THE GOODNESS OF GOD

**DATE: 5/31/2015 am**

**TEXT: Psalm 21:3**

**INTRODUCTION**

We saw that the **20th Psalm** was a Prayer Preparing for Battle

The **21st Psalm** is a Song of Deliverance *after* the Battle

This is another psalm of David

But we need to look beyond David and see the Son of David

The Lord Jesus Christ

For the Bible, from cover to cover, is a Book about Jesus

**v.3** says – ***“For Thou (God) preventest him (David) with the blessings of goodness:”***

The word ***“prevent”*** today means *to hinder* or *hold back*

But in David’s day it meant to *go before*

In other words, well before David ever Prayed or Sang

God had the Blessings in place (ahead of time)

God is always previous / way ahead of us

David path was strewn with the ***“blessings of goodness”***

… Long before he ever went down the path

Most folks are blind to the Goodness of God

The Blessing of His Goodness abound all around us

Satan is always busy trying to blind us to the Goodness of God

**John 12:40 *– “He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them”***

May God open our spiritual eyes to discover the Blessings He has for our lives?

I’d like to consider these ***“Blessings of Goodness”***

Which in reality, are … what I’ve titled this message …

***“The Goodness of God”***

***~~~Prayer~~~***

**I. THE “STRENGTH” OF THESE BLESSINGS – vs. 1-4**

Everyone seems to think that there is some kind of secret to living Life Victoriously

The Philistines longed to find out the secret of Samson's great strength!

They found out at last, because poor Samson, strong as he was before men, was just as weak before woman

But there is no secret when it comes to being able to live Victoriously

David reveals the Source of his Strength

**A. The King’s Strength ‘Disclosed’ – vs. 1, 2**

David may have been King / a mighty leader

But he is declaring here that there is One greater

A King of (all) kings

John the Baptist put it this way …

**John 1:27 *– “He it is, Who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose”***

John said that he wasn’t even worthy to untie this Kings shoes

The psalmist says Christ ***“preventest”*** him with the blessings of His Goodness

He is talking about the Messiah going before him

Leading the way

**Rm. 8:31 – *“If God be for us, who can be against us?”***

**Ephesians 6:10 *– “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might”***

**1.** David’s Proclamation **–v .1**

***“The king shall joy in Thy strength, O LORD…”***

David declares publicly Who it is that had won the victory for Israel

**Rev. 1:8 *– “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty”***

Not only did David rejoice in God’s *Strength*

But also in God’s *Salvation* …

David is not only excited about how Strong God has Showed Himself

But also ***“…in Thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!”***

God is Strong but His Salvation is even greater!

The Salvation spoken of here is Deliverance

But let me tell you that we can rejoice in even a greater Salvation

The Salvation of the Cross

**Galatians 6:14 – *“But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world”***

David may have won a great military victory

But, we have for us a great Eternal victory

Sin, Death and Hell have been defeated

**I Corinthians 15:55 *– “O death, where is thy sting?***

***O grave, where is thy victory?”***

David now offers the proof that God answered him

**2.** The Proof **– v.2**

***“Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withholden the request of his lips. Selah”***

The ***“request”*** referred to is the one found in **Psalm 20**

(For Protection, Help, Remembrance, Answers)

The request for victory in the hour of battle

David expresses his delight when he thinks of God’s timely intervention

***“Thou hast given him his heart's desire”***

God had given him the victory he desired, the success for which he prayed

***“and hast not withholden the request of his lips”***

Proof of God’s concern in our lives is answered prayer

**The King’s Strength ‘Disclosed’**

**B. The King’s Strength ‘Discussed’ - vs. 3, 4**

David tells us not only that God answered his prayer

But *How* He answered his prayer

God went out ahead to meet David’s enemies

***“For thou preventest him”***

And the *blessings* were triumph and prosperity

He says - ***“thou settest a crown of pure gold on his head”***

The Most High set an imperishable crown of pure gold on his head

***“He asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest it him, even length of days for ever and ever”***

In response to the king's request for preservation God saved his life in battle

And More … yes, ***“even length of days”***

David was promised by God that his throne would *endure* (Davidic Covenant)

In Christ – *for ever and ever*

Rule without end

**Rev. 11:15 *– “…The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever”***

Literally, all true believer’s have eternal life

How strong are these ***“blessings of Goodness?”***

They are as Strong as God is Strong

And they are backed up by the Almighty

We have Heaven’s guarantee

**THE “STRENGTH” OF THESE BLESSINGS**

**II. THE “SALVATION” OF THESE BLESSINGS – vs. 5, 6**

***“His glory is great in Thy salvation: honour and majesty hast Thou laid upon Him” “For Thou hast made Him most blessed for ever: Thou hast made Him exceeding glad with Thy countenance”***

As we continue to consider the Blessings of His Goodness,

The Holy Spirit brings our thoughts back to Salvation

David says ***– “His glory is great in Thy Salvation”*** – **v.5**

To understand these verses we first have to figure out all these Pronouns and who they are referencing

Obvious, David is talking about himself

But there is also a principle in Hermeneutics called the *Law of Double Reference*

(**Hermeneutics** – *the science of interpreting scripture*)

This Law states that a scripture passage which applies to a particular person or event in context can also apply to a future person or event as prophetic

Philip & the Ethiopian – **Acts 8:26-35 …**

**v.35** says **– *“Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus”***

**Psalm 21** is also pointing to the Lord Jesus

This is a psalm of David; but looking beyond David we see the Son of David, the Lord Jesus Christ

There are 2 ways to look at this psalm

**1.** We can look at it as *Davidic*

Meaning that we consider the “King” is speaking of himself and his relationship with God

**2.** We can look at it as a *Messianic* (regarding the Saviour)

Meaning that we see the “King” here is King Jesus, and that the “Lord” is our Heavenly Father

**A. Victorious Life**

-- There is no doubt God gave David many victories

-- No doubt this particular psalm became the anthem to sing as the people celebrated the great victories God gave

-- And no doubt we can live the victorious Christian life

**I Corinthians 15:57 –** ***“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”***

But there is a greater message here …

The One of …

**B. Eternal Life**

This is the message of our warring Saviour, who came to earth to conquer

**Romans 5:21 –** ***“That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord”***

Christ gave Himself to die for our sins upon the cross

He shed His precious blood

-- Though His enemies said He was defeated

-- Though they laid His body in a borrowed tomb

-- Though they thought all hope was gone

On the 3rd day He rose again, He came forth bodily from the grave, alive … forevermore

**Revelation 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”***

The Bible says that these are the ***“blessings of goodness”***

Not the blessings we have merited

We do not receive salvation because we deserve it

God saves us because His dear Son paid for our salvation with His precious blood

We have no merit of our own

We are not saved because of anything we deserve

We have salvation because of Christ

We have received every good thing from God thru Christ

**James 1:17 *– “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning”***

All around us are blessings that have been purchased by Christ for His own

Yet, the sad part is, that so many fail to see them

**THE “STRENGTH” OF THESE BLESSINGS**

**THE “SALVATION” OF THESE BLESSINGS**

**III. THE “SECURITY OF THESE BLESSINGS” – vs. 7-13**

**Security –** *the state or feeling of being safe and protected; freedom from worries of lost; something or someone giving assurance; safety*

First, we see in this psalm the Security found …

**A. In His Name – v.7**

The Bible says in **v.7 *– “For the king trusteth in the LORD, and through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved”***

There are 2 Titles given for God in this verse

God has allow Himself to have many names

Why? So that we might understand every aspect of Who He is

**1. *“LORD”***

Notice that the name ***“LORD”*** is spelled with all capital letters

It means *Jehovah, the Covenant God*

**2. *“Most High”***

In the Hebrew it would be ***“El Elyon”***

This is the title that declares God as …

*The One who possesses the world; The One who has the right to rule the world; and The only One who holds the title deed*

He is the Covenant God in that He Promises and Keeps His Promises

**Hebrews 10:23 *– “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;)”***

**Numbers 23:19 *– “God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?”***

**Deuteronomy 7:8, 9 *– “But because the LORD loved you, and because He would keep the oath which He***

***had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt” “Know therefore that the LORD thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations;”***

**Romans 4:21 *– “And being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform”***

**Nehemiah 9:8 – *“And foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give it, I say, to his seed, and hast performed Thy words; for thou art righteous:”***

**I Thessalonians 5:24 – *“Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it”***

**Joshua 23:14 – *“And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof”***

**I Kings 8:56 – *“Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto His people Israel, according to all that He promised: there hath not failed one word of all His good promise, which He promised by the hand of Moses his servant”***

**II Peter 3:9 – *“The Lord is not slack (careless) concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance”***

In the Name ***“Most High”*** we have the God that Rules the Universe

And because He is Infinite we do not have to worry

We can be secure; we are on the Lord’s side

The second thought we have concerning Security is …

The Safety we have …

**B. From our Enemies – vs. 8-13**

The world is united against God

**Psalm 2:1-6 …**

We witness this everyday

And when the Lord comes back for His Church and we are gone

The world will rise up against God and His people Israel

The antichrist will be revealed and he will claim planet earth for his own

But when he does, King Jesus will appear a 2nd time and destroy him with the brightness of His coming

**Read vs. 8-12 …**

**CONCLUSION**

Let’s stop singing the song of defeat and start singing about the blessings of the Goodness of God

Yes, this old world is evil; but we are on the winning side

The earth is full of the Goodness of God

All around us are blessings that have been purchased by Christ for his own

Look to the Lord and see His Goodness!

**v.13 - *“Be thou exalted, LORD, in Thine own strength: so will we sing and praise Thy power”***

**THE “STRENGTH” OF THESE BLESSINGS**

**THE “SALVATION” OF THESE BLESSINGS**

**THE “SECURITY OF THESE BLESSINGS”**

**INVITATION**