

LESSONS FROM PSALMS ONE HUNDRED NINE

Scripture (Psalm 109:1-31)

Ray O. Brooks

Introduction:

- A. This is a Psalm of David.
 - B. Interpretation of this Psalm demands careful attention.
 1. Only one time in David's life seems to fit—the time his son, Absalom, attempted to kill David and establish himself as king of Israel.
 2. There were three primary characters in the revolt:
 - a. Absalom who led the revolt and planned to kill David.
 - b. Ahithophel one of David's trusted advisors who saw an opportunity for advancement, thus became a traitor.
 - c. Shimei a man who walked along the mountain side cursing David and throwing stones and dirt at him as fled for his life.
 - C. It seems that vs. 6-19 are the recorded curses of David's enemies. These verses are all written in the singular..."let happen to HIM... HIS...HE..."
 - D. Verses 20-29 shift to the plural and must be the words of David himself calling on God to deal with his adversaries.
 - E. Verses 1-5 are David's own words of introduction and verses 30,31 are his own words of conclusion.
 - F. There are some fine practical lessons to be drawn from this Psalm.
- I. LEARN THAT GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD BE A PEOPLE OF LOVE.
- A. David loved his wayward son—Absalom; and all the people over which God had made him king. v.4
 - B. David's love was not conditional—he loved them even in revolt.
 - C. Such love is divine love—agape love—it is love that is exhibited because it is one's nature to love, NOT because of the other person's qualities. (ex. The man who said, "I hold the door open for you because I am a gentleman.")
 - D. This is the love God expects from His people...EXPRESSED toward Him...His people...and even our enemies.
- II. LEARN THAT SOME WHOM WE LOVE WILL RETURN US EVIL FOR GOOD. vs. 4,5,2,3, and vs. 6-19
- A. David loved Absalom and Ahithophel and Shimei; all of whom wished him dead and cursed him while he lived.
 - B. Jesus loved all the world of lost sinners. He came unto His own people, the Jews, and they killed Him.
 - C. Paul had much of the same experiences. Those to whom he preached the gospel mistreated him in many way even to stoning him and leaving him for dead.
 - D. God's people have found the same treatment some time or other... evil to them for the good they have done.
- III. LEARN THAT GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD GIVE THEMSELVES TO PRAYER CONCERNING SUCH PROBLEMS. vs. 1,4b, 20-29
- A. David said, "But I give myself unto prayer." v.4b
 - B. Verse 1 is itself a prayer, "O God of my praise, Hold not Thy peace."
 - C. Verses 20-29 seem to constitute a part of David's prayer.

LESSONS FROM PSALMS ONE HUNDRED NINE

Scripture (Psalm 109:1-31)

Ray O. Brooks

1. "Let what they have wished on me be the reward of mine adversaries. And of them that speak evil of my soul." v.20
2. "...deliver Thou me..." v.21
3. "Help me, O Lord my God, O save me " v.26
4. vs. 28,29

IV. LEARN THAT GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD LEAVE ALL RETRIBUTION TO THE LORD. v.20
"from the Lord"

- A. God will deal with all evil in His own way and in His own time.
- B. We can get into serious trouble in permitting the old carnal man in each of us to return kick for kick and lick for lick. (Illustration: How many times have we seen a football player retaliate and get penalized...sometimes ejected?)
- C. Ahithophel hanged himself. Absalom was killed by Joab while hanging by the hair of his head in a tree.
- D. Shimea repented and David spared him.

V. LEARN OF THE WORTH OF DOING THINGS GOD'S WAY. vs. 30,31

- A. Our confidence in God is enlarged as we see Him take care of the problems of life. (George Crump and the bulldozer) v.31
- B. It causes us to praise God more and more. (Angie in the background, "God sent that bulldozer, God sent that bulldozer...") v.30
- C. It enlarges our Christian witness to others. "Yea, I will praise Him among the multitudes." v. 30