

LESSONS FROM PSALMS ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINE

Scripture: Psalms 129:18

Ray O. Brooks

Introduction:

- A. The primary message of this Psalm must refer to Israel for she is referred to twice ... Israel and Zion.
- B. But since Paul wrote in I Cor. 10 that whatsoever happened to Israel were for our examples, there are very instructive lessons in this Psalm for the people of God in this church age.

I. LEARN THAT AFFLICTIONS AND PERSECUTIONS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THE LOT OF GOD'S PEOPLE ON THIS EARTH.

- A. Note that the writer placed afflictions in the past time and in the present. He also implied that such would come in the future.
 - 1. vs. 1, 2 "From my youth..." It started in his youth and had continued to the time of the writing.
 - 2. v. 5 implies that it shall continue until the Lord, Himself shall confound them.
- B. Could we not begin our thoughts concerning the persecution of God's people with righteous Able's affliction and death?
- C. No generation of God's people has been without affliction and persecutions.
- D. Both the history of Israel and of the Lord's churches has been written in the blood of His martyred people. The Trail of Blood is a book written about His church people down through the centuries since Jesus ascended.
- E. Our Lord, Himself, suffered severe afflictions and death during His short stay on the earth.
- F. Strange as it may seem, almost all of the afflictions and persecutions have been inflicted by those claiming to serve God ... The Apostle Paul spoke of his having persecuted the church thinking that he was doing God service.
- G. Except in the very early part of the history of these United States of America, we have escaped religious persecution. But I fear that this will come to an end very soon.

II. LEARN THAT OUR RIGHTEOUS LORD WILL NOT PERMIT THE WICKED TO PREVAIL AGAINST HIS PEOPLE.

- A. We shall not prevail because of our own power.
- B. v.2 They have not prevailed ...
- C. v.4 Our righteous Lord hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked.

III. LEARN THAT OUR LORD SHALL CONFOUND THEM THAT HATE HIS PEOPLE.

- A. To confound means to confuse, to bring to shame, to destroy, to damn.
- B. This has proven to be true many times.
 - 1. The Assyrian army destroyed in their tents.
 - 2. Gideon's victory over great odds. The enemy was so confused that they slaughtered themselves.
- C. They shall wither like grass without depth of soil.
- D. They shall produce no harvest. v.7
- E. v.6 They shall be devoid of all blessings.
- F. Rev. 6:15-17 gives us a picture of the conditions of the enemies of God when He cuts their cords asunder.
 - 1. In that time they shall cry out for the rock to fall on them to hide them from the face of the Lord.
 - 2. They shall seek comfort, and find none.
- G. II Thes. 1:4-9 seems a good Promise of our God to lay hold on.