



9/9/25

How cool is it to be considering God's power in creation when we've had such incredible weather these last several days, and a full moon! It really does display His constant, faithful, eternal, divine power.

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Psalms 33:1-9

Over a third of the psalms are psalms of lament, and they have their place in my life. When I'm struggling over my seen circumstances, it is right that I cry out to my unseen God. But more often, it is good to focus my attention on the Lord in praise. Almost every one of the 150 psalms gives me reason to praise... even most of the psalms of lament. Yes, I am called to praise the Lord... and yes, I am given ample reason to praise the Lord. Here in Psalm 33, I will give my attention to His praise.

Vs. 1 ~ "Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright."

Shout for joy IN THE LORD. Who shouts for joy but the one who can't help it? Like when a touchdown is scored and the crowds erupt in celebration. How much more does the Lord deserve my uninhibited praise!

Celebrate YAHWEH... the one who is I AM... I celebrate Him because I am righteous in Him. I have no righteousness of my own. He makes me righteous. My faith in Him is my part in my righteousness. His work in me and redemption for me is His part.

"Praise befits the righteous." What does that mean? The Hebrew is transliterated, "Praise from the upright is beautiful." God loves my praise... like a dad who loves when his child jumps in his arms and says, "I love you."

God loves the praise of the "upright," the one who stands straight with the Lord... whose words

of praise are aligned with his actions of praise, who is unashamed to stand with the Lord.

God was NOT pleased with the praise of the Pharisees who continued to accuse Jesus. Jesus quoted the prophet Isaiah about them when He said, "These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me" (Matthew 15:8).

O Lord, my heart is FOR You. I praise You that You receive my worship. If Jesus had not given me the free gift of righteousness paid for by His blood, I would not be righteous. Praise You for Your gift. Let me shout for joy that I am in You.

Vs. 2 ~ "Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; make melody to Him with the harp of ten strings!"

O Lord, let my heart be a heart of gratitude, and let the melody that comes from me be as the sound of music that praises You. Let it be a melody of praise, faith, and gratitude.

Vs. 3 ~ "Sing to Him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts."

I remember an old Imperials song from decades ago that sang, "As long as there is time and one breath left in me, there will always be one more song for You." O Lord, Psalm 40:3 says You "put a new song in my heart, a song of praise to our God." I have a new song because You always have more to give to me. You don't want me to praise with my lips but not with my heart. Genuine praise can't be mustered... it flows from a heart that simply pays attention to You. O Lord, please help me to get better and better at paying attention to You.

Vs. 4 ~ "For the word of the Lord is upright, and all His work is done in faithfulness."

Why do You deserve my shouts of joy and my gratitude and the melody of my heart? Your WORD is upright. It is righteous. Your word never leads me to darkness or evil, but to all Your paths of steadfast love and faithfulness.

Every work that You do is faithful and true. You never fail to keep Your promises. I wish I could say that every work of mine was done in faithfulness and truth. By Your strength, You will continue to transform my heart so that I am more and more faithful to You in the same way that You're faithful to me. For this I praise You.

Vs. 5 ~ "He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord."

The world does not love righteousness and justice. The world loves selfishness and self power. I've even heard one politician say that truth is not the goal... but truth is a distraction. That's crazy!!! But Lord, You are right and just and You will bring everything under Your righteousness and justice in Your timing.

Even in the midst of this broken world, I can see Your righteousness, justice, and steadfast love at work. Jeremiah 9:24 says You delight in them. That is Your heart. Let my heart praise You, trust You, and seek to follow in Your steps.

Vs. 6 ~ "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host."

O Lord, You spoke and the world came into existence. To question Your eternal power in that is to question everything about You. I am overwhelmed as I look at all the passages that speak of Your power in creating this world. You are creator of the heavens and the angels, let alone the earth and all who live in it.

I praise You for Your power and wisdom in holding this universe together by Your word. Who has any kind of power that even matches a pin drop of Yours? I bow to You in praise, because You are the only one worthy of all my worship. You are the only one who is from eternity past.

Vs. 7 ~ "He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; He puts the deeps in storehouses."

I can't even comprehend this. I have had water in my basement before, and I couldn't gather that without help! God collects all the water and puts it in His storehouses, His treasures in the depths of the waters. What is there that God can't do? His power is limitless.

Vs. 8 ~ "Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!"

O Lord, when I look at what You're able to accomplish by Your spoken word, the only real response is to "fear" You... to worship You... to be in awe of You. When my heart is not set on worship, it's because my heart is not set on You. I don't have to muster up worship... I just have to set the eyes of my heart on You, to face toward You. Then the worship will flow.

Vs. 9 ~ "For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood firm."

I don't even know how many years ago You spoke this world into existence... but I know that all these thousands of years later (if not more), what You have commanded still stands firm. When You say, "It is finished," it is. What You open no one can shut, and what You shut no one can open (Revelation 3:7).

This is why I can praise You wholeheartedly, holding nothing back. You are I AM. You are Creator. You are Love. You are righteous. You are just. You are faithful. You are power. You are wisdom. O Lord, by Your strength I will praise You, and in Your goodness, You will call my praise beautiful. Amen.