Lifelight: Selected Psalms Session 3 Readings

Day 1

Psalm 90

- 1 A PRAYER OF MOSES, THE MAN OF GOD. Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- 3 You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as, a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:
- 6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.
- 7 For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.
- 8 You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.
- 9 For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.
- 11 Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?
- 12 So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.
- 13 Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!
- 14 Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- 15 Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil.
- 16 Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.
- 17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

Numbers 14:20-24

- 20 Then the LORD said, "I have pardoned, according to your word.
- 21 But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD,
- 22 none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice,
- 23 shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it.
- 24 But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.

Numbers 20:6-12

- 6 Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them,
- 7 and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
- 8 "Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle."
- 9 And Moses took the staff from before the LORD, as he commanded him.
- 10 Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?"
- 11 And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock.
- 12 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them."
- 2 Peter 3:8-9
- 8 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.
- 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Proverbs 1:7

7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25, 30

- 18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- 19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."
- 20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?
- 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.
- 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom,
- 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,
- 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- 25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
- 30 He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption.

Day 2

Psalm 80

- 1 TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO LILIES. A TESTIMONY. OF ASAPH, A PSALM. Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
- 2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!
- 3 Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.
- 6 You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!
- 8 You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.
- 9 You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.
- 10 The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.
- 11 It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.
- 12 Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?
- 13 The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.
- 14 Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine,
- 15 the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.
- 16 They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face!
- 17 But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!
- 18 Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name!
- 19 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts! let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Isaiah 5:1-6

- 1 Let me sing for my belovedmy love song concerning his vineyard:: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
- 2 He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.
- 3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.
- 4 What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?
- 5 And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.
- 6 I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

John 15:1-8

- 1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.
- 2 Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
- 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.
- 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
- 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
- 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.
- 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Isaiah 27:2-6

- 2 In that day, "A pleasant vineyard, sing of it!
- 3 I, the LORD, am its keeper; every moment I water it. Lest anyone punish it, I keep it night and day;
- 4 I have no wrath. Would that I had thorns and briers to battle! I would march against them, I would burn them up together.
- 5 Or let them lay hold of my protection, let them make peace with me, let them make peace with me."
- 6 In days to come Jacob shall take root, Israel shall blossom and put forth shoots and fill the whole world with fruit.

Day 3

Psalm 44

- 1 TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A MASKIL OF THE SONS OF KORAH. O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have told us, what deeds you performed in their days, in the days of old:
- 2 you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you planted; you afflicted the peoples, but them you set free;
- 3 for not by their own sword did they win the land, nor did their own arm save them, but your right hand and your arm, and the light of your face, for you delighted in them.
- 4 You are my King, O God; ordain salvation for Jacob!
- 5 Through you we push down our foes; through your name we tread down those who rise up against us.
- 6 For not in my bow do I trust, nor can my sword save me.
- 7 But you have saved us from our foes and have put to shame those who hate us.
- 8 In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to your name forever. Selah
- 9 But you have rejected us and disgraced us and have not gone out with our armies.

- 10 You have made us turn back from the foe, and those who hate us have gotten spoil.
- 11 You have made us like sheep for slaughter and have scattered us among the nations.
- 12 You have sold your people for a trifle, demanding no high price for them.
- 13 You have made us the taunt of our neighbors, the derision and scorn of those around us.
- 14 You have made us a byword among the nations, a laughingstock among the peoples.
- 15 All day long my disgrace is before me, and shame has covered my face
- 16 at the sound of the taunter and reviler, at the sight of the enemy and the avenger.
- 17 All this has come upon us, though we have not forgotten you, and we have not been false to your covenant.
- 18 Our heart has not turned back, nor have our steps departed from your way;
- 19 yet you have broken us in the place of jackals and covered us with the shadow of death.
- 20 If we had forgotten the name of our God or spread out our hands to a foreign god,
- 21 would not God discover this? For he knows the secrets of the heart.
- 22 Yet for your sake we are killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.
- 23 Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!
- 24 Why do you hide your face? Why do you forget our affliction and oppression?
- 25 For our soul is bowed down to the dust; our belly clings to the ground.
- 26 Rise up; come to our help! Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love!

Day 4

Psalm 44 – See Day 3

Day 5

Psalm 124

- 1 A SONG OF ASCENTS. OF DAVID. If it had not been the LORD who was on our side-let Israel now say-
- 2 if it had not been the LORD who was on our side when people rose up against us,
- 3 then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;
- 4 then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
- 5 then over us would have gone the raging waters.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth!
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped!
- 8 Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.