of their own hands, but it meant salvation for his children:

Hebrews 2: 14:...through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;15: And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

John 12: 31: Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. 32: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me. 33: This he said, signifying what death he should die.

Re 1:18 I *am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Hebrews 9: 15: And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions *that were* under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

**Proposition:** Christ the King and Head is working judgment in righteousness and uprightness in this earth right now AGAINST the wicked but all the while, right now in this earth, the Lord is performing his righteous judgment FOR his people. Here is why: **Psalm 9: 18: For the needy shall not alway be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish forever.**

**Divisions:** 1) Who are the poor and needy?; 2) The needy shall not always be forgotten; 3) the expectation of the poor shall not perish forever

**I. WHO ARE THE POOR AND NEEDY? God's elect—believers—are the needy**

**Believers are needy.**

We need Christ our Righteousness and Sanctification because apart from him we have no righteousness and can produce no holiness of heart—*there is none righteous, no not one.* We need Christ our Strength because we have none and can produce none—“without me ye can do nothing.” (Joh 15:5) Because we have Christ our Prophet, Priest and King to feed us, teach us and keep us we can go forth bearing witness of him.

Matthew 28: 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

We need for Christ to remember us continually. And he shall: “**for the needy shall not always be forgotten.**”

### **Believers are poor**

We have the Pearl of great Price, and we are rich in Christ. We possess unsearchable riches in God’s unspeakable Gift, joint-heirs with Christ. But while in this world we are not as the self-made, self-righteous men who are “**rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.**” Believers are poor and needy, we expect Christ to save us and he shall, for “**the expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever.**”

### **Only those who are needy and poor receive all from Christ**

“Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Mt 5:3)

“Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.” (Mt 5:6)

Luke 1: 52-54: He hath put down the mighty from *their* seats, and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. He hath holpen his servant Israel, in REMEMBRANCE of *his* mercy.

**Psalm 9: 18: For the needy shall not always be FORGOTTEN: the expectation of the poor shall *not* perish for ever.**

**Application:** You who think you are rich and have no need of Christ have no reason to expect anything from God. But you who have nothing but Christ—you have All and we should expect all from him.

## **II. THE NEEDY SHALL NOT ALWAYS BE FORGOTTEN**

### **Forgotten of Loved Ones**

Believers are sometimes forgotten of those who were once our closest companions who we thought would never forget us. Why? The tie that once bound us together becomes broken. The union of self-righteousness becomes severed when Christ becomes all our Righteousness.

It is rare to find a rich man who prefers the company of the poor. But it is impossible to find a man rich in his own self-will, his own wisdom and conceit, rejecting Christ and going about to establish his own righteousness who prefers the company of one poor in spirit whose All is Christ Jesus.

But when we are forgotten of the self-righteous, what mercy God has shown us! Hear your heavenly Father speak to you in Psalm 45:

Psalm 45: 10: Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house; 11: So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he *is* thy Lord; and worship thou him.

### **Forgotten in Reproach We Bear**

Believers sometimes feel forgotten when we bear the reproach from those who despise our Redeemer having all honor and glory and sinners contributing nothing. But remember, Christ was forgotten of men, reproached of men and separated outside the gate on that wretched hill but it was there where Christ bore our sin his own body on the cursed tree

Psalm 22: 1: «To the chief Musician upon Aijeleth Shahar, A Psalm of David.» My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? *why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?...6* But I *am* a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people. 7 All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, *saying*, 8 He trusted on the LORD *that* he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him. 9 But thou *art* he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope *when I was* upon my mother's breasts. 10 I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou *art* my God from my mother's belly. 11: Be not far from me; for trouble *is* near; for *there is* none to help....22: I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee. 23 Ye that fear the LORD, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him; and fear him, all ye the seed of Israel. 24 For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.

There Christ sanctified us with his own blood—he perfected us forever by his one offering—he made us as accepted in the Beloved as the Beloved is accepted.

Hebrews 13: 13: Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach....

### **For the needy shall not always be forgotten.**

When deceitful, violent snakes would attempt to harm our souls, remember that he has not forgotten to deliver our souls...

Psalm 72: 14: He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight.

### **Feel Forgotten in the Experience of Grace**

Sadly, there are times, when believers feel forgotten even in the experience of God's grace. There are times when our unbelief seems far greater than our faith. We feel we cannot even crawl must less walk. We say in our hearts...

Ps 44:24 Wherefore hidest thou thy face, and forgettest our affliction and our oppression?

Ps 77:9 Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah.

But God cannot forget those he purchased with his own blood:

Isaiah 49: 14 But Zion said, The LORD hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. 15 Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. 16 Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of *my*

hands; thy walls *are* continually before me. 17 Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee.

Instead of listening to our cold feelings, hearken to God's promise to us

Isaiah 46: 3: Harken unto me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel, which are borne *by me* from the belly, which are carried from the womb: 4 And *even* to *your* old age I *am* he; and *even* to hoar hairs will I carry *you*: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver *you*.

Isaiah 40: 11: He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* shall gently lead those that are with young.

**Application:** Our congregation is a flock of young lambs. He carries the lambs in his bosom, and gently leads those that are with young. He remembers his child so continually that he has ordered our every step, overruled our own vanity, and brings us to see how graciously he remembers us even when we forget him. How often his constraining love makes us to cry out,

Psalm 73: 22 So foolish *was* I, and ignorant: I was *as* a beast before thee. 23 Nevertheless I *am* continually with thee: thou hast holden *me* by my right hand. 24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory.

Psalm 34: 19: Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them a

**John Newton's dying words:** "My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things: that I am a great sinner and that Christ is a great Saviour." **Psalm 9: 18: For the needy shall not always be forgotten:**

### III. THE EXPECTATION OF THE POOR SHALL NOT PERISH FOREVER

#### Expectations that Need to Perish

We started out with some expectations that need to perish. The expectation that now that we are born of God we shall no longer have to deal with sin in our flesh, no more lukewarm, always gracious, always faithful, no more troubles in this world.

**Illustration:** Israel had no conflict in Egypt, they were slaves there. It was when God brought them out that there conflict and trials began. We had no conflict with sin till we were born of the Spirit of God.

**Application:** God has promised that sin shall not have dominion over us for we are not under the law but under grace. It may seem sin reigns at times. But it shall not have dominion—

- Not over the real you, the inner man which is the creation of God—"for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." (1 Jn 3: 9)
  - Not in judgment—"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Ro 8:1)
- "The expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever."

Maybe some here had the expectation that we could build a church for God. Were those expectations realized we would be so proud and boastful. Instead, his grace is growing us toward becoming "less than nothing." The more we learn of Christ and see the wisdom in his way of bringing things about the more we become smaller and smaller and Christ becomes All and in all.

## Our Good Expectation

Believers are given a good expectation—a good hope—by the Lord. Expectation means hope.

Our hope is the Lord himself.

Jeremiah 17: 7: Blessed *is* the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is...13 O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, *and* they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters.

Our expectation is the “hope of the glory of God.”—(Rom 5: 2) We expect to see the “glory of the Lord” and be made perfectly conformed to his image when he brings us home with him.

- Called “the hope of righteousness” (Gal 5: 5: For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.
- Called the “hope of his calling”, “the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints” (Eph 1: 8)
- Called “the hope which is laid up for you in heaven” (Col 1: 5)
- “The hope of the gospel”—Col 1: 23: “If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;” (Col 1:23)
- It is our helmet—“the hope of salvation”—1 Thess 5: 8)—put it on.
- Titus 1: 2:...“hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;
- “Hope set before us”—Hebrews 6: 18: That by two immutable things, in which *it was* impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: 19 Which *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; 20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, *even* Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.
- “Living hope” because Christ lives--1 Peter 1: 3: Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Brethren, we have the hope that Paul had:

Philippians 1: 20: According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, *so* now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death.

1. We expect the Lord to keep us even in death. We expect to be with him in glory. We expect to behold his glory and be like him. We expect to be joint-heirs with him. We expect him to make us to overcome and sit with him in his throne, even as he has overcome, and has sat down with his Father upon his throne.

The Lord is known by the judgment he executeth—the wicked is snared in the works of his own hands—then turned into hell...

Proverbs 11: 7: When a wicked man dieth, *his* expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust *men* perisheth.

But the Lord promises us who are made righteous and holy by the works of his hands--**THE EXPECTATION OF THE POOR SHALL NOT PERISH FOREVER**

**GO HOME REMEMBERING THIS THREE THINGS:** Believer, the Lord said, “I go to prepare a place for you and I will come again so you can be with me where I am.”

1. We have an inheritance reserved in heaven by him. But as we suffer now at the hands of the wicked—needy and poor—remember the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ:

2 Corinthians 8: 9: For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

2. We have to wait.

Romans 8: 24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? 25 But if we hope for that we see not, *then* do we with patience wait for *it*.

But for now we go on expecting—

Lamentations 3: 24 The LORD *is* my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. 25 The LORD *is* good unto them that wait for him, to the soul *that* seeketh him. 26 *It is* good that *a man* should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.

3. Tomorrow is as unknown as the other side of death—yet he led us all through this day, he will lead us tomorrow and even across the river of death. How are we surviving each day? How shall we be carried across in that day? All the same way.

**Illustration:** The High Priest stood in Jordan. They looked to the ark. The Jordan dried up and Israel went across on dry ground?

Christ our High Priest has stood in that river—he has put away our sin and made us righteous in him. Look to Christ: he will lead you across tomorrow and the next day. At his appointed hour, he will lead us across the river of death. Then shall he say, “Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

**Psalm 9: 18: For the needy shall not always be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall *not* perish for ever.**

Amen!