

OUTLINE

Psalm 75 - The Horns of the Righteous and the Wicked

Pastor Adam Hall ☞ Dryden First Baptist Church ☞ Sept 19, 2021

Psalm 75 ESV

To the choirmaster: according to Do Not Destroy. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song.

¹ We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your name is near.

We recount your wondrous deeds.

² "At the set time that I appoint I will judge with equity.

³ When the earth totters, and all its inhabitants, it is I who keep steady its pillars. *Selah*

⁴ I say to the boastful, 'Do not boast,'

and to the wicked, 'Do not lift up your horn;

⁵ do not lift up your horn on high, or speak with haughty neck."

⁶ For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up,

⁷ but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.

⁸ For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup with foaming wine, well mixed,

and he pours out from it,

and all the wicked of the earth shall drain it down to the dregs.

⁹ But I will declare it forever;

I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

¹⁰ All the horns of the wicked I will cut off, but the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up.



"If there's one thing that can be said about the general John Sedgwick, it was that he sure was confident.

"They couldn't hit an elephant at this distance."

These words were uttered by General John Sedgwick just moments before a Confederate bullet hit him in the left eye, killing him instantly. The irony of his last words and unexpected death are better remembered today than Sedgwick's military legacy, which led him into the path of that bullet at the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House in the American Civil War."

- what a humiliating experience and event for John Sedgwick who was a very powerful and good military general but unfortunately his pride led to his downfall

- when you think about this story you cannot help but think about the famous proverb in the Bible **Proverbs 16:18** Pride goes _____ destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

- this Psalm is really another example of the truth of this Proverb and helps us understand how pride, _____ and arrogance lead us _____ from the Lord and ultimately to our destruction

- this Psalm was written by Asaph who also wrote Psalm 73-83 and Psalm _____

- _____ was a musician that worked alongside of _____ to write and play praise music to the Lord

- this Psalm has been called an Oracle of God Psalm
- this means that the Lord is _____ directly to people

- as well Psalm 75 has been called a _____ Psalm because Asaph praises the Lord who will _____ the wicked who are _____

- also this Psalm is very similar to the _____ of Hannah in 1 Samuel 2:1-10

1 Samuel 2:1-10 And Hannah prayed and said, "My heart exults in the LORD; my _____ is exalted in the LORD. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. ² "There is none holy like the LORD: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God. ³ Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him

Introduction

- sometimes our pride can destroy us!

- In an article called "This Civil War General Uttered History's Most Ironic Last Words Just Before Getting Shot" written by Aimee Lamoureux

actions are weighed. ⁴ The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble bind on strength. ⁵ Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. ⁶ The LORD kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. ⁷ The LORD makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts. ⁸ He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and on them he has set the world. ⁹ "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness, for not by might shall a man prevail. ¹⁰ The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed."

- there are several relevant themes: humility, pride, God's sovereignty and the punishment of the wicked
- this Psalm even _____ us to the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross with the mention of the cup (75:8)

Outline:

- 1) (75:1-3) Praise to a Powerful God**
- 2) (75:4-8) Prideful are Punished**
- 3) (75:9-10) Parting of the Wicked**

1) (75:1-3) Praise to a Powerful God

(75:1) We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your name is near.

- this Psalm starts out with _____ giving a double declaration of thanks to God
- this translation of "give _____" can also mean to praise the Lord
- thanks, _____ and appreciation is given to the Lord two times here!

- the reason for this praise and thanks is the "_____ of the Lord is near"
- the "name of God" refers to the presence and _____ of God
- the _____ of God is often attributed to the deliverance of God

Psalm 54:1 O God, save me by your name, and vindicate me by your might.

- the "name of God" is _____ to us now in the person and work of Jesus (Phil 2:9)

We recount your wondrous deeds.

- in _____ they recounted or call to mind the wondrous deeds of the Lord
- of course when we _____ God we praise the Lord for all of His great _____ and His great deeds are many

(75:2) "At the set time that I appoint I will judge with equity.

- the "set time" _____ that the Lord has pre-ordained when He is going to _____
- here we see the sovereignty of God; if the Lord pre-ordains His _____ then the Lord must be a sovereign God
- this _____ is an issue with many people they do not think that the Lord will _____ them accountable for their _____
- many people are just living their lives without considering the _____ of the Lord
- this is a scary way to live life because eternity is on the line

- the Lord is a righteous _____, and He will judge with equity or with _____
- the Lord does this because He indeed is a righteous _____!
- the Lord judges with _____ or uprightness; so whatever the Lord does it is absolutely _____!

(75:3) When the earth totters, and all its inhabitants, it is I who keep steady its pillars.

- the _____ and all its inhabitants "totters"
- this word can also be translated "melt" or even "shake"
- this indicates that even during the time that this Psalm was written there was _____ with the people on the _____
- it seems that the inhabitants of the earth are really _____ now (protests at hospitals, people upset about this or that)
- but as I look back on the last 30 years, they have always been shaking
- I think back to the war in the Middle East, I think of Y2K, I think of the 2008 bank crisis; all of these things had people shaking or in turmoil
- but do you see the _____ of God here?
- the Lord keeps the _____ of the earth steady when life is out of control

- from your perspective, see that the Lord is in _____ over all the earth – He holds its pillars firm!

- if the Lord is not sovereign then you have much to worry about but relax because God _____ in charge!

- we can find _____ in the Lord who created us and who also sustains the universe for His _____

Psalm 104:5 He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.

- we are to _____ or give thanks to God because 1) His name is _____, 2) He is a upright _____ and 3) He is sovereign over _____ things

2) (75:4-8) Proudful Are Punished

(75:4) I say to the boastful, 'Do not boast,' and to the wicked, 'Do not lift up your horn;

- here we have the Lord speaking and He speaks to those who _____

- those who boast and are proudful, they are commanded not to _____

- the boasting here is _____ boasting about one's self and in one's achievements but remember Christians are called to boast in the _____ (Jer 9:24,25)

- but then God speaks directly to the _____ and commands them not to _____ up their "horn"

- the horn is a symbol of _____ with reference to animals

- let us compare two animals here

- think of a rhinoceros and compare him to a hippopotamus

- that horn on a rhinoceros is dangerous and looks intimidating

- but if you look at a hippopotamus and you want him for Christmas because he is so _____

- even think about our local hunters around here, nobody wants a _____ rack from a moose or a deer

- nobody wants to hang on their wall two small stubs -- kind of like the rack that Max the dog had on his head in the movie "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas"

- that kind of _____ is not intimidating at all

- but if you look at the rack of a big moose you say, "WOW!"

- the "horn" symbolizes _____ and dominance in this Psalm

- when the Lord commands the _____ not to lift up their horn, He is saying that they are not to be _____ before the Lord

- they are not to think that they are self-sufficient and not need His _____

(75:5) do not lift up your horn on high, or speak with haughty neck."

- the Lord continues speaking with this command for the _____

- they are not to _____ arrogantly

- they are not to be a people who say "look at me and what I have done" or "look how great I am"

- the Lord is clear here, He demands _____ before Him!

(75:6) For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up,

- this verse flat on its face might sound confusing but the New Living Translation helps us understand this verse

^{NLT} **Psalm 75:6** For no one on earth-- from east or west, or even from the wilderness-- should raise a defiant _____.

- this verse is teaching us that no one on the _____ should be proudful before the Lord

- no one on the earth, from the farthest _____ or from the farthest West, should be _____ or arrogant before the Lord

- there are many people who _____ themselves in their intelligence and self-proclaimed wisdom but this pride shows a _____ of knowledge of who God is and they stand in disobedience to His Holy _____.

(75:7) but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.

- the Lord is a God who _____ which was already said in Psalm 75:2!

- the Lord exalts or _____ up the humble and puts down or _____ low the proudful

- you cannot help but think of the teachings of _____ when you hear this Psalm

Matthew 18:3-4 and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like _____, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

- Jesus calls people to act like _____ and this does not mean that you do not grow up and act immature
- this means that you _____ consider yourself like a child
- a child had no status in the eyes of Jews and in the New Testament time, they were insignificant
- so Jesus calls His disciples (and us) to act in humility towards one another and consider oneself insignificant in comparison to the _____ of God!

(75:8) For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup with foaming wine, well mixed, and he pours out from it, and all the wicked of the earth shall drain it down to the dregs.

- now we hear about a _____ in the hand of the Lord
- the use of "cup" may remind you of: "my cup overflows", or of a cup of _____ from the Lord
- but there is a more common use of "cup" in the Old Testament it is related to the cup of the _____ of God
- to drink from this cup means is to experience the punishment for _____
- Jesus also _____ from the cup of wrath of God in our place

Matthew 26:39 And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this _____ pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."

- Jesus took this _____ and although it was a cup of wrath for Jesus, it was a blessing for us
- Jesus takes the _____ for our sin so that we can have _____ and also we are made pure and blameless in the sight of God
- we are given the _____ of Christ or the blamelessness of Christ in the eyes of God because of Christ's _____!

3) (75:9-10) Parting of the Wicked

(75:9) But I will declare it forever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

- Asaph goes back to where he started!
- this Psalm started out with _____ to the Lord and recounting the great _____ of God
- Now Asaph declares again the _____ of God and sings _____ to God
- this Psalm _____ with worship and _____ with worship of the Lord
- How eager are you to praise the Lord?
- how willing are you to _____ the greatness of God to Dryden?
- how eager are you to _____ and praise the Lord?
- I pray we are all _____ to make the Lord known and call to mind the wondrous works of God throughout our _____

Psalm 145:1-2 I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name _____ r and ever. ² Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

(75:10) All the horns of the wicked I will cut off, but the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up.

- Asaph picks up the idea of "_____ " again!
- _____ kinds of people have horns here because like we talked about in Psalm 50 there are only two types of people
- there are the _____ and the _____
- the _____ of the wicked will be cut off
- meaning that they will be humbled, brought low and _____ by God
- but the horns of the righteous will be _____ up or they will be exalted
- Psalm 75 ends with the reminder that the _____, those who reject the Lord and exalt themselves, will be _____

- this Psalm also ends with the reminder that those who are _____ before the Lord will be _____
- those who are humble, leaning upon God's _____ for mercy, will be lifted up!

Application

1) Recount the Wondrous Deeds of God

- this Psalm starts out with a double command to _____ God and also says that they are to _____ or declare the wondrous deeds of God

- sometimes we do not _____ the mighty deeds of the Lord as much as we should
- then I got thinking about all the wondrous deeds of the Lord and I just looked the highlights found in the book of Genesis and _____
- you can do this too, just open your Bible and write down all the great things the Lord has done in every book of the _____ that you read!
- it is quite simple and now all we need to do is to go and do it!

In Genesis and Exodus I saw _____ Wondrous Deeds of the Lord

1. Genesis 1-2 – Creation

- in these two chapters we see the glory and the sovereignty of God
- God makes His creation out of _____ and by the power of His word
- if someone denies God's existence they can never answer the question "how can something come out of nothing"
- they are left to going down the science fiction belief that aliens planted life on this earth!
- but Genesis 1-2 declare God is a powerful creator over the universe

2. Genesis 6-9 – The Flood

- here in these 4 chapters we see the _____ of God
- the Lord is sorrowful that He has made humans and is going to destroy them with a flood, but Noah finds grace in the eyes of the Lord and the Lord remembers Noah!
- the Lord punishes sin but the Lord is gracious to His people _____

3. Exodus 7-12 – The 10 Plagues upon Egyptians

- Exodus 7:14-25 The Water into Blood – they could not drink water from the Nile
- Exodus 8:1-15 The _____ – they were everywhere and this freaked out the Egyptians
- Exodus 8:16-19 _____ – the gnats were on all animals and beasts
- Exodus 8:20-32 _____ – they were everywhere
- Exodus 9:1-7 The Egyptian _____ Dies – wiping out some of Egyptian food supply

- Exodus 9:8-12 Boils – these were painful to the body
- Exodus 9:13-35 Hail – this would damage the Egyptian crops
- Exodus 10:1-20 Locusts – they would eat the remains of the Egyptian crops
- Exodus 10:21-29 Darkness – how crazy would it be to have darkness during the day?
- Exodus 12:29-32 Death of the Firstborn – those that did not celebrate the Passover and put blood over the door experienced the death of their firstborn

4) Exodus 14 –The Lord _____ His people out of Egypt

- and they cross over the Red Sea on dry ground

5) Exodus 15:22-27 – Bitter water is made _____ at Marah

6) Exodus 16 – The Lord provides _____ from heaven to the people of God

7) Exodus 17:1-7 – The Lord provides water from the _____

8) Exodus 19:1-20:21 – God reveals His glory on the _____ Sinai with fire and gives His commandments to His people

- after hearing all the wondrous works of God who here is not encouraged?
- the Lord has given us His _____ to remind us of all His great and powerful works
- but God's greatest work of all is the _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ
- Jesus emptied himself and took the form of the a _____
- Jesus showed us true love and service
- Jesus served us by going to the _____ and taking the punishment for _____
- Jesus, by means of His _____ upon the Cross, _____ the authority of sin over our lives
- because of _____ work not only are we free from sin we are also forgiven of our sin
- we are _____ from sin and forgiven of our sin through Christ alone; Give _____ to God!

- today if you know _____, the most important wondrous deed is the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ
- remind yourself daily of God's great work through the _____ Jesus Christ
- if you are outside of Jesus Christ, know that these works done by the Lord reveal that you _____ Jesus Christ
- if we had no sin and were _____, we would not need Jesus therefore He would not have needed to come and die for _____
- but we are all _____, we all have rebelled and we all have _____ God by our sin
- look to _____ and cry out to Him that He would forgive your sin and _____ done against God
- leave your sin now, it is not joyful, and it offers you no joy because rebellion against _____ only brings agony
- How do I know that? This is from personal experience and also the _____ tells me so!

2) Don't Raise Your Horn Against the Lord!

- can you see the obvious theme in this Psalm concerning _____ and arrogance?
- we see an _____ God who is over all creation and holds the whole world in His hands
- and we see humanity who is _____ and can be humbled in a moment
- we see this _____ arrogance and the judgment of God against pride in the life of King Nebuchadnezzar
- Nebuchadnezzar revealed his true _____ and attitude in Daniel 4

Daniel 4:30-33 and the king answered and said, "Is not this great Babylon, which __ have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?" ³¹ While the words were still in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, "O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: The kingdom has departed from you, ³² and you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. And you shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and seven periods of time shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will." ³³ Immediately the word was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven from among men and ate grass like an ox, and his body was wet with

the dew of heaven till his hair grew as long as eagles' feathers, and his nails were like birds' claws.

- there has been a lot of talk about selfishness in Covid, but I would encourage us to look away from other people to examine our own _____ and selfishness
- because if you are thinking of everyone else who is _____ and prideful and never look to yourself then you yourself are prideful
- it is very easy to point out _____ in others but it is very hard to live in humility before the Lord and towards all people
- _____ is in us all, it was in Adam and Eve and then in Cain and then in every human being except the Lord Jesus Christ
- we see in this Psalm how raising your _____ against the Lord does not go well
- resist prideful thoughts
- pray that God would _____ you to be humble
- above all look to the _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ His death and resurrection and be transformed by the _____ of the Holy Spirit

