INTRODUCTION:

The writer of this psalm is David.

Psalm 32 is a sequel to Psalm 51 where David expresses the joy of forgiveness. God had forgiven him for the sins he had committed against Beth-Sheba and Uriah (2 Samuel 11:12). God wants to forgive sinners. Forgiveness has always been part of His loving nature. God announced this to Moses (Exodus 34:7); He revealed it to David, and He dramatically showed it to the world through Jesus Christ.

Psalm 32 David testifies to the blessings that come from confessing sin and receiving God’s forgiveness. He says one is blessed when their transgressions are forgiven and covered. They are blessed when the Lord says they are not guilty, when they don’t try to hide their sins. When one don’t admit their sins, but keep silent about them, they become weaker and miserable, for God’s hand was heavy making life harder every day. Strength had evaporated like water on a hot summer day. Selah. David acknowledged his sin, and his iniquity he did not hide. He confessed his sins to the Lord, and He forgave them all! Selah (32:1-5).

We are to pray while we have time; while the Lord is found, because when the floods of great waters come toward us, they won’t touch us. David says God is his hiding place. He’s the one who preserves him from trouble, and surrounds him so he can sing songs of deliverance about the way God saved him. Selah. The Lord teaches the way to go, and guides with His eye. David says don’t be like the senseless horse or mule that won’t come unless he has a bit in his mouth and a bridle to keep him in line. Many sorrows will overcome the wicked, but mercy will surround the one who trusts in the Lord. So, all those that are the Lord’s, and all those who try to obey Him, are to rejoice in Him (32:6-11).

LESSON:  I. AN INVITATION TO PRAISE  Psalm 33:1-3

The writer of this psalm is anonymous.

33:1 Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright. But, as we come from the preceding psalm, it admonished the one who trusts in the Lord and the one who obey Him to rejoice. It just lingers over to this psalm. The psalmist tells the righteous to rejoice in the Lord because praise looks good on us; it’s attractive, appropriate, and suitable for those in good standing with the Lord.

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33:2 Praise the Lord with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings. Praise comes in all forms even with instruments; playing the harp with its melodious sound. Sing unto the Lord with the ancient lap-harp (psaltery); the ten string instrument.

- David was an accomplished harpist. He soothed King Saul from tormenting spirits that troubled him by playing the harp (1 Samuel 16:17-22).
- The Levites were appointed to give constant praise and thanks to God.
- Praise came before a great battle in 2 Chronicles as God fights for Jehoshaphat and the people. After which, they came with psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the Lord (verse 28). When God gives you the victory, it’s an invitation to praise Him.

33:3 Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise. The Jews had said "How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a foreign land" after being taken captive? Because they thought that singing before such idolatrous people was insulting for them, for they only worshipped before the true God in His temple. They had to be reminded that that’s how they get their inspiration back. Singing a new song could provide a new outlook; a new way of seeing things; a new occasion and impulse to express how you feel toward God because His mercies are new every morning. When one plays skillfully with excitement, it will cause loud shouts of joy.

II. REASONS FOR PRAISE Psalm 33:4-9

33:4 For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth. The psalmist words leads us to remember that the Word of God is right and His works are truth. This leads us to the very essence of why we are able to praise God—because of His Word and His Works. Many have seen His Word works! Many have come through situations because of His Word by faith. And if we believe His Word to manifest as He says it would, then we know that what He said is right, and what He’s done was done in truth. Then Praise Him!

33:5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. 1“Righteousness” is the essential principle of justice. “Judgment” is the carrying out of the principle in act. God loves both righteousness and judgment. They are further grounds for praising Him. The earth is full of the goodness (loving-kindness) of the Lord. The whole earth is full of God's glory (Isaiah 6:3); His riches (Psalm 104:24), and His mercy (loving-kindness). This is further grounds of thankfulness to be acknowledged in praise.

33:6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. Earlier we acknowledged that the Word of the Lord is right, now, we see that by His spoken Word (by His command) the heavens were made. God is to be praised, not only for His personal goodness, but for the greatness of the heavens formed—His Creation as well. In Genesis, the words, "And God said, Let us..."

1http://biblehub.com/commentaries/psalms/33-5.htm
http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html
continues to prove this. **All the host of them**—meaning the galaxies of the heavenly bodies: the sun, moon, and stars. **By the breath of his mouth** meaning Spirit. The Father speaks the Word, the Son becomes the Word, and the Spirit brings forth or manifests the Word. All speaking of the Trinity God that brings forth His Creation. Then Praise Him!

**33:7** He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. Even the waters of the sea come together as a pile, a mass, or a mountain by His Word; by the breath of His mouth. We still remember the water standing as a heap as the children of Israel walked through the Red Sea without getting wet. When something is laid up in deep storehouses, it means that there is a great quantity and it will be used for a later date and time.

**33:8** Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. The earth as a whole does not fear the Lord. A precious few stand in awe of Him. But, all the earth must forsake their idols and regard only the living God Jehovah as the Supreme Being. The day is soon to come when this scripture will be literally fulfilled.

**33:9** For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast. God spoke the heavens into existence. And not only so, He commanded His creation to stand fast, thus the planetary bodies of every universe maintain their position by the power of the Almighty's Word.

**SUMMARY:**

God inhabits the praise of His people. This psalm gives us an invitation to praise Him. Therefore, we are to rejoice in the Lord because praise looks good on us; because we have the victory; it's attractive, appropriate, and suitable for those in good standing with the Lord. Instruments help us praise the Lord. Playing skillfully, singing a new song with loud shouts of joy (**33:1-3**).

The psalmist words lead us to remember that the Word of God is right and His works are truth, giving us reason to praise Him. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord for He loves righteousness and judgment. The heavens were made by the spoken Word of the Lord, and all its heavenly bodies by the breath of His mouth. It shows that even the waters of the sea are gathered together as a pile, a mass, or a mountain and is laid up in deep storehouses by His Word; by the breath of His mouth. All the earth is admonished to fear the Lord. And all its inhabitants are to stand in awe of Him. God spoke, and it was created; He commanded, and it stood forth. Praise Him! (**33:4-9**).