

Men of Unity 2017
A Psalm For Every Season (Palm Sunday)
“His Steadfast Love Endures Forever”
Psalm 118

April 8, 2017

Let those who fear the Lord say, “His steadfast love endures forever”. (Psalm 118:4)

I. His Steadfast Love Endures Forever

- a. How would you describe your love for your spouse, child, or parent?
- b. Psalm 118 opens and closes with these human words that attempt to describe the power of God’s love for us.
- c. First of all God’s love is matchless. There is nothing that we know of that can be compared to it.
- d. His love is described in three parts: Steadfast, Enduring, Forever
 1. Steadfast (*hesed*) – loyal love, merciful, showing loving-kindness everywhere
 2. Endures – this is the “lasting love of devotion” similar to what we see in a healthy marriage
 3. Forever (eternity) – a duration of time that cannot be measured
- e. In essence, God’s love is timeless, forever present, and always forward thinking.

II. God’s Love is Demonstrated in Protective Action

- a. Since God’s love is timeless then his action in that love is also without end.
- b. Psalm 118 answers the question, *What can man do to me?* (v.6). People can hurt you, cause emotional pain, steal from you, and cause physical harm, but God will outlast any effort to permanently harm God’s people.
- c. Love, according to God is reflected in His character, His Holy Word, and displayed in His action.
- d. Psalm 118 illustrates God’s love as a protective force. He is timely to help. (vv.10-11)
 1. God’s love is placed **on** the righteous for their deliverance, which causes them to sing a song of victory. (vv. 14-18)
- e. God’s love is proven to be victorious over hate and evil, because love wins every time.

III. God’s Love is Demonstrated in Salvation for Humanity

- a. In verses 19-20, it is to the glory of our faith that our King Jesus proceeds us in all things. He proceeds in suffering and victory.
- b. We also see a foreshadowing of the Jesus as cornerstone that the builders rejected. Who were the builders? *The men in power in Israel*. (Read Matthew 21:42; 1 Pet 2:6-9)
- c. What we read in verses 24-27, are the same words shouted by the crowds as Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a colt. *Hosanna* (Save, pray!)
- d. In the O.T. days the people during pilgrim feasts and Passover, would shout *blessed be he who enters or we bless you*. This was a planned response.
- e. What occurred on the streets of Jerusalem as Jesus entered was not planned or orchestrated. On that day God’s “loving reality” broke through all symbols and traditions.
- f. There was a shout from God’s creation that acknowledged here is our King!
- g. The *horns of the altar* (fugitives seeking asylum clinged to the horns for forgiveness and protection. The arms of the cross became the horns of the altar. (Read Amos 3:14)

IV. Thoughts and Consideration

- a. Psalm 118 presents evidence of our coming King and it assures us that God love is forever present.
- b. What will you do with this timeless love? What will you do with a love that you cannot escape?
- c. Do not treat this Palm Sunday as just another Palm Sunday, receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior afresh? Jesus came to save.
- d. Let us sing along with those who were on the streets that day, Hosanna, Save Pray!