

CWA - Last Judgment - Psalm for the day - Nov 9, 2014 - Kieth Bernard Kuschel

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church - 377 E Lincoln Trail Blvd– Radcliff, KY 40160

Psalm 90

1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. 2 Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. 3 You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men." 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. 5 You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning- 6 though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered. 7 We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. 8 You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. 9 All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. 10 The length of our days is seventy years— or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. 11 Who knows the power of your anger? For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. 12 Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. 13 Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. 14 Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. 15 Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble. 16 May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. 17 May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us— yes, establish the work of our hands.

When is Judgment Day?

Is that scary?

Lord is our dwelling place.

He will keep us safe until JD.

Lord, You have been our dwelling place

- 1. Give us a heart of wisdom (12)***
- 2. Give us days of gladness (15)***
- 3. Establish the work of our hands (17)***

IA1 How many of you want to get smarter? What do you want to get smarter about? In verse 12 Moses indicated that he wanted to get smarter. “12 Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” How do you number your days? Look at verses 3-6. 3 You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men." 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. 5 You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning- 6 though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered.” Numbering your days means recognizing that human life on this earth is short.

2 Why is earthly life on this earth short? “7 We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. 8 You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. 9 All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. 10 The length of our days is seventy years— or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.” A heart of wisdom acknowledges that sin is the cause of the shortness of our lives. Death is truly the wages of sin.

3 A heart of wisdom, however, knows something else. A heart of wisdom has become a heart of wisdom from the Holy Scriptures which make hearts wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. We have been rescued from the anger of God. How? Jesus has done that by taking that anger on Himself. We have been rescued from our iniquities. How? Jesus has taken them on Himself. We have been rescued to an eternity with the Lord. How? Jesus has conquered death to accomplish that for us.

B1 12 “Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” A heart of wisdom knows that one’s relationship with God is the most important thing in anyone’s life. A heart of wisdom is constantly evaluating circumstances and people and actions and thoughts to see if those will in an way negatively affect my relationship with God, so that I might avoid them.

2 Let’s pray. Lord, teach me to number my days aright so that I may gain a heart of wisdom. Lord, continue to work in my heart through the Holy Scriptures so that I continue to have a heart of wisdom.

IIA1 How many of you want to get more joy out of life? What do you think will help you achieve that? Moses is a realist. Listen. 10 The length of our days is seventy years— or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow.” In verse 15 he talks about the “many days as you have afflicted us,” the “many years as we have seen trouble.” We are realists too. There will be trouble and sorrow and affliction in our lives. People are sinners. We will have to deal with anger, crime and violence. Our bodies don’t function perfectly. We will have to deal with sickness, chronic ailments and pain.

2 Did the way Moses wrote this seem disconcerting to you? Did you notice Moses talked to the Lord about, “the many days **you** have afflicted us?” God is in charge. If afflictions come into our lives, God is allowing them. God says He does everything for the good of our souls. But that doesn’t stop us from questioning Him when He allows the afflictions. Did you notice what Moses wrote? “How long will it be?” How would you have said that? “Lord, when are You going to take this bad stuff away?”

B1 That is exactly the correct response when afflictions come into our lives. Go to the Lord and say with Moses: 13 “Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. 14 Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. 15 Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.” The only thing that can give us days of gladness amidst all the affliction, trouble and sorrow in life is the knowledge that God loves us unfailingly.

2 Lord, 15 “make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.” Point me past the days of affliction, trouble, and sorrow. Point me to the days of gladness in Your presence forever after Judgment Day. I know those days of gladness are going to far outnumber the days of sadness we have now.

3 1 “Lord, you have been our dwelling place.” We have lived in You all our lives. You have lived in us ever since You brought us to trust that Jesus lived and died and rose to give us forgiveness, holiness and eternal life. Your presence gives us strength. Your presence gives us joy no matter what troubles, sorrows and afflictions we are experiencing. 13 Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. 14 Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. 15 Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.

IIIA1 How many of you like to do well at your jobs? What will it take to accomplish that? Moses realized that life is filled with work. He asked the Lord to remind him of all the work the Lord had done for him. Lord, 16 “May your deeds be shown to your servants.” What work had the Lord done for Moses? Rescued them from Egypt. Got them through the wilderness. Promised salvation.

2 Moses also wrote, “Lord, may your splendor be shown to your servants’ children.” Whose work is that? The Lord’s and Moses’ and the rest of the people’s. Who passes the knowledge of the works of the Lord along to the children? Parents. Adults. Moses was saying, “Lord, remind me of Your works for me and then help me teach what You have done to the next generation. Remind me that my primary work in life is to inform others about Your work for them.”

3 How was Moses going to be successful in doing that? Only with the Lord’s blessing and help. So he continued: “17 May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us— yes, establish the work of our hands.” Lord, bless our work so that it accomplishes Your purposes.

B1 So what are you going to be doing until Judgment Day? Asking God with Moses: “May Your deeds be shown to Your servants.” How does God remind us of what He has done for us? How does God remind us that Jesus died to wash away our sins, lived in our place to cover us with His holiness, and rose from the dead so that we might live forever? Through His Word. When we ask the Lord to remind us of what He has done so that we keep trusting in Jesus, we are making a commitment. What is it? To use His Word.

2 So what are you going to be doing until Judgment Day? Asking God with Moses: “May your splendor be shown to our children.” How is God’s splendor shown to our children? When we have family devotions. When we worship together here at Faith. When they are in Sunday School and you are in Bible Class at the same time. When you work with them on their Catechism and Sunday School assignments. When we ask the Lord to show His splendor to our children, we are making a commitment. What is it? To teach His word.

3 So what are you going to be doing until Judgment Day? Asking God with Moses: “17 Lord, may Your favor rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us— yes, establish the work of our hands.” Bless me as I work at using Your Word. Bless me as I work at teaching Your Word. Bless me as I work at my job so I have money to support my congregation, my Synod, & other agencies who are also showing Your deeds and Your splendor to others.

Conc: When is Judgment Day? We don’t know. Is Judgment Day scary? No. Because of Jesus. Is what will happen in the meantime scary? It could be. Except we know that Lord will be our dwelling place, and will give us hearts of wisdom, and days of gladness, and will establish the work of our hands. LORD Jesus, please do so.