# The Unfailing Love of the King Psalm 103

"We too may shake off gloom and apathy by reminding ourselves about the nature and work of God. When we think rightly about God and consider his grace, it engenders gratitude. If we aren't praising God truly, we aren't thinking about God rightly and deeply." **Tony Merida** 

We all suffer what some writers call "Gospel Amnesia". We forget that God is so incredibly good and gracious to us.

"With regard to the psalms, Jesus takes every syllable of these 150 hymns in his hand, places them in his mouth and sings them to the ears of his Father." – Chad Bird

"Jesus leads his church in celebrating the forgiveness of our sins because he himself has won that forgiveness for us." – Christopher Ash

"He does not deal with us according to our sin, nor repay us according to our iniquities." **Psalm 103:10** 

# I. <u>The Call for Personal Adjustment: Forget Not All His Benefits</u> Psalm 103:1-5

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not his benefits..."

Psalm 103:1-2

"We need to make sure we're clear about this and avoid the mistake of seeking or wanting blessings but not looking to the Lord Jesus Himself."

### Sinclair Ferguson

- Forgiveness: "who forgives all your iniquity."
- Healing: "He heals all your diseases."

"For one who has died has been set free from sin."

Romans 6:7

"Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to says, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgiven sins' – he said to the paralytic – 'I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.'"

#### Mark 2:9-10

• Redemption: "who redeems your life from the pit." (vs. 4)

"I shall ransom them from the power of Sheol; I shall redeem them from Death. O Death, where are your plagues? O Sheol, where is your sting? Compassion is hidden from my eyes." **Hosea 13:14** 

"When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' 'O death where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?' Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

- 1 Corinthians 15:54-58
- Exaltation: "who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy." (Psalm 103:4b)
- Renewal: "who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

his mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,

'I will hope in him.'" Lamentations 3:22-24

"Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." John 4:13-14

# II. The Call for Horizontal Adjustment: Remember God's Compassion for His people. Psalm 103:6-19

"The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not chide, nor will he keep his anger forever." **Psalm 103:6-8** 

Redemptive history shows us: Our God is a consistently holy God who loves to show compassion and forgiveness to His people when they repent.

"The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."

#### Exodus 34:6-7

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us...We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God."

#### A.W. Tozer

#### The height of God's love:

"For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;" (Psalm 103:11)

#### The breadth/width of God's love:

"As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:12)

### The Depth of God's love:

"As a father has compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust." (Ps. 103:13-14)

## The Length of God's love for us:

"But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting to those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children to those who keep his covenant and remember his commandments. The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all." (Ps. 103:17-19)

"In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." 1 John 4:9-10

## III. The Call for Vertical Adjustment: Consider the Perspective of Angels. Psalm 103:20-22

"Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you might ones who do His word, obeying the voice of his word! Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will! Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!"

#### Psalm 103:20-22

God's angels have had one mission which is to serve God in the deliverance of His people through Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 1:14: "Are they not ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?"

Revelation 19:10 "Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.'"