



my grandma time

...doing simple things together!

Week 21, Day 1 --- 2 Samuel 22-23 - Psalm 57

Week 21, Day 2 --- Psalm 95 - Psalm 97-99

Week 21, Day 3 --- 1 Chronicles 21-22 - 2 Samuel 24 - Psalm 30

Week 21, Day 4 --- Psalm 108-110

Week 21, Day 5 --- 1 Chronicles 23-25

Week 21, Day 6 --- Psalm 131 - Psalm 138-139 - Psalm 143-145

Week 21, Day 7 --- 1 Chronicles 26-29 - Psalm 127

Week 21, Day 1 --- 2 Samuel 22-23 - Psalm 57

The psalms of David appear in other places besides the book of Psalms. When anything significant happened in David's life, he wrote a psalm. There is a part of Psalm 22 that has always bothered me. David claims that God has treated him well because of his righteousness, yet at this time in his life David has committed adultery with Bathsheba and has clearly sinned against God. As I thought about it today I think what David is saying is that in leaving Jerusalem and dealing with Absalom he did right. Remember that David was attacked and insulted as he left the city. An angry and unrighteous king could have had many people killed on his way out. In fact, they could have destroyed the city and left nothing for Absalom to return to. David didn't do that. He treated the people with mercy. I do think that God honored that.

David uses the images that he knows to attempt to describe God. Think about the images he uses and the characteristics of God he is trying to describe.

- How would you describe God?
- How would you describe His power?
- How would you describe His love?
- What images would you use today that might communicate with the same emotional impact?

Week 21, Day 2 --- Psalm 95 - Psalm 97-99

I began reading the first psalm and immediately began singing in my head. Many of the songs that we sing on Sunday mornings are based on the psalms. This happened to be a very familiar one with a melody I could remember. Singing to God is an important part of our worship. God commands us to sing. There is something that happens inside us when we sing that connects us with God.

- Did anyone in your family sing?
- Have you ever been a singer?
- Have there been any opportunities to sing while you've been in custody?

Week 21, Day 3 --- 1 Chronicles 21-22 - 2 Samuel 24 - Psalm 30

This is a difficult passage because there are significant differences between the two accounts that cannot be explained or explained away. There are other things that are very clear. Israel was beginning to place confidence in David and his army rather than in God. They were beginning the drift away from God that

had been repeated over and over in Judges. David is warned, but does not consult God before having the census taken. David sins, but then does the right thing as king and takes responsibility for his own sin. In my experience, this is an uncommon thing for a leader to do. David is right to choose to trust in God's mercy. The punishment could have been much worse. Finally, David submits to God and the punishment stops. The purchase of the threshing floor is very important. Giving to God something that belongs to someone else is not sacrifice and it is sacrifice that is needed. When David purchases the threshing floor he is buying the location for the future temple.

David has many positive qualities, but he is human and he sins often.

- What character qualities does David demonstrate that you would like to see developed in yourself?
- Where are you and David alike and in need of change to be more like Jesus?

Week 21, Day 4 --- Psalm 108-110

What a contrast between Psalm 109 and Psalm 110. Psalm 109 is personal to David. It seems that he is at the end of his life and as king he has accumulated many enemies. David's feelings are strong and he desires vengeance, but does not take action. Instead, he calls on God to extract vengeance from his enemies. Read Acts 2:29-36 to see who David is talking about in Psalm 110. He is talking about a very different kind of king.

Week 21, Day 5 --- 1 Chronicles 23-25

These three chapters are filled with names. They describe a system that we would strongly rebel against today. If you were a son in the family of Levi, then you were going to serve God. Your specific assignment after the time of David would be the results of the casting of lots. Casting lots could be done in a variety of ways. An example today would be drawing straws to see who gets the short straw. The difference is that God makes it clear in the Old Testament that He guides through what appears to be chance. So, David made the assignments and they continued for generations. That is why they are recorded here.

- What was your father's occupation?
- What was your grandfather's occupation?

Week 21, Day 6 --- Psalm 131 - Psalm 138-139 - Psalm 143-145

There are many ways to describe God. As you read through these psalms think about the words that David uses to describe God over and over again.

From DayBreaks <<http://daybreaksdevotions.wordpress.com/2011/06/14/daybreaks-for-061511-another-view-of-omnipresence/>>

Omnipresence is one of the attributes that we ascribe to Divinity (God). It is simply the concept that God is always everywhere. The Psalmist suggested this in Psalm 139 when he contemplated the nature of God: *"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle*

*on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," 12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you."*

Depending on what we're doing at the moment, we either are grateful for God's omnipresence, or we wish we'd never heard of it (usually when we are involved with sin). But, whether we are grateful or not, it doesn't really make any difference in the fact of His omnipresence. He's wherever we are whether we like it or not. This is what we usually mean when we talk about His omnipresence – the concept that no matter where we go in this world – we cannot escape His presence.

I am not a physicist, but I understand that things exist in three dimensions –physical things exist in the dimensions of space. I believe (I could be wrong about this) that there are really more than three dimensions – because we also exist in time, as well as space. I believe that time has been referred to as the fourth dimension. When we consider what that means in terms of God's omnipresence, the concept is staggering. As Calvin Miller put it: "...Christ's omnipresence. I cannot go where he is not. My future cannot be Christ-less. I have him with me even as I move into the future."

I am not sure why this concept struck me so strongly. I've read the promise how He will never leave us many times. I have quoted the 23rd Psalm – that describes how the Lord goes with us even through the valley of the shadow of death - more times than I can count. Did you catch the significance of the phrase in Miller's writing? "My future cannot be Christ-less." That is the meaning of the omnipresence of God. He isn't limited to three dimension of existence. God's omnipresence extends beyond space through time. As His child, I will never be Christ-less!

Copyright 2001 by Galen C. Dalrymple.

- What do these psalms tell you about God?
- What do they tell you about your own relationship with God?

Week 21, Day 7 --- 1 Chronicles 26-29 - Psalm 127

We have reached the end of David's life. I think at this point that David has two desires. The first is to ensure that the temple will get built. He makes that the focus of his final speech to the people and takes a great offering to ensure that the temple project is funded. His second desire is to transfer rule without bloodshed. God has made it clear that Solomon is to be king and David communicates that to the people before he dies. So Solomon begins his reign before David dies. There is some blood shed as you will soon see, but Israel does not experience civil war.