

Motivation to Serve Jehovah

1 Pet. 3:10-12

I. Occasion of the Text:

- A. Psa. 34:1-22 (Note: vs. 12-16).
- B. 1 Sam. 21:10-15 - David fled to Achish.

II. Confidence of David in Jehovah:

- A. Psa. 34:1-3 - David praises Jehovah
- B. Psa. 34:5, cf. vs. 2; Matt. 5:5 - Meek
- C. Eph. 5:19-20 - Giving thanks

III. David's Experience: Psa. 34:4-6

- A. Vs. 4 - "I sought Jehovah"
- B. Vs. 5 - "They looked unto Him"
- C. Vs. 6 - "This poor man cried"

IV. A Call to Seek Jehovah: Psa. 34:7-10

- A. Vs. 7 - Angel of Jehovah delivered
- B. Vs. 8 - "Blessed is the man that taketh refuge in Him."
- C. Vs. 9 - "No want to them that fear Him"
- D. Vs. 10 - Those who "seek Jehovah shall not want any good thing."

V. A Call to Proper Conduct:

- A. Vs. 11 – Will “teach you the fear of Jehovah”
- B. Vs. 12 – What man desires life?
 - 1. Vs. 13 – “Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.”
 - 2. Vs. 14 – “Depart from evil, and do good; Seek peace, and pursue it.”

VI. Blessing and Curse: Psa. 34:15-22

- A. Vs. 15 - Blessings
 - 1. Vs. 17 - Jehovah heard and delivered
 - 2. Vs. 18 – “Jehovah is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart”
 - 3. Vs. 22 - Jehovah redeems
 - 4. Vs. 22 - Redeemed shall not be condemned
- B. Vs. 16 - Curse
 - 1. Vs. 21 – “Evil shall slay the wicked”
 - 2. Vs. 21 – “They that hate the righteous shall be condemned.”



Making Proper Arrangements

As much as surroundings appear to change, man's spiritual needs are as they have always been and as such Peter's remedy in his time is applicable to our own: The apostle had revealed the assurance of judgment, saying, “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall be dissolved with fervent heat, and the earth and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing that these things are thus all to be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in *all* holy living and godliness, looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, by reason of which the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?” (2 Pet. 3:10-12).

Thus, the need for warning: “Ye therefore, beloved, knowing [these things] beforehand, beware lest, being carried away with the error of the wicked, ye fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him [be] the glory both now and forever. Amen” (2 Peter 3:17-18). ret

Danger of Ignorance

(i.e., Lack of Knowledge)

When the apostle Paul penned the epistle to the Corinthians he was very forthright in his admonitions, even as he said, “I would not, brethren, have you ignorant” (1 Cor. 10:11). The apostle Paul understood the dangers of ignorance, as it was recorded by Hosea, saying, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hos. 4:6). As a result, the words of Isaiah teem with meaning, when he said, “Therefore my people are gone into captivity for lack of knowledge; and their honorable men are famished, and their multitude are parched with thirst. Therefore Sheol hath enlarged its desire, and opened its mouth without measure; and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth among them, descend into it” (Isaiah 5:13-14).

The apostles were keen on the dangers that faced Christians in the first century and by extension the dangers that face Christians today. Paul told the Corinthians, “Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted (1 Cor. 10:6)... Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall” (10:12). Peter also warned, “But there arose false prophets also among the people, as among you also there shall be false teachers, who shall privily bring in destructive heresies, denying even the Master that bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their lascivious doings; by reason of whom the way of the truth shall be evil spoken of” (2 Peter 2:1-2). As Peter described these false teachers, he identified the same dire condition as was set forth by Hosea and Isaiah, i.e., “for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he also brought into

Staking Salvation on a Thief

The man is surely the most popular thief of all time. He has been the subject of countless sermons. He is the man upon whom millions have staked their salvation. You may ask, "Why would anyone stake their salvation on a thief?" It is really kind of strange, but it is what many have done. The thief is the man in Luke 23:39-43. He died alongside of Jesus.

He said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." There is no doubt about this man's eternal destiny. Jesus declared that the man would be with Him in Paradise. Saved! Case closed! But why is this man popular? It is because of what he did NOT DO. It is rather obvious that he did not come down from his cross to be baptized. And that's what folks are staking their salvation on! Jesus commanded baptism when He gave the great commission in Mark 16:16: "He who believes and is baptized shall be saved." But it is objected that "The thief was not baptized to be saved; therefore, I don't need to be baptized to be saved. I want to be saved like the thief was saved." Do you think that is the proper use of the story of the thief? If you do, I want you to think about another man—a rich young ruler. He is found in Matthew 19:16-22. This ruler asked, "What good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" After discussing God's commands with him, Jesus told him, "Go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven."

Have you ever heard anyone say, "I want to be saved according to what Jesus told this man"? Why does no one argue that way? I think you know why. However, to argue that you want to be saved according to what Jesus told the ruler makes every bit as much sense as arguing that you want to be saved like the thief. (Roger Bruner)

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R	G	E	H	J	E	H	O	V	A	H	E	A	R	T
U	P	N	K	R	A	E	F	A	Y	N	R	P	S	J
N	E	R	O	B	P	V	K	B	O	U	E	E	P	K
G	E	R	O	S	P	I	R	I	T	A	F	G	I	R
H	A	K	D	P	O	G	T	M	C	I	U	N	L	I
G	C	T	O	I	E	A	Y	E	L	I	G	K	N	G
P	R	A	H	R	V	R	U	L	L	H	E	H	E	H
U	I	B	E	I	B	A	E	E	E	E	E	Y	P	T
R	E	P	T	T	T	G	D	C	M	R	E	M	O	E
S	D	O	O	U	N	A	C	H	I	S	H	N	R	O
U	M	O	T	A	A	T	A	T	M	P	H	T	A	U
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I	T	M	I	U	T	V	A	L	L	A	D	A	E	C
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B	A	N	G	K	P	S	I	E	E	I	K	K	C	L
L	E	U	A	S	Y	M	D	E	S	N	O	S	U	A
E	O	E	V	I	L	E	S	D	O	G	O	O	D	N
S	P	R	A	I	S	E	S	E	R	V	L	G	N	R
S	A	M	U	E	L	D	E	S	I	R	E	O	O	E
E	U	G	N	O	T	E	T	I	R	T	N	O	C	T
D	E	L	I	V	E	R	E	D	F	L	E	D	Y	E

MOTIVATION	SERVE	DAVID	FLED
ACHISH	ABIMELECH	KING	GATH
SAMUEL	PRAISES	JEHOVAH	MEEK
BLESSED	INHERIT	GIVE	THANKS
PSALMS	HYMN	SPIRITUAL	SONG
SOUGHT	LOOKED	POOR MAN	CRIED
ANGEL	DELIVERED	REFUGE	FEAR
SPEAK	GOOD	THING	PROPER
CONDUCT	TEACH	DESIRE	LIFE
TONGUE	LIPS	GUILE	SPEAKING
DEPART	EVIL	DO GOOD	SEEK
PEACE	PURSUE IT	BROKEN	HEART
CONTRITE	REDEEMS	RIGHTEOUS	EARTH
SPIRIT	HELP	EAR OPEN	ETERNAL

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With Him is

Plenteous Redemption

Psalms 130:7

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Weekly Reading:

Psalm 32:1-11; 34:1-22; 52:1-9

Proverbs 3:1-35



Luke 16:19-31

Your Choice
Choose Wisely



Revelation 4:4

Facing Reality

In writing to those of Thessalonica, the apostle Paul spoke concerning the mystery of lawlessness and ultimately revealed the cause of those who perish, saying, "with all deceit of unrighteousness for them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God sendeth them a working of error, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be judged who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thess. 2:10-12).

Similar to what Paul said to those of Rome: "Know ye not, that to whom ye present yourselves as servants unto obedience, his servants ye are whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Romans 6:16). ret