



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

PSALM 65:1-2, 9-13

LESSON: PRAISE GOD THE PROVIDER—January 15, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

This psalm is ascribed to be written by David. It's a complaint against the hurtful tongue of his enemy and his consolation that God will defend him.

Chapter 64 David admonishes God to hear his prayer, preserve his life from fear from the threats of his enemies. Hide and protect him from the secret counsel behind closed doors devising mischief. Their tongues are sharp like swords. Their words are poisonous aimed like arrows to suddenly shoot without fear at him. They encourage each other to do evil because they don't think anyone would see or notice them. They go over the plot thoroughly. Their inward thoughts and deeds of their hearts are deep. But God! By himself David would fail. But, he is not by himself. God will suddenly shoot an arrow at his enemies and wound them. He will use their own words against them, and they will be destroyed. And all those that see them will flee shaking their heads. The end result is that men will flee from cursing the righteous, and fear God, and begin to declare the work of God, and they will seriously learn to fear and respect the Almighty. Then, the righteous shall be glad in the Lord, shall trust in Him, and even those that are upright in heart shall praise Him (**64:1-10**).

LESSON: I. GOD GRACIOUSLY HEARS Psalm 65:1-2

This psalm is ascribed to be written by David.

65:1 Praise waited for thee, O God, in Zion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed. 2 Samuel is the first occurrence of Zion. Zion is the name of the city that David captured and made his capital (2 Sam.5:7) and which became the site of the tabernacle, and later of the temple in Jerusalem. In Zion, praise was waiting. There was a deep silence of waiting, and then finally to be given to God, for praise was due Him; praise was befitting Him! In this place the vow shall be performed; fulfilled. The most fitting praise to God is that which waits in silence, anticipating God's presence and His goodness.

65:2 O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come. It's a song sang to Him- "*O God that hears prayer.*" God is gracious to hear our prayers. That seems to say that **all** flesh at some time will come to Him because He is the only One hearing prayer. When we are lonely, He hears. When we're sick, disobedient, hurting, lost, persecuted, beaten down, ready to repent—He hears our prayers!

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NOT APART OF THE LESSON Verses 3-8

¹The occasion for the prayer was apparently their overwhelming sins, but God had atoned for their transgressions (65:3). This atonement for sin made possible the praise of the people and their entrance into the courts of the tabernacle. It is one thing to approach God; it is another to really know Him. David takes a fresh look at God and sees His power displayed in three ways (65:5-8):

1. His power to convert (65:5)
 - a. The Hebrew people (65:5a) - In Egypt they had been destined by Pharaoh for utter extermination but God redeemed them.
 - b. The heathen people (65:5b) - Gentiles from all nations will be saved also.
2. His power to create (65:6) - He demonstrated His power and strength by forming the mountains and soothing the seas and their waves.
3. His power to control
 - a. The restless waves (65:7) - This reminds us of the day Jesus slept on the bow of Peter's boat when a storm came up. When he woke up, all He had to say was *"Peace be still!"*
 - b. The restless world (65:8) - *"Thou makest the outgoing of the morning and evening to rejoice."* This is a way of saying there is no limit to His power.

II. GOD GRACIOUSLY PROVIDES Psalm 65:9-13

65:9 Thou visited the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enriches it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it. God cares about the earth and shows great consideration because when He visits it, He waters it. He waters the earth to make it fertile. And the river of God is full of water and will not run dry. He prepares the earth for His people and sends them rich harvests of grain (corn) after they had planted the seeds.

65:10 Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessed the springing thereof. God waters, and ²when we plough the earth, the plough does not leave it flat, but the rain makes it flat again. It also makes it soft so people can plant seeds to sprout across the land.

65:11 Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness. As the year has made full circle, it was crowned (capped and completed) with God's goodness; making the ground rich and fertile; and overflowing with abundance. And in His paths He drips or allows abundance to fall; from seedtime and harvest. God always bring His goodness to fruition.

¹ <http://www.family-times.net/commentary/psalms-651/>

² <http://www.easyenglish.info/psalms/psalm065-taw.htm>

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65:12 They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side. Even uncultivated lands; untilled meadows; pastures of wilderness have droppings of God's goodness. The grass grows, the hills rejoice on every side because of its great beauty, without the hand of man. The pastures and the hills have God's water and sun to cultivate them.

65:13 The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing. The pastures have the flocks of sheep to graze the beautiful grass. The valleys are covered with a mantle of corn and together they are bringing on shouts of joy and songs. There is celebration of fruitful abundance God had graciously provided.

SUMMARY:

³David may have written this psalm to be sung annually when the harvest was brought to the Lord. It is obviously a harvest hymn of praise, designed to be sung on an occasion of thanksgiving and not a ritual. The psalm begins with a mention of man's preparation to praise God because He hears prayer (**65:1-2**).

It seems that the psalmist is inspired to write about the abundant harvest and give thanks to God. He summarizes the generosity of God's care of the land (**65:9**), and develops the theme of blessings on the land (**65:10-13**). God's rain showers prepare the land for production (**65:10**). Eventually God's blessings bring the harvest (**65:11**). He causes uncultivated areas to drip with moisture and the pastures to blossom (**65:12**). The flocks and grain flourish under His blessing (**65:13**). He sees the hillsides robed in flocks of sheep and pictures the cornfields shouting one to another with joy (**65:9-13**).

³ <http://www.family-times.net/commentary/psalms-659/>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>