



GOD IS OUR VICTORY

Psalm 76

May 7, 2023
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The psalm is in the form of a *victory psalm*. It is highly unlikely that this hymn is to be associated with any one particular victory, such as those over the Assyrians or the Babylonians. But some commentaries allude to the rescue of the Israelites from Hamath in the days of Jeroboam (2 Kings 14) or perhaps alludes to 2 Samuel 5-8.

Psalm 76

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song.

*"In Judah God is known; his name is great in Israel. **2** His abode has been established in Salem, his dwelling place in Zion. **3** There he broke the flashing arrows, the shield, the sword, and the weapons of war. Selah **4** Glorious are you, more majestic than the mountains full of prey. **5** The stouthearted were stripped of their spoil; they sank into sleep; all the men of war were unable to use their hands. **6** At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both rider and horse lay stunned. **7** But you, you are to be feared! Who can stand before you when once your anger is roused? **8** From the heavens you uttered judgment; the earth feared and was still, **9** when God arose to establish judgment, to save all the humble of the earth. Selah **10** Surely the wrath of man shall praise you; the remnant of wrath you will put on like a belt. **11** Make your vows to the Lord your God and perform them; let all around him bring gifts to him who is to be feared, **12** who cuts off the spirit of princes, who is to be feared by the kings of the earth."*

1. God's RELATIONSHIP with His PEOPLE (v. 1-2)

2. God is the Divine WARRIOR who brings PEACE and is to be FEARED. (v 3-7a)

3. God is the Divine JUDGE who LIBERATES the Afflicted and JUDGES the Wicked. (v 7b-9)

*"When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, **13** and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. **14** The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. **15** Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, **16** calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, **17** for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?" **Revelation 6:12-17***

The purpose of the judgment is twofold:

- The NATIONS know that YAHWEH is the sovereign KING.
- God's JUDGMENT gives COMFORT to His people.

4. God's RELATIONSHIP of the NATIONS with God (v 10-12)

- The COVENANTAL people must be careful to LIVE for God and OBEY Him.
- The NATIONS must bring GIFTS symbolic of their SUBMISSION to God's authority.

This psalm celebrates a great victory over Israel's enemies. From the New Testament perspective, this song praises God for His victory at the cross and looks forward to the great final victory over evil at the end of the age.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

*The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.*