LESSONS FROM PSALMS THIRTY-FOUR

Scripture: Psalm 34:1-22

Ray O. Brooks

Introduction:
A. This was written at a time in David's life that most people would have been down and depressed; but David was on a high.
B. He had fled the country over which he had been anointed king. He was tired of running from Saul and sought refuge in an enemy country.
C. There, he had to act crazy to keep from being killed and was driven out of the country.
D. He returned to his homeland and hid out in a cave in the wilderness. It was here he penned this most beautiful and instructive Psalm.

I. LEARN WHAT IS THE ATTITUDE GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD DEMONSTRATE BEFORE THE WORLD. vs. 1-3
A. "I will bless the Lord at all times...". I will speak well of the Lord at all times. v.1
B. I shall continually praise the Lord with my mouth. v.1
C. My soul shall boast in the Lord... I will give the Lord credit for all I am or have. v.2
D. I will magnify the Lord ...proclaim His greatness. v.3
E. I will exalt His Name. v.3

II. LEARN SOME REASONS WHY GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD DEMONSTRATE SUCH AN ATTITUDE.
A. Because the eyes of the Lord are upon us. v.15
B. Because the Lord is always near us. vs. 7, 18
C. Because the Lord hears our cry and delivers us. vs. 4,6,17

III. LEARN WHAT THE LORD WILLS HIS PEOPLE TO DO.
A. v.3 To invite others to join us in praising the Lord.
B. To teach others the way to God.
   1. Fear of the Lord v.11
      a. Reverence
      b. Respect
   2. Trust in the Lord v.22
C. Teach others the way to live before God. vs. 13,14

IV. LEARN THAT TRUST IN THE LORD IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HAPPINESS AND CONDEMNATION. vs. 21,22
A. Some translators use the word condemnation in the place of desolate in these two verses.
B. No one who trusts the Lord shall be condemned. Those who do not trust Him are condemned.