



Saturday, October 23, 2021



To My Victory Baptist Church Family,

I hope you're having a great week, and that you're getting excited about our time together this weekend in Bible Study and worship. This weekend, Lord willing, we will continue in our ongoing study of the life of Joseph by looking at Genesis 45:16-28. As I read through this chapter in the Bible this week, I thought about how different God's ways are from our ways.

In fact, the Bible tells us that, doesn't it? Think about:

Isaiah 55:8-9, *"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,' declares the Lord. 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.'"*

The Apostle Paul said it like this in Romans 11:33, *"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!"*

In fact, one of the reasons why it is so challenging to follow God sometimes is because God doesn't do things the way we do things. Think about this case in point:

One day in 1993, an Australian woman named Darlene Zschech (pronounced "check") was battling depression and discouragement. Her burdens were so overwhelming that she despaired of life. There seemed to be no solution to the problems she was facing. But her family had become a Christian family and Darlene had begun to understand the power of God's Word. So one day she reached for her Bible and began to read it. She came to Psalm 96 which, in part, says: *"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name; proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day. Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised..."*

As she poured over Psalm 96, the Lord began to use His Word to meet her innermost needs. Nearby was an old piano that Darlene's parents had given her when she was just 5 years old. Going over to the bench, she began improvising a song based on Psalm 96, and as she praised the Lord, her depression began to lift and her faith and her joy returned.

It never dawned on her that day that the song she began to write would become one of the most popular praise and worship songs of all times. It goes like this:

"My Jesus, my Saviour Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort, my shelter, Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am, Never cease to worship You
Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing

Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You
My Jesus, my Saviour, Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort, My shelter, Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am Never cease to worship You
Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You
Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have
Oh nothing compares to the promise I have
Nothing compares to the promise I have In You"

When we sing that song we need to remember that it was written by someone who was depressed until she read the Psalms, and the Word of God lifted her up and gave her that wonderful song of praise and worship.

That's not the way you and I would have done it, and that's the point. God's ways, to us, seem not only unusual, but most of the time, what God does is the exact opposite of how you and I would have done it.

Well, that's what we're going to study tomorrow morning as we gather together for our worship service. A look at our calendar for the week will reveal some of the other things we have coming up:
Sunday, October 24

9:15 Sunday School and Adult Bible Study

10:30 Morning Worship

6:00 BCM Fundraiser at Agape Christian Church

6:00 Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

Monday, October 25

10:00 SCBI Annual Meeting at Highland Lakes Camp

7:00 - 9:00 - Celebrate Recovery

Saturday, October 30

5:00 - 8:00 pm - Trunk or Treat

I do hope to see you on Sunday, if not before. God Bless You.

Pastor Larry