

Glad to be Planted in the Congregation



NOTES

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Psalm 92: A psalm. A song. For the Sabbath day.

It is good to praise the **LORD** and make music to Your name, **O Most High**, ²proclaiming Your love in the morning and Your faithfulness at night, ³to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp.

⁴For You make **me glad** by Your deeds, **LORD**; I sing for *joy* at what Your hands have done. ⁵How great are Your works, **LORD**, how profound Your thoughts! ⁶Senseless people do not know, fools do not understand, ⁷that though the wicked spring up like grass and all evildoers flourish, they will be destroyed forever.

⁸But You, **LORD**, are forever exalted.

⁹For surely Your enemies, **LORD**, surely Your enemies will perish; all evildoers will be scattered. ¹⁰You have exalted **my horn** [strength] like that of a wild ox; fine oils have been poured on me. ¹¹**My eyes** have seen the defeat of **my adversaries**; **my ears** have heard the rout of **my wicked foes**. ¹²**The righteous** will *flourish* like a palm tree, they will *grow* like a cedar of Lebanon; ¹³planted in the house of the **LORD**, they will *flourish* in the courts of our **God**. ¹⁴They will still *bear fruit* in old age, they will *stay fresh and green*, ¹⁵proclaiming, “The **LORD** is upright; He is my **Rock**, and there is no wickedness in Him.

Sabbath Focus

LORD (x7), **Most High** (exclusive One), our **God**, my **Rock** and His qualities: love, faithfulness, deeds, doings, works, thoughts. Giving strength, enabling flourishing, growth, fruit-bearing, freshness, evergreen state of the praising, planted and proclaiming righteous. I AM Who I AM (ego ami - the self-existent One)

Context and Structure

^ Symmetry of the Psalm builds in 1-7; punctuates with declaration in 8; and settles to confirm, personalize and finalize in 9-15. Written in 4th Book of Psalms (Ps 90-106): historical psalms (Moses and exodus), royal psalms (Davidic), and this sabbath confessional hymn (with Ps 90 & 91 these are refuge psalms).

Just Two Types of People

Marks of the Ungodly: Senseless, fools, wicked, enemies, evil doers, short-term or temporary "success," adverse to the righteous, and destined to perish). *Distant from and ultimately dismissed by God.*

Marks of the Godly: Know good, make music, proclaim love and faithfulness of God, full of praise, glad (blessed, happy), righteous, joyful, overwhelmed in efforts to comprehend, puzzled about flourishing fools, gifted and strengthened, anointed, saved from enemies, sustained in flourishing, ever-growing, fresh, green and fruitful, planted in good company, and secure in foundation (the rock). *Devoted to God through Jesus Christ.*

*2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

A Walk through the Psalm

a. Eager to Praise (1-4): "Goodness and fit" of praise; Pattern (am/pm); gladness; the profound Who and the Works of God.

b. Envy is Unwarranted (5-9): Idols of destruction and substitutes for God; temporal allurements and attachments; buyer-beware and certainty of comparison traps

c. Enduring Benefits (10-15): The exalted God, exalts and anoints

- **Divine Strengthening Oxen Principle:** Where no oxen are, the trough is clean; but increase comes by the strength of an ox. Proverbs 14:4 (see Joseph Sangi; 1 Tim 6:17; Jer 29:10 vs. Is 22:13)
- **Divine Empowerment and Daily Anointing**
- **Divine Positioning: Charges** (imputes) righteousness to our account and our **clothes us** in His righteousness through the work of **Christ on the Cross** (Ps 132:9; Is 11:5; 59:17; **61:1-3, 10** - Lk 4:16f).¹
- **Divine Planting in the company of the beloved** (in house and courts of God): **Palms & Cedars**
- **Divine Noticing, Nurturing and Sustaining** of our flourishing
- **Divine Foundation:** He is upright in ways, solid infrastructure (**Rock**), and holy presence (absence of wickedness)

Essence of message: *It is good to praise the LORD.* He is our source of gladness and joy; we are the objects of His love and faithfulness. Using the markers in this psalm, we do well to discern whether we are amongst the godless or godly (there are promised destinies for both). The "reward systems" of the world are not as they seem (temporary flourishing vs eternal flourishing): Be not deceived. The benefits and benedictions from our relationship with Jesus Christ are many. The psalm invites us to worship the LORD together, to depend on Him, to grow in our dedication to the Lord Jesus Christ (to set ourselves apart from the world, the flesh and the evil one) and flourish, to glorify and enjoy Him forever. *It is good to praise the LORD.*

¹ "Your love covers the multitude of my sins. So, when I am fully aware of my sin, when before the justice of heaven only wrath is pronounced upon me, then You are the only Person to whom I can escape. If I try to cover myself against the guilt of sin and the wrath of heaven, I will be driven to madness and despair. But if I rely on You to **cover my sins**, I shall find peace and joy. You suffered and died on the cross to **shelter us** from our guilt and take upon Yourself the wrath that we deserve. **Let me rest under You**, and may You **transform me** into Your likeness. (Soren Kierkegaard)