

Series: Psalms

Title: The Joy Set Before Us

Text: Ps 69: 30-36

Date: Sept 6, 2020

Place: SGBC, NJ

### **Title:** The Joy Set Before Us

As we read our text, remember, this is Christ Jesus speaking. It is Christ speaking as he is bearing the shame of the sin of his people which he bore in our place on the cross. He is bearing the reproach of his enemies. He is under the pain and agony of the cross. The fierce judgment of God is being poured out on him in place of his people to satisfy justice for us. Before we read our text let's read portions of the Psalm again to hear Christ declare this,

**Psalm 69: 1: Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul. 2: I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. 3: I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God...7: Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face. 8: I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.... 14: Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink: let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters...19 Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour: mine adversaries *are* all before thee. 20 Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked *for some* to take pity, but *there was* none; and for comforters, but I found none. 21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.**

There is no sorrow that compares to what our Substitute was suffering on our behalf at this time. Yet, in the midst of this incomparable suffering and shame, he declares what would come from his finished work. This is the joy set before him which helped him endure the cross.

1) God would be glorified and magnified; he would glorify and magnify God—**Psalm 69: 30: I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. 31: *This* also shall please the LORD better than an ox *or* bullock that hath horns and hoofs.**

2) His people would be given life and made to rejoice in their salvation—**Psalm 69: 32: The humble shall see *this*, and be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God. 33: For the LORD heareth the poor, and despiseth not his prisoners.**

3) When all is finished he knew all would praise him in the new heavens and new earth and all his people would be with him—**Psalm 69: 34: Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moveth therein. 35: For God will save Zion, and will build the cities of Judah: that they may dwell there, and have it in possession. 36: The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and they that love his name shall dwell therein.**

**Proposition:** Our Lord Jesus declares *the joy set before him* by which he endured the cross. The Hebrew writer says run the race, *Hebrews 12: 2: Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.* In Psalm 69, Christ declares what that joy is that was before him as he endured the cross, despising the shame. Brethren, as we suffer trials, try to remember this same joy is set before us—we shall joy in these same things.

### **GOD SHALL BE GLORIFIED**

**Psalm 69: 30: I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. 31: *This* also shall please the LORD better than an ox *or* bullock that hath horns and hoofs.**

Our Lord Jesus looked to the joy of glorifying God his Father. The joy set before our Lord Jesus was that by finishing the work the Father gave him to do, he would “*praise the name of God with a song and magnify him with thanksgiving*”—that is, God would receive all the glory due his holy name.

Notice he said, “*This also shall please the LORD...*”—this shall please the LORD, bring satisfaction—*“better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs.”* He is speaking of praising and magnifying God’s name in the way no old testament sacrifice ever could, that is, by Christ fulfilling the law for God and for his people by the sacrifice of himself.

The sacrifices of bulls and goats never pleased God. They never satisfied God. They brought no pleasure, no satisfied justice. They brought no pleasure of praising and magnifying God’s name. Sacrifices of bulls and goats brought no pleasure of glorifying God in his holy character because they never put away sin.

Hebrews 10: 4: For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. 5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6: In burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin thou hast had NO PLEASURE. 7: Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Christ alone satisfied God, Christ pleased the Lord by laying down his life for his people.

Isaiah 53:10: Yet it PLEASED the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the PLEASURE of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. 11: He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be SATISFIED: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

In the midst of sorrow like no other, the joy that our Substitute looked unto was the joy of praising and magnifying God’s name by finishing the work God gave him to do.

One, Christ’s finished work brought satisfaction, pleasure to God because it was the accomplishment of God’s eternal purpose. Christ’s finished work magnified God’s name as the sovereign of heaven and earth. The accomplished redemption by Christ glorified God’s will. It declares God’s will is never frustrated. Whatever God purposed from eternity, God brought it to pass.

Two, it was the fulfilment of God’s covenant, his promises, his prophecies in his word. It magnified and praised God by declaring God is immutable, true and faithful.

Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Psalms 89:34: My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

Titus 1:2: [Believer we have] hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

Three, it was the fulfilment of declaring God’s righteousness—that God is just and the Justifier of those he brings to believe on him.

Isaiah 42:21: The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness’ sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honourable.

Matthew 5: 17: Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18: For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Romans 3: 21: But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22: Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 23: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24: Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25: Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his

righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; 26: To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Four, it was the fulfillment of the salvation of God's chosen people—praising and magnifying God's name for his everlasting, sovereign, saving grace and love. Christ saving his people from our sins by his own blood shows that those God chose by grace, God saves. Those God loves, God saves.

Psalm 103:17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's

All "the pleasure of the LORD prospered in his hand". This gospel of Christ's finished work glorifies God to the highest. This is God's Son. Now, Christ sings perfect praise to his Father, magnifying his name, as he leads his congregation in that song.

Hebrews 2: 11: For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12: Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

Our Lord Jesus is the sweet Psalmist of Israel. He sang with his apostles but he also arose to glory where he leads the song in the great congregation. Notice, the Lamb together with the exact number of saved sinners and the harpers—"they sung." Christ is our Premiant Songleader.

Revelation 14: 1: And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. 2: And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: 3: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

So brethren as we suffer hard, difficult, painful trials look to Christ. Remember the joy set before him. The same joy set before us. Through your trial, God is bringing great glory to his name.

Psalm 98:1: O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.

## THE GOOD OF HIS PEOPLE

**Psalm 69: 32: The humble shall see *this, and* be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God. 33: For the LORD heareth the poor, and despiseth not his prisoners.**

Our Savior also looked to the joy of making his people live and rejoice that our salvation is accomplished in and by Christ. The joy set before our Redeemer was to give his people eternal life and make us glad in him.

The joy set before him is what he surely shall bring to pass. He says with all certainty "*The humble shall see this and be glad.*" We are proud by nature. In our pride we are blind to Christ crucified. But he humbles us by giving us a spiritual sight of him bearing our sins. He says, "they shall look upon me whom they have pierced and mourn." Christ says of himself on the cross, "*The humble shall see this and live.*" And we are made to behold Christ crucified and hear the good news of our redemption he makes us glad—"*the humbles shall see this (Christ crucified) and be glad*"

The joy set before Christ was that concerning all his people, "*Your heart shall live that seek God.*" We are dead by nature. But Christ our Life enters in making our heart live. Even in the trial he is renewing our new man day by day. Scripture says, "There is none that seeketh after God." But God our Father draws us irresistibly to Christ as Christ makes us willing to seek God. The joy set before him is that all his people shall see our great God and Savior and all he has done for us in Christ and be glad and our heart shall live. That same joy is set before you believer as you suffer now. God is turning you to Christ to make your heart be renewed and to give you great joy in Christ alone.

The joy set before Christ is that for his sake God our Father shall hear his people. Why does the LORD Jehovah “*hear the poor and despise not his prisoners?*” It is because Christ has been our Surety from before the foundation of the world and we are complete in him! In Christ there is no sin to separate us, only righteousness and perfection so that we are accepted of God. We have a great High Priest at God’s right hand through whom—in whose name—we call upon God. Therefore God hears and does not despise us in our prison. That was the joy Christ knew he would bring to pass for each of his elect. And that is the joy set before us in all our trials. God is bringing you to call upon him and God shall hear you for Christ’s sake.

Christ himself *shows us that God hears the poor*. Christ was rich but made himself poor for our sakes to make us rich with his unsearchable riches. While in his poverty on the cross he cried the very words of this Psalm and God heard him. God delivered him according to his covenant promise. Christ sings this to us to remind us,

Psalm 34: 2: My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. 3: O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. 4: I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears...6: This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. 7: The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Brethren, in the midst of suffering know that even this painful trial is being worked together by God for your good—for your salvation. When no one else can comfort you, call upon God in Christ’s name. Approach God in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, that name above all names, and God shall hear. This was the joy set before him—the joy of bringing all glory to his Father, the glory of giving life and light and joy to his people through faith in him—and this is the joy set before us.

## ETERNAL INHERITANCE

**Psalm 69: 34: Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moveth therein. 35: For God will save Zion, and will build the cities of Judah: that they may dwell there, and have it in possession. 36 The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and they that love his name shall dwell therein.**

The joy set before our Savior was that when he finished the new heaven and new earth he would have all his people together with him in glory. This speaks of when the whole work is finished. In that day all that has life and moves shall praise him in perfection and Christ shall joy in us.

Isaiah 65: 17: For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. 18: But be ye glad and rejoice for ever *in that* which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. 19: And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

God will save Zion—not one elect child shall be lost—they are his chosen seed. All God’s elect have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. All shall be called and regenerated to life in Christ. All shall believe on Christ and dwell together in that new heaven and new earth. All shall have it in possession—we are Christ’s inheritance and he is ours.

Isaiah 66: 20: And they shall bring all your brethren *for* an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD. 21: And I will also take of them for priests *and* for Levites, saith the LORD. 22: For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain. 23: And it shall come to pass, *that* from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

Brethren, as we suffer in this race look to Christ and remember the joy set before him is the joy set before you.

Hebrews 12: 1: Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2: Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3: For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Behold Christ in the midst of his incomparable travail and remember that same joy set before him awaits you and me. In the end of our current trial and in the end of this whole race

*God shall get all the glory*—that is great joy set before us.

*God is doing it for our good--we shall be humbled and see and be glad and our hearts shall live forever inward man be renewed*—that is great joy set before us

*God is working this trial together with all things for our eternal good*—In the end we shall inherit our eternal portion Christ Jesus our Lord. We shall be with him and he shall be our God and we his people in the new heaven and new earth—what joy we have set before us.

**Amen!**