

Hello everyone. hope u all had a good week. sorry this is so late. God bless you! Don

Psalm 93 “The Real King of the World” Nov. 25, 2012

The dictator of a small country was upset because no one was using the stamps with his picture on them. He went to the post master general to find out why. The postmaster told him the stamps were not selling because they did not stick to the envelopes. At which point the dictator picked up a stamp, licked the back and stuck it on an envelope. He said look it sticks just fine. To which the postmaster said well actually sir, the people are spiting on the other side.

Everyone wants to be the boss. Everyone thinks that it is good to be the king. Many a person has set out to make themselves king of the world. From Alexander the Great and, Julius Caesar, through Napoleon Bonaparte and Adolph Hitler, men have sought to rule the world. It is the plot of every superhero story; stop the bad guy from ruling the world. Not only do these bad guys fail, but they ruin the lives of many other people. Our ambitions and efforts affect those around us. What are our ambitions and efforts?

Why would anyone really want to rule the world? The world is filled with problems and troubles; haven't they got enough of their own? But what they really want is power and prestige. God gives us the power and prestige that He wants us to have. God chooses all rulers because He is the ultimate ruler. Romans 13:1 “**Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.**”

This verse tells us that God allows certain people to rule. The problem is, they aren't all good rulers. But God has a plan. We might not know what it is, but we know He has one. The question is do we trust Him? God allows us to disobey our earthly rulers only when they go against His word. Do we obey man's laws or God's laws? Who do we regard as king of the world? As we contemplate this question let's look to our lord in prayer. (Pray)

Psalm 93 is a royal psalm that focuses on the reign of God. He is the true king of the world. This Psalm praises and worships God while denying and defying false idols. It tells us that God really is the King of the universe; what are mere mortals compared to him? It tells us that God is the King of Heaven: what are false idols compared to Him? To whom can God be compared? Isaiah 40:25 says it this way “**To whom then will you liken Me, Or to whom shall I be equal?**” says the **Holy One.**” There is no one like our God; He indeed is the king of the world.

The Psalmist begins with a very short, sweet and to the point statement: the LORD reigns.

He is telling us God is totally in charge of everything! All the time, God is in charge. At no time is anyone else ever in charge. Psalm 103:19 “**The Lord has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all.**” The Psalmist continues “He is clothed with majesty; The LORD is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength.” This describes the garments of victory. God is victorious over all His enemies. This is a celebration of God as creator; He is truly greater than all of His creations. He rules over them all. Verse 1 concludes with these words “Surely the world is established, so that it cannot be moved.” There is no power in the universe that can pry

control out of Gods hands. The Israelites were surrounded by heathens and their false gods and idols. Psalm 93 shows the world how strong, powerful and permanent the 1 true living God is. It compares Him to all the false gods who come and go in Canaanite mythology. The Canaanite gods were fragile. They were easily established and easily disposed of.

But the 1 true living God, The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is a steadfast God who does not change and cannot be defeated. He is king from the beginning of time and will remain king through out all eternity. Hence vs. 2 “Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.” Psalm 145:13 “Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

Nothing, no one or no thing can stop our God’s reign. Vs.3 “The floods have lifted up, O LORD, The floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves.” The false god Baal was considered to be the god of the waters, so this is yet another attempt to prove our God is mightier than any other god. This is a celebration of the power of God because even though the floods come and the storms roll, God is still mightier; He is still victorious. “The LORD on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, than the mighty waves of the sea.” All the power of the sea is nothing compared to the power of our God.

How powerful is the sea? Just check out the damage caused by a hurricane or a tsunami.

The Psalmist emphasizes this point by doubling and tripling his expressive thoughts. The floods have lifted up; the floods have lifted up their voices; the floods lift up their waves. God is clothed with majesty; God is clothed; he has girded himself with strength. He is creating literary energy to strengthen our praise and worship of God. To drive home the point that we worship the one true living God who is king of the world! Who will live forever and if we love Him we too can live with him forever.

Your testimonies are very sure; Holiness adorns Your house, O LORD, forever. God’s rule over the earth is stable and consistent. He is faithful, trustworthy, loving and kind. We can depend on him. We can trust Him. So do we? He is holy, honest and true; are we? God loves us and wants us to love Him back. Though we have all sinned and fallen short of his glory, He made a way for us to come to Him; to find forgiveness and grace; to live with him forever in heaven. That way is Jesus Christ. God can be approached by anyone through the blood of Jesus. There is no sin he won’t forgive if we come to him in faith through Christ’s blood. The good king always provides for his people. God is a good king, are we good subjects?
There is no one too bad to be saved and no one too good to need saving. Jesus died for all people; we each have the same grace waiting for us when we come to God in repentance. Have we made the king of the world the king of our life?
Some people are just too proud to surrender their hearts to God. Some people think that they are the king of the world. Some of these people might even be a king or person with a large amount or responsibility. When we find ourselves in a position of leadership, we must remember that God put us there and He has a plan for us. He will help us succeed. If we let Him. In order to do that we must humble ourselves and submit to His leading. Do we do that? Nebuchadnezzar did not. We find Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel. In chapter 3 he is a power hungry king who has quite the ego. He builds a huge golden image for all his kingdom to worship. You see, as the king, we set an example for others to follow. It was a false god, an idol which Daniels 3 friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego refused to worship. As a result for their obedience to God and not the king, they were thrown bound into the fiery furnace, but God protected them. They were unharmed by the fire; their clothes did not even smell like smoke. Nebuchadnezzar was so moved by this miracle that he said in dan.3:28-29 “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him. They have frustrated the king’s word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God! Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this.” Quite a statement of faith wouldn’t you say. But when you have power and prestige, some times you forget about God. Nebuchadnezzar did. In Dan.4:30 he says Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty? Pride had reared its ugly head and when it does trouble follows. This time it followed immediately. Vs. 31-32 “While the word was still in the king’s mouth, a voice fell from heaven: “King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you! 32 And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.”
God forgives us when we repent. V 34 says “At the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever. V35 is very similar to today’s text “For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, “What have you done?” v 36-37 continue “At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me. My counselors and nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me.” 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.” Are we walking in pride or obedience?
God never changes. He got Nebuchadnezzar’s attention and adjusted his attitude; he still does this type of thing today. Jan. 26, 1990 was Romanian ruler Nicolai Ceausescu’s 72nd birthday. He instructed the National Opera to produce a song to honor him on his up coming birthday. It had to say he was good, righteous and holy. Now he was one of the cruelest dictators of the 20th century. He persecuted and killed not only Christians but anyone who threaten his power. On Christmas day 1989 both he & his wife were executed
James 4:6 reiterates Dan.4:37 “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”

Judges 7 tells us of Gideon, who was a very humble leader. He followed Gods instructions to the t. how many generals would ever consider having too many men in his army. Yet God told Gideon he had too many soldiers, to send some home and he did.

So with 300 men, Gideon went out to fight the Midianites. They surrounded them at night, they each threw a water pitcher on the ground, breaking it and then blew a trumpet.

Judges 7:20 “Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers—they held the torches in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands for blowing—and they cried,

“The sword of the LORD and of Gideon!” When the Midianites heard the breaking and the trumpets blaring and saw the lit torches, they panicked and turned and fought each other, then ran for their lives. By following God’s orders, unorthodox as they were, Gideon was able to conquer Midian, and as it says in Judges 8:28;

“Thus Midian was subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted their heads no more. And the country was quiet for forty years in the days of Gideon.” In the book of Judges, God is Israel’s King. They did not get an earthly king until 1Sam.8:6-7 “But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” So Samuel prayed to the LORD. ⁷ And the LORD said to Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.” Who is reigning over us today? Is God our King?

Next week we will start the Advent season. We will be looking forward to the birth of Christ, the coming of the king to earth. Christmas songs describe Jesus as the prince of peace and the king of kings, but are those 2 phrases real to us? Do we really believe that Jesus is the king of kings and lord of lords? Are we looking for His 2nd coming?

Revelation 19:11-16 “Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³ He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

One day Jesus is coming back as conquering King to claim the world in God’s name. Are we ready for that day? Are we looking for that day/ would it mess up our plans? Would we be happy or sad if Jesus came back tomorrow?

1Cor. 15:24-28 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. ²⁸ Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

End does not just mean over; it also means completed or fulfilled. Nobody knows when God will decide the time is fulfilled and send Jesus back. When He comes back, he will claim the world for God and return it to Him. Christ will reign for 1000 years and then Satan will be finally and totally defeated; he and his followers will be cast into the lake of fire for all eternity and all true

believers will live with God forever in heaven. There will be no more death there, that is the last enemy that will be put under God's feet. To be put under the king's feet is a figure of speech that recalls how the king's throne was always elevated so that when the enemy bowed before him, the king could literally step on his neck if he wanted to, signifying the conquered foe's total subjection to the king. Are we totally surrendered to the king of the world? Are we good obedient subjects? Do we serve our king with all our heart? Do we live for Him? Are our testimonies sure? Are our homes holy? Do we believe that God will reign forever? Do we believe that he truly is the King of the world? Amen! Let's pray!