

## Sing and Be Happy; Psalm 100:1-5

- I. Trust
  - a. "If the skies above you are grey, you are feeling so blue"
  - b. Grey Skies
    - i. After Joseph died, there was a new Pharaoh who was afraid of Israel and turned them into slaves
    - ii. Exodus 1:12–14 (ESV) 12 But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad. And the Egyptians were in dread of the people of Israel. 13 So they ruthlessly made the people of Israel work as slaves 14 and made their lives bitter with hard service, in mortar and brick, and in all kinds of work in the field. In all their work they ruthlessly made them work as slaves.
    - iii. Israel had not done anything to threaten Egypt, they had only had babies
    - iv. But Pharaoh is complete dread of the Israelites and orders the Egyptians to kill the Israelite babies
    - v. Can you imagine your neighbor coming to get your child to kill him?
    - vi. Our grey skies may be different today, but, to us, they are just as grey
  - c. Great Burdens
    - i. There is nothing so heavy as the personal burdens
    - ii. "If your cares and burdens seem great all the whole day through"
    - iii. Only when we look outside the individual sphere do we see others who may be hurting worse than we are
    - iv. This is not to minimize our burdens, but maybe to see its true form
    - v. This is not to compare our burdens, either
    - vi. But to recognize that we have help carrying our burdens
    - vii. In Galatians 5:16-26 Paul encourages us to live "in step with the Spirit"
    - viii. He gives us a list of behaviors that are not in step with the Spirit
    - ix. Galatians 6:1–2 (ESV) 1 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.
    - x. Bearing one another's' burdens is NOT pointing out their failings
    - xi. It is helping them through their temptations, through their suffering just as if you are being tempted or suffering with them
    - xii. Ask yourself, "how would I want someone to help me through this?" Then do that for others
  - d. "There's a silver lining that shines in the heavenly land. Look by faith and see it my friend. Trust in His promises, grand"
- II. Take Courage
  - a. "Take new courage we cannot tell what the morrow may bring"
  - b. Philippians 1:18–20 (ESV) <sup>18</sup> What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will

rejoice,<sup>19</sup> for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance,<sup>20</sup> as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

- c. Christianity is not a health and wealth religion
  - i. We are not promised health or wealth
  - ii. We are promised suffering and salvation
  - iii. We remember Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego
    - 1. God favored them and they were promoted to very prominent positions of leadership so that others were jealous
    - 2. They accused (accurately) the three of not bowing down to the large statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up
    - 3. The king was so angry with them he said, “who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?” (Daniel 3:15)
    - 4. Daniel 3:16–18 (ESV)<sup>16</sup> Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.<sup>17</sup> If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king.<sup>18</sup> But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”
  - iv. Do we have this kind of courage?
- d. Do not fear
  - i. We can accurately say that this phrase can be understood, “take courage”
  - ii. “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid”
  - iii. You have heard the phrase, “dead man walking”
  - iv. We are “live people dying”
  - v. Matthew 16:24 (ESV)<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
  - vi. Galatians 2:20 (ESV)<sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
  - vii. Galatians 5:24 (ESV)<sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
  - viii. Do not fear what man can do to you
- e. “Trust Him who leads you, He will keep your soul”

### III. Have Hope

- a. “If we hope and trust him each day, we shall have pleasure untold”
- b. Hope; a confident expectation in the resurrection of Jesus
  - i. Isaiah 42:1 (ESV)<sup>1</sup> Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

- ii. John the baptizer was at the Jordan baptizing Israelites for repentance and forgiveness when Jesus arrives
- iii. There is a crowd there watching as John immerses Jesus in the Jordan
- iv. All these people witness this event
- v. Matthew 3:16–17 (ESV) <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup> and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”
- vi. God declares to Israel that Jesus is the Messiah, the one they have hoped for
- vii. Romans 15:8–9 (ESV) <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup> and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.”
- viii. Romans 15:12–13 (ESV) <sup>12</sup> And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.” <sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.
- c. Therefore we “sing and be happy”!

#### IV. Sing and Be Happy

- a. Psalm 100:1–5 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! <sup>2</sup> Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! <sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! <sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.
- b. We sing and are happy because we trust God will keep his very precious and great promises
- c. We sing and are happy because God has given us new courage in His Son, Jesus
- d. We sing and are happy because God has given us hope (a confident expectation) of eternal life through the resurrection of Jesus