

## **POWER OF PRAISE**

Wednesday, March 7

Reading: Psalm 30

**Psalm 30:10** *Hear, LORD, and be merciful to me; LORD, be my help.* **11** *You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,* **12** *that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. LORD my God, I will praise you forever.*

Since the days of Moses, the house of worship had been a tent. King David had a great desire to build a Temple for the Lord. However because he was a man of war God would not let David build the Temple. God promised that his son would build the Temple for the Lord (2 Samuel 7). Later, after a plague brought on by David's sin, the king bought the parcel of land on which the Temple would be built. He also provided much of the groundwork for its construction (1 Chron. 21-29). But David would not live to see the Temple built.

The heading tells us that Psalm 30 was written for the dedication of this Temple that David would never see. It was a reminder to Solomon and all the people of why the Lord was worthy of worship and praise. First, David sang the praises of God's deliverance (30:1-3). David always seemed to have someone out to get him. The king praises God for always being there to hear his call for help and save him.

Next David sang the praises of God's forgiveness. David was a great sinner. He was guilty of adultery, murder, and unrighteous vanity. But he was also a man after God's own heart for he always repented and was forgiven. David knew firsthand about the anger of the Lord and the weeping of guilt. But he also knew these were temporary and that God's forgiveness always brought His favor and joy (30:4-5). David had to learn the hard way that feeling secure in his own wisdom and power only led to trouble. It was only through the favor of the Lord that he could "stand firm" (30:6-7).

David also sang the praises of God's mercy (30:8-12). In good times and bad, the Lord's mercy sustained him. The times of mourning would always fade into times of joy because of God's mercy. Though David would die before the Temple was built, the king proclaimed, "Lord my God, I will praise you forever."

Have you ever been disappointed? Has God said "no" to some great desire of your heart? If so, don't despair! God always has a better plan. Though David would not build a house for the Lord, God promised to build David a "house" and kingdom that would last forever. This promise was fulfilled by Jesus Christ, descended from David (2 Samuel 7:11-16).

This psalm tells us to remember the great things God has done. When we remember His salvation, forgiveness, and mercy our hearts will be ready to sing His praises. If you are weeping today, thank God for the rejoicing that is around the corner. If you are struggling with sin today, turn to God for forgiveness and a restoration of His joy. Praising God allows us to replace our problems with God's power; to relinquish our plans for His better purpose.

THRU THE BIBLE READING: Numbers 22-24; Luke 4