

Psalm 1:1-3 Part 2

Sunday 9/10/2023

I. Review

Psalms is probably one of the, if not the, key books in the Bible that you really need to have a working knowledge on. Last week we looked at the first three verses of Psalms chapter 1. We are going to finish up verse one today.

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

I want you to understand the real key of what the book of Psalms will do for you. Every book in the Bible has an intended purpose, and sometimes there are multiple intentions that God has for us. In Psalms it's dealing with the blessings of God in our lives, but those blessings are based on our walk with God through this life. I showed you how in the Bible God will always illustrate the principles, and in this case, you have two men in the Bible who we are specifically told had a walk with God. God always illustrates the principles, and we should pay attention when God specifically draws our attention to someone or something. I showed you how their lives are built into the stories of the Bible to show us one of the key doctrines of the Bible: the pre-millennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

God specifically mentions two people who had a walk with Him:

1. Enoch—Genesis 5 is a picture of the church. He walked with God and “he was not; for God took him.” He is a picture of what our life and walk with God should be, and then one day God is going to take us out through the rapture.
2. Noah—Genesis 6 represents the Nation of Israel and their walk and relationship with God. He is a picture of Israel going through the flood which is a picture of the judgment of God and a representation picture of the tribulation period.

We saw how the very stories in the Bible and the individuals in those stories not only teach us about a walk with God, but all the Bible protects the great key doctrines of the Word of God.

The key verse of Psalms is Psalm 118:8, “*It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.*” That's a great verse to memorize or have marked in your Bible.

A walk with God is simply going to depend on our walking in the light of the word of God. The key verse for our walk is 1 John 1:7, *“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”* A walk with God depends on our walking in the light of the Word of God.

II. What it Means to be in Agreement with God

The definitive verse for what a walk with God consists of is Amos 3:3: *“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”* Our being in agreement with God will actually be the key to everything in our relationship. It’s not bringing God into agreement with us, which is what a lot of God’s people want to do. Today the whole world wants to change the great eternal principles of God and make Him conform to what we want. It will never work that way, but rather God taking each one of us and transforming us through the word of God to be in agreement with Him. We know we do that by, as the Bible says over and over, getting the mind of Christ.

Salvation is our agreement with God on our spiritual condition and trusting Him as our personal savior. When we got saved, we entered into an agreement with God agreeing that:

1. We are sinners and come short of the glory of God
2. As a sinner, we deserve to die and go to hell
3. There is no other way to get to heaven other than the cross—the blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin

After salvation, we enter into another agreement with God. That agreement has to do with some things that, if we’re going to walk with God, we need to be in agreement on. God will always keep His end of the agreement. We get the idea that we have a real Biblical walk with God when in reality we do not.

1. We are told in 1 John 5:7 that on Earth there are three things that salvation is built on, and then we’re told that these three agree in one.

“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17—When we got saved, some things changed about us or were supposed to, and that’s part of the problem. Today we have a lot of God’s people who claim to be saved but nothing really changed about them. My ministry is to help you go from the baby steps of first being saved and develop them into a walk with God. We are a new creature in Christ.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

The devil will do everything to keep you from getting saved. He wants you to be steeped in religion and tradition doing a lot of things that look Christian, but he does not want you to come to the place in your life where you enter into an agreement with God about your salvation. If he

loses the first battle, he's now going to keep you from ever having a real walk with God. There might have been hundreds if not thousands of people throughout your life that you would have had the opportunity to bring to Christ if you had walked with God.

The Laodicean church period produces five false areas in Christianity today (the first three will lead to the last two):

1. False Bible—if you want the right Bible, you go to the book of Acts
2. False Church—you can find that in the book of Acts if you're looking for the real one
3. False Ministry—if you want the real one, go to Acts 11 or 20 or 2 Corinthians
4. False Relationship
5. False Walk

III. Christianity in the Laodicean Church Period

*“And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, **supposing** him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.” Luke 2:42-46*

Luke 2:42-46 is a direct picture of Christians in the Laodicean church period who have the five false areas of Christianity in their lives. The family of Jesus (a picture of Christianity) went a day's journey **supposing** He was with them when He was not. They're walking along and they actually think He is with them. How many people were with them? You've got Mary and Joseph and four or five other kids, and what parent doesn't take stock to see where their kids are? However, they go a whole day's journey and then notice they haven't seen Him. They turn around and go back, and we know that these two days represent the church age. On the third day they found Him in the temple (a picture of the Millennium; Ezekiel 40-48).

This is a picture of most of God's people who think they have a walk with God and suppose He's walking with them just like His family, but He's not, and they don't even know it. The key is Amos 3:3, *“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”*

I think agreements are very important written documents, and I think they're important among people, especially Christians. Proverbs 22:26 tells us that we better be sure before we enter into a deal with someone as verbal agreements don't always work. If you want to be in agreement with God, He wrote a Bible that tells you what the agreement is. At the Judgment Seat of Christ, it's not what we knew or didn't know but what we could have found out and chose not to. God gave us a written document laid out for everybody to be able to understand what we need to be in agreement on.

The greatest fact checker is the Bible. Compare what you say to what the Book says to see if you have a walk with God.

IV. Seven Major Areas you Must be in Agreement on to have a Walk with God

Learning to walk with God will simply be us seeing and understanding the 7 areas that need to be developed through our walk with God from the baby steps up to becoming like Enoch or Noah.

1. You have to be in agreement on the right Bible (Authorized King James Version)
 - a. There are two Bibles down through the history of the world:
 - God's Bible
 - The Devil's Bible
 - b. There are two lines of manuscripts out of the book of Acts
 - c. You cannot study to show yourself approved with any other Bible (2 Tim 2:15)
 - d. No other Bible can lay out any part of the Bible doctrinally, inspirationally, and historically
 - e. If you can get saved with another Bible, you will most definitely never grow with one
 - f. To walk in the light (that's the Word of God) as He is in the Light, you have to be in agreement with the Word of God (I John 1:7)

2. You have to be in agreement on the right doctrine
 - a. The right doctrine (teaching what is true) leads you to the right reproof (what is wrong) which leads you to the right correction (how to fix the problem) which leads you to the right instruction (how to keep it fixed) 2 Timothy 3:16
 - b. If you're in agreement with doctrine, can you lay out the 12 major Bible doctrines on salvation?
 - c. Being saved and a walk with God are two different things
 - d. How can two walk together except they be agreed?

3. You have to be in agreement on the right music
 - a. To be in agreement in the New Testament Church on music, you have to use the definitive verse on music in Colossians 3:16, *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*
 - b. Notice the key to music is the word of God dwelling in you. Music should be based on the doctrine of the Word of God
 - Asaph, David's Chief Musician, wrote 10 Psalms by name

4. You have to be in agreement with the right worship
 - a. The definitive verse on worship is John 4:24, *"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."*

- b. The Bible doesn't say we worship God in a worship service or with our tithes and offerings.
 - c. Worship is not something that you do, worship is something that you are
 - d. We worship God in our spirit and His truth
 - e. There's your fundamental basis for a walk with God. You and your Bible and its doctrine aligning your spirit with God's truth, and that's where your worship is. No Bible-no truth; No worship-no walk
5. We have to be in agreement with God on our associations (that's people) &
6. We have to be in agreement with God and the world we live in (that will be your attitude toward it)
- a. These two go together
 - b. God's people are to be separate from the world. Israel was told that in the Old Testament, and we're told that in the New Testament
 - c. Two great examples in God's Hall of Fame in Hebrews 11:5-7
 - Enoch: *"By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."* The key to his walk was that he pleased God. His whole family was a living testimony that he pleased God. *"And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him."* (Genesis 5: 21-24) Enoch was not conformed to this world, Enoch was not walking by sight and not by faith, Enoch was not supposing he had a walk with God. He had a real walk with God. He and his family were in agreement with God and God's coming judgement. His son Methuselah's name means "when he is gone, judgement will come." He even named his child after the prophecy. Jude 1:14 tells us that Enoch was a preacher of the second coming of Christ.
 - Noah: *"By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."* You see Noah is the only man in the Bible who stood completely by himself against everything. He preached a coming judgment of God to a world that never believed for a second that God was anything but a God of love. He was tasked with preaching a flood in a world where it never rained. Yet Matthew 24:37 says as it was in the days of Noah so shall it be in the coming of the son of man; 120 years without one convert. He stood by himself preaching a coming judgment to a world that could not comprehend judgment was about to fall (Proverbs 28:5). That's exactly where you and I live today. We are standing on the verge of the judgment of God falling on this planet and the unsaved, as well as most of God's people, don't understand that.

7. We have to be in agreement with God's church

- a. Ephesians defines the New Testament church for us as the spiritual Body of Christ. Ephesians shows us every aspect of what it really is and what it does for all of us.
- b. There are two aspects of the church
 - i. The Church Triumphant—The spiritual aspect of the church that's always in victory
 - ii. The Church Militant—The local assembly of believers which are made up of the spiritual body of believers
 1. The book of Acts defines the Church Militant and what the local church is really supposed to be doing.
 - Acts 11: Church at Antioch
 - Acts 20: Church at Ephesus
- c. The local New Testament church is the only institution given by God by which to serve God
 - In the Old Testament it was done through a nation (Nation of Israel)
 - In the New Testament it is done through a spiritual body (Body of Christ)
- d. Ephesians 5:25 says that Christ loved the church and gave himself for it
- e. The New Testament local church is by God's design. It's the central hub of everything in New Testament Christianity.
 - It's where you got saved
 - It's where you get trained for the plan of God in your life
 - It's where you train up your children
 - It forms a support group for times in your life you need it
 - It's the place of safety for you to be protected by
 - It's the resource center of truth
 - It's a place of rest and comfort
 - It forms the structure of accountability and responsibility that we need
 - It's where you do the work of God He has called you to do
 - It should be the center of everything that you do
- f. The church today is the one place that God's people will not be in agreement with God on. They are not interested in making the church the center of their lives or ministry or anything else. They will get in some organization totally devoid of anything biblical. We have a jail ministry, but our jail ministry runs through a New Testament local church. The greatest trick of Laodicea is to get God's people to put everything else in front of the New Testament local church.
- g. Noah built an ark for the preparing of his household. That ark was a place of protection. It's a picture of the New Testament local church. It's a place of safety. It's a place that protected them against the judgment of God that was coming.

- h. The Bible says in Hebrews 10:25 not to forsake the assembling of yourselves together.

V. The Character of God is Giving

Walking with God will build the character of God in your life, and the character of God is giving. We've had this church now for over 20 years and I have never one time preached a message on giving or money. Most pastors spend 45 minutes talking about money and 10-15 minutes on the Bible. Not me. I figure if I teach you the Bible, and you grow, and you'll see what this church has done for you, and you'll see that it is you, the local New Testament Christian, that supports the work of God with your tithes and your offering and your sacrificial giving. I say it every Sunday, if you're not a member of this church or you're a visitor, don't give us anything. It's our responsibility. My thinking on it is that if God's people don't invest in what God has given them here, and you want to keep it all for yourself, just close the doors and be honest about it.

I met with a missionary from China, one of the best missionaries I've ever met in my life, and we sent him every piece of material we had, and he's translating it into Chinese and going to use it throughout the churches that he works with in China. Two years ago, our material was put down in the Philippines, and over 300 pastors are using it today. I had another church in the states call me this week and wanted every book we had put out and now it's going to become the curriculum of that church. Getting it to where it needs to go is the key. It gets there because most of you believe in this church, believe in the ministry, you're part of the ministry, and you give to this church so that we not only can pay our bills here, but we have the ability to give to these folks at no expense. I don't care about making money on it, I care about getting what this church has around the world. And it's you and me, this church, that makes it happen. We don't sell fireworks or have bakes sales. I wouldn't insult God with everything that He's given us, every blessing He's bestowed on us and this church, and then to hold back giving back to Him everything that He's given to us that we could take what He's given us and give it to somebody else at no cost. You and I pay the cost because you realize back there 2,000 years ago, he paid the price. How do I charge somebody for something that God gave us freely? The Laodicean church Christians are the most selfish people on the planet. They take everything God gives them and never give one thing back and yet suppose they are just fine when in truth they're like our story in Luke chapter 2. He went one way and they went another, and they don't even know it. They simply don't love the same things that he loves.

VI. Summary

There are seven major areas you must be in agreement on to have a walk with God. Don't let the man-made blessings of the Laodicean church, that you do in the flesh, deceive you into believing that you have a walk with God without ever knowing what it takes to be in agreement with Him. Get the real blessings that God has for you and your family. Build your children to be proof of the coming judgment just like Enoch did. Build an ark just like Noah did, and have your family on board. Be in agreement with God through His written contract, which is the Word of God, by which you fact-check everything.