**Historical Praise Psalms 105, 106, 78**

This is our last sermon from the Psalms. Next time: Ecclesiastes

1. Psalms of lament (complaint)

A call to God for Help in times of struggle. A psalmist is feeling fear, loss, sorrow

To be used in our personal devotions. Ex Psalm 73, Psalm 42

2. Imprecatory Psalms Calls for God to come to our aid and to judge his enemies.

Psalm 35 Psalm 69 Psalm 109 Useful in our personal prayer life.

3. Psalms of Praise: A call to praise God. Used in worship.

Psalm 19 Psalm 100 Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Psalm 147-148

4. Psalms of Confession. Also good for public worship. Psalm 51 & 32

5. Wisdom Psalms: like Proverbs. Psalm 1, 119, 37,112,127-128

6. Royal Psalms and Messianic Psalms Psalm 22 Messiah crucified. Psalm 110 Messiah a priest of the order of Melchizedek. Psalm 118

7. Historical Psalms. Psalmist recalls the great deeds of God. Psalm105-106 (and 78)

This week: Historical Psalms.

The purpose of historical Psalms is two-fold.

1. To remember the mighty deeds of God and to give him glory.

2. To remind us of our human failings as a warning against not relying on God.

Ps 105:1-5

What is our objective this morning? It is to “tell the nations of all God’s wonderful acts” in our lives. It is to “remember the wonders he has done.” For us.

God has worked miracles. Just look around! It is a miracle that I am what I am, and I am what I am because of God.

Therefore, what ought we to do? v. 4 “seek his face always.”

Ps 105:6-7 Who should remember and declare his wondrous deeds?

Who are “his servants” the “descendants of Abraham, his chosen one, the children of Jacob?” We are. Galatians 3:29 Gal 3:7 Those who have faith are children of Abraham. Romans 9:8-9 It is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham’s offspring.

Everything the psalmist says about Israel in this poem applies equally, or perhaps even moreso to us!

Psalm 105:8-15

God will not forget his promise to you!!!

v. 9 God keeps his promises!!! (He said to David: You will never fail to have a king on the throne. He said to us: I will never leave you or forsake you. (Deut 31:6-8, Heb 13:7) He said to us If we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and his blood cleanses us from all sin!

v. 11 To you I will give the land of Canaan. God said this to Abraham more than 500 years before it happened. But it happened. God gave the Promised Land to his descendants.

And God will give to you what he promised. And surely, I will be with you always, to the very end of the age (Matt 28:20)

You will reap a harvest if you do not give up (Gal 6:9)

God is one who keeps his promises to his people.

What promises has God kept to you?

v. 12 They were but few in number, but God said to Abraham they will be like the sand of the seashore and the stars in the sky.

We came here as three people. God will multiply our number. Do you believe God’s promise concerning his kingdom? By God’s grace we will be a church of 100, of 300 here in Merced!

Why do I believe it? Because God has already worked mightily here!

Rob Skinner asked Jan and me if we ever doubted that God would do great things here in Merced. No!

Daniel 7:27 His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom. Daniel 7:18 The saints will possess it forever… yes, forever and ever! And Daniel 2:44 God will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed… it will crush all those kingdoms (Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome)… it will endure forever.

Psalm 105:16-22

It looked bad. In fact, for a while, it looked REALLY bad. Joseph was sold as a slave in Egypt. He ended up in prison, falsely accused. But in the words of Joseph

Genesis 50:20 Joseph to his brothers: “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good, to accomplish what is now being done,”

We have had some setbacks. Some we reached out to turned against God, and some we studied with chose not to serve God, but God uses and God will use even the setbacks for his glory if we, like Joseph, will remain faithful.

Do you believe this?

Psalm 105:23-38 Plagues which led to deliverance.

Jesus is the second Moses, who, after many plagues in our lives, has led us out of our own personal Egypt, and our own form of slavery to our own Pharaoh.

v. 27 Their enemies and former persecutors gave them silver and gold in abundance.

Do you believe that God can do this again? Will he do it again in our lives?

This is the purpose of an historical Psalm. To make us remember God’s miraculous deeds, and to cause us to believe that God will do great things.

Psalm 105:39-45 He gave Israel the land of the nations—the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizites, the Girgashites, and all those other ites.

He brought his people out of captivity with rejoicing!

His chosen ones with shouts of joy!

He gave them the land of the nations.

Nearly 20 have been baptized in two years!! How many more will escape captivity?

Illustration: The churches in Indonesia. They do not realize that what God has done for them is not logically possible.

Legalized them

Gave them a school

Gave them a free building on top of a parking garage

Converted the wife of one of the most powerful men in Indonesia who protects them when anti-Christian riots happen.

This is us, to some extent. We asked for God to give us a place, and he gave us this place for $50/month.

We came here with just three people, and we have grown 9-fold.

God did these amazing things for Israel in the desert and elsewhere, and he will do similar things today if we only believe.

v. 45 But let us remember to keep his precepts.

Psalm 106:1-5 This is the point of the historical Psalms

Who can proclaim his mighty acts? We can!!!

Psalm 106:6-12

v. 6-7 We blew it big time, and there were consequences. Let’s be real about that.

But… v. 8 But God delivered us nevertheless. Not because we were so awesome. Right? No. God will do great things in the Central Valley for his name’s sake.

He will be planting a church in Stockton, most likely in 2025. Just wait and see. But not because of our sinless awesomeness. Not because we are so smart or so committed, or so spiritual, but for his name’s sake. Ps 106 reminds us that the glory is ALWAYS HIS!!!

v. 9 He did crazy stuff!!! He dried up the Red Sea! He converted the most recalcitrant sinner. He turned poverty and social injustice into a program for this community for his glory.

v. 12. Why did all this happen? For his gory… But also because we believed his promises.

I ask you right now: Do you believe that God will part the Red Sea one more time. That he will turn the hills into plains, and create verdant land where there was only desert?

I do!!!!! And I am not just blowing hot air.

Ps 106:13-23

It got rough. The people, for a time, were faithless.

1 Cor 10:6-13 Do not be like them. These things occurred for our sake, so that we would learn from their mistakes. Let us do so!!!

v. 13 Let us not forget the miracles God has already done!!!

v. 14 Let us not give in to our sinful desires—putting God to the test.

Brothers and sisters: Remember this!!!!! Don’t do it!

v. 16 Let us not grumble against or rebel against our leaders. Even if we do not always agree. Be open, but NEVER rebel or secretly undermine.

v. 17 We do not want any fire coming down to consume the divisive!

Amen?

v. 19-22 Let us remember what God has already done to save us, so that we do not look back to the world!

v. 23 Here, Moses is Jesus, as Jesus is the second Moses. Moses is a prefigure of Christ.

Psalm 106: 24-48

Even if we forsake God, he will not forsake us. 2 Tim 2:11-13

Assignment: Study Psalm 78 and make practical application in your life.

Group activity: Share with someone the wonders he has done in your life. What has God done, despite your stubbornness and sin? What can you see God doing this hear or the next few years?