

There comes a time.....

- **Gratefulness:** a feeling or attitude of gratitude and appreciation that wells up inside when you begin to think about, ponder and recognize the many, many ways you have been blessed by the Lord
- **Thanksgiving:** the outward expression of your inner gratefulness.

Step #1: PRAY

“Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law” Psalm 119:18

Step #2 Review the Basics of Psalms & Psalm 118

Psalms (see PowerPoint)

Psalm 118: Give Thanks for God’s Victory

Theme: a celebration of God’s protection and deliverance---Author: unknown---

Section: The Egyptian Hallel Collection (113-118)---Emphasis: Thanking the Lord---

Genre: Thanksgiving Psalm

Unique features

- Psalms 113-114 sung before the Passover meal—Psalms 115-118 sung after the Passover meal (could be the last song sung by Jesus & disciples before entering the Garden of Gethsemane---Matthew 26:30)
- Messianic Significance: v.26 quoted in all 4 gospels; vs.22-23 quoted by Jesus and Peter
- Martin Luther’s favorite Psalm

OUTLINE

1. A Call to Thank the Lord (1-4)
2. A personal & public testimony of Thanksgiving for God’s protection, deliverance & victory by a king (5-18)
3. Request & permission given to enter the temple (19-21)
4. Response by the people as they enter the temple (22-25)
5. The priest pronounced a blessing (26-27)
6. The king thanked the Lord (28-29)

Step #3: Read the Text & Context: Open your bibles to Psalm 118

Steps #4 & #5: Observations & Research

vs. 1-4

¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. (Israel, Aaron, Fear the Lord—vs.2-4)

A call by the king for God's people to Thank the Lord

The LORD: *Yahweh*—I AM—The LORD (also *Yah*)

GOOD (tob): in His essence, being & nature God is perfectly good

LOVE(hesed) ENDURES FOREVER: unfailing loving kindness & mercy of God

v. 5

HARD PRESSED (distress): hardship & trouble

I CRIED TO THE LORD: the King's remedy

HE BROUGHT ME INTO A SPACIOUS PLACE (figuratively)

God gave the king freedom from confinement

v. 6-7

I WILL NOT BE AFRAID: Why?

1. The LORD is with me, on my side & for me
2. The LORD is my reliable helper & supporter
3. People can't do anything to me
4. I will see my enemies defeated

vs. 8-9 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in humans.(princes-9)

The CENTER of the Bible (v.8)

REFUGE: a safe shelter of protection

TRUST: put confidence in, depend & rely upon

v. 10-12

Figurative language is saying something other than what is literally meant for effect.

POINT: I was under attack!

IN THE NAME OF THE LORD (3X): By the power & might of God I was enabled to drive back & drive away (CUT OFF) my enemies

v. 13-14 "I experienced great adversity but The LORD was up for the challenge!"

"a blessed 'but'" Charles Spurgeon

MY STRENGTH: power to save & rescue

MY SONG (defense): thanks after God's victory

MY SALVATION: Victory

NOTE: God gets the credit!

New Covenant SIGNIFICANCE--Bridge to JESUS

In Christ, the King's testimony is OUR testimony—vs.5-14—1 Cor. 15:56-57

Steps #6 & #7: The original intended meaning & meaning today

(see PowerPoint)

Step #8: Meditate on Text & Findings

Step #9: Discover the Personal Life Application

PERSONALIZE IT and PARAPHRASE IT (use your “keeper” from 40DITW)

Paraphrase: put it in your own words so you understand it's meaning to you personally

Personalize: Put your name (or use “I” for yourself) and say verses over again to yourself

Try it on verses 5-14

ACTION STEP: My challenge for you is to put together a list of the Top 10 Things

You are Most Thankful for and use the list daily to thank the Lord throughout

November

It's Time to Thank The LORD