

“Remember The Works Of The Lord”
Psalm 77

Introduction:

1. **IE:** Some Of You Might Remember The Board Game - “Trivial Pursuit!”
 - The Peak Of It’s Popularity Was Back In 1983-1985:
 - When Over 30,000,000 Games Were Produced:
 - All Around The World!
 - And - For Years - It Was All The Rage!
 - The Game Was Popular Because It Tested Your Memory:
 - About All Kinds Of Facts - Divided Up Into Six Categories!
 - Facts About Geography, Entertainment, History, Art, Science, And Sports!
 - But - For The Most Part:
 - The Facts Were Just “Trivia” - Things That:
 - You Might **Know** - But:
 - Hardly Ever **Use!**
2. So - What Filled Up Your Mind & Memory This Week?
 - Was It Trivial Things? Or Useful Things?
 - Now - Don’t Just Think About The Things You Had To Do:
 - To Get Ready:
 - For Your Day!
 - Or For Your Work!
 - Or Even For Christmas:
 - Which Is Fast Approaching!
 - Only 17 More Days!
 - Even Though All Of Those Things May Have Been Useful Things To Remember!
 - But - What Filled Up Your Mind & Memory:
 - In Terms Of Who & What You Are:
 - As A Creation Of The Almighty God?
 - Did You “Remember Your Creator?”
 - As We Looked At Last Sunday From Ecclesiastes 12:1?
 - Did You Remember:
 - To Honor & Fear Him?
 - To Love & Submit To Him?
 - As Well As Believe In Him?
 - I Pray & Trust You Did:
 - Because - One Day - In The Not Too Distant Future:
 - You **Will Meet** Your Creator:
 - Face To Face!
 - And You Will Only Be Ready To Meet Him:
 - If You Remember Him & Respond To Him In The Right Way!
 - To “Remember Your Creator” Is Not:
 - A Trivial Matter!
 - 3. Well - This Morning:
 - As We Continue Our Series:
 - On What We Are To Remember:
 - Please Turn In Your Bibles With Me:
 - To Psalm 77!
 - Back In July:
 - Psalm 77 Was Our Psalm For The Week:
 - As We Read It, Sang It, & Hopefully:
 - Learned Some Things From It!
 - Well - In The Middle Of This Psalm:
 - Written & Composed By Asaph:
 - Who Was The Primary Worship Leader:
 - Of God’s People - During The Reign Of David - Over 3,000 Years Ago!
 - In The Middle Of This Psalm:
 - He Makes This Resolution:

- In 77:11-14 - "I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. / I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings. / Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God? / Thou art the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people!"

4. The Theme Of These Verses:

- Is - Clearly - The "Wonderful Works Of God!"
 - Of Course, Creation:
 - Is One Of His Wonderful Works!
 - But There Are Many Others!
- But He Performs All His Works:
 - So That You & I Might:
 - **Remember** Them!
 - And - Remember **Him** Through **Them!**
 - And - To "Remember The Works Of The Lord":
 - Is **Not** Trivial!
- So - This Morning:
 - Make The Same Resolution As Asaph Did!
 - Make His Song Your Song:
 - As You Too - "Remember The Works Of The Lord!"

* Because - The First Thing We See From This Psalm Is A:

1. **Conviction From The Works Of The Lord!**

- A Conviction - Which We Find:
 - In The First 3 Verses - Which Is:
 - Asaph's Introduction To This Psalm!
 - 77:1-3 - "I cried unto God with my voice, even unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me. / In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my soul refused to be comforted. / I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah!"
 - It Is Clear From These Verses:
 - That The Soul Of Asaph:
 - Was Troubled!
 - And - In His Introduction:
 - He Describes His Trouble & What He Did With His Trouble - In Reverse Order!
 - Because - First - In Verse 1 - He Describes:
 - The Resolution To His Trouble!
 - That Is - He "Cried Unto God" With His Voice!
 - He Prayed To The Lord & Found His Refuge In Him!
 - So - He Kind Of Puts The End:
 - Of The Story - Right Up Here:
 - At The Beginning!
 - But Then - In Verse 2 - Asaph Describes:
 - The Range Of His Trouble!
 - That Is - How Deeply He Felt:
 - The Pain & Sorrow Of His Trouble!
 - He Said It "Ceased Not!"
 - And His "Soul Refused To Be Comforted!"
 - Now - I Think We've All Felt:
 - Like Asaph Felt - At Some Point In Our Lives!
 - Perhaps You Felt Like There Was No End In Sight For Your Suffering! Whether Physical Or Financial Or Emotional!
 - But The Suffering Of Asaph Was Different!
 - His Pain & His Sorrow:
 - Was Spiritual - Even Though It Affected Him Physically & Emotionally As Well!
 - Because:
 - In Verse 3 - Asaph Describes:
 - The Reason For His Trouble!
 - That Is - In His Own Words:
 - "I Remembered God, And Was Troubled!"

- You See - Asaph Had:
 - A Good Memory!
 - He “Remembered God!”
 - **IE:** He Would Have Done Real Well In The Bible Edition Of “Trivial Pursuit!” He Knew A Lot Of Facts About God!
 - He Would Have Remembered That:
 - God Was His Creator!
 - And That - As Creator:
 - God Was Present & Powerful & Perfect!
- But - At This Point In His Life - Asaph Took No Comfort:
 - In His Memory Of God!
 - Instead - His Memory Of God & His Greatness:
 - Was The Very **Cause** Of His Trouble!
- Now - Why Would His Thoughts Of God:
 - Trouble Him So?
 - Well - Likely For The Same Reasons When:
 - You Become Troubled:
 - With **Your Own** Thoughts Of God!
 - It’s When:
 - You Are Not Close To Him:
 - Because Of Your Own Sin & Spiritual Neglect!
 - Edward Payson - “If Our Hearts And Consciences Condemn Us, It Is Impossible To Remember Him Without Being Troubled!”
 - You See - Asaph - Like The Rest Of Us - Was “Prone To Wander” & “Prone To Leave The God [He] Loved!”
 - And For A Time:
 - Asaph “Complained” (77:3) & His “Spirit Was Overwhelmed!”
 - Now - It **Is** Important For You:
 - To Know About & Remember God!
 - But - There Should Be More In Your Memory As Well!
 - You Need To “Remember **The Works** Of The Lord!”
 - Because - If You Don’t:
 - Your Feelings Of Conviction:
 - Can Turn To - Feelings Of:

2. **Confusion About The Works Of The Lord!**

- Feelings Of Confusion:
 - Which Asaph Goes On To Describe In:
 - 77:4-9 - “Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak. / I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times. / I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search. / Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favourable no more? / Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth his promise fail for evermore? / Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah!”
 - When There Is Trouble In Your Heart:
 - Whatever The Cause May Be:
 - It Often Will Bring About Confusion:
 - About God & Your Relationship With Him!
 - And The Trouble In Your Heart:
 - Can Affect You Physically:
 - And Render You:
- Sleepless!
 - Asaph Even Felt Like God Was Withholding Sleep From His Eyes In 77:4 - “Thou Holdest Mine Eyes Waking!”
 - And - Perhaps God Was!
 - To Get His Attention:
 - And To Draw Him Back To Himself!
 - Have You Ever Had A Restless & A Sleepless Night?

- Have You Ever Thought:
 - That Maybe - Just Maybe - The Lord:
 - Was “Holding Up Your Eyes” Himself?
 - Perhaps The Lord Is Trying To Get Your Attention:
 - Like He Was With Asaph!
- But - The Trouble In Your Heart:
 - Can Also Affect Your Mind:
 - And Render You:
- Speechless!
 - As It Did To Asaph:
 - 77:4 - “I Am So Troubled That I Cannot Speak!”
 - So That All You Have:
 - Are Groans & Sighs!
 - But - Can’t The Lord:
 - Hear Those Too?
 - Psalm 102:19-20 - “For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth; / To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death!”
 - The Trouble In Your Heart:
 - Can Also Affect Your Emotions:
 - And Render You:
- Songless!
 - Even Though Asaph Could “Call To Remembrance” His “Song In The Night!”
 - Where Were Those Songs Now?
 - He Remembered Better Times!
 - Times Of Joy!
 - Times For Celebration!
 - And Times To Sing!
 - But - That Old Melody:
 - Was Now Played In A Minor Key:
 - And With An Instrument Out Of Tune:
 - Producing Sour Notes In His Memory!
 - And So - The Trouble In His Heart:
 - Further Rendered Him:
- Solutionless!
 - He Had Questions!
 - And - Even Though His Questions:
 - Had Already Been Answered:
 - By God In His Word:
 - Asaph’s Faith In Those Answers:
 - Was Weak:
 - If Not Altogether Dead!
 - So - He Wondered To Himself:
 - 77:7-9 - “Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favourable no more? / Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth his promise fail for evermore? / Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies?”
- When You Don’t Remember The Works Of The Lord:
 - You Too May Experience:
 - The Same Kind Of Confusion!
 - **IE**: Like The Famous Poem / Song - “Footprints In The Sand” - Though A Child Of God May Only See One Set Of Footprints During Their Trials & Testings & Troubles - And Question & Wonder - Need To Remember That - “It Was Then That [He] Carried You!”
 - And This Is Why:
 - There Needs To Be - More & More:

3. *Contemplation On The Works Of The Lord!*

- Contemplation - As Asaph Did:

- In 77:10-14 - “And I said, This is my infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High. / I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. / I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings. / Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God? / Thou art the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people!”
 - The Solution To Your Own:
 - Conviction & Confusion:
 - Is - Like Asaph - To:
 - “Remember The Works Of The Lord!”
 - Now - How Can You “Remember” The Lord & His Works:
 - When You Feel Like:
 - You Are Still In That “Horrible Pit” & Stuck In That “Miry Clay”? (Psalm 40:2)
 - Well - It Begins With:
- A Perception Of His Works!
 - It Doesn’t Take A Whole Lot Of Time:
 - And - It Doesn’t Take A Whole Lot Of Effort:
 - To “Remember The Works Of The Lord!”
 - All It Takes - Is Just One Thought! One Notion! One Recollection!
 - And The Seed Of That One Memory:
 - Can Sprout & Flourish:
 - Into A Fruitful Vine!
 - In Those Times Of Trouble & Even Temptation:
 - Just Think Of One Thing That God Has Done!
 - And Hang On To That Thought!
 - As Asaph Did - When He Resolved & Said:
 - “I Will Remember!” (77:10) - And:
 - “I Will Remember!” (77:11) - And Again:
 - “I Will Remember!” (77:11)
 - Make Asaph’s Resolution:
 - Your Own Resolution!
 - **IE:** Probably The Best New Years Resolution You Can Make For Next Year!
 - “I Will Remember The Works Of The Lord!”
 - But - Then - Let Those Memories Expand - Into:
- A Pondering Of His Work!
 - In 77:12 - Asaph Continues:
 - “I Will Meditate Also Of All Thy Work!”
 - Christian Meditation Is Not:
 - Emptying Your Mind!
 - Nor Is It:
 - Turning Your Thoughts Inward!
 - Christian Meditation:
 - Is Turning Your Thoughts Upward:
 - And Pondering The Lord & His Will, His Word, And His Works!
 - John Gill:
 - “Meditation On The Works Of God Is Sweet, Pleasant, And Profitable!”
 - More Profitable Than Anything Else:
 - You Might Set Your Mind & Thoughts Upon!
 - Because - The “Works Of The Lord” Are:
 - A Vast Treasury:
 - For The Memory:
 - Of God’s People!
 - And - When You Ponder & Meditate On:
 - The Work Of The Lord:
 - Your Memories Of The Lord:
 - Will Not Soon Disappear!
 - But - Another Way:
 - To Enhance Those Memories Is:
- A Proclaiming Of His Work!

- Because - According To 77:12b - Asaph Couldn't Keep His Memories To Himself!
 - He Committed Himself To "Talk Of Thy Doings!"
 - And - In 77:13 - We See Who He Talks To!
- He Talks To God:
 - When He Says - "Thy Way, O God Is In The Sanctuary!" - And:
- He Talks To God's People:
 - When He Says - "Who Is So Great A God As Our God?"
- One Of The Best Ways:
 - To Remember The Lord & His Works:
 - In Your Own Life:
 - Is To Recount Them:
 - To The Lord & To Others!
 - **IE:** Have You Ever Had Your Quiet Time With The Lord In The Morning - And Then Forgot What You Learned By The End Of The Day? Here's A Solution To That Problem! Pray It Back To The Lord & Proclaim It To Someone Else That Day! And You Won't Soon Forget It Yourself!
 - But - What Happens When You **Do** Contemplate:
 - The Works Of The Lord?
 - God Himself Will Provide:

4. ***A Consolation In The Works Of The Lord!***

- A Consolation - And A Comfort - Which We See In:
 - 77:14-20 - "Thou art the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people. / Thou hast with thine arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah. / 16 The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled. / 17 The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad. / 18 The voice of thy thunder was in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook. / 19 Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known. / 20 Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron!"
 - The More Asaph Remembered The Works Of The Lord - The More He Realized:
 - That - ***"All God's Works Are Wonders!"***
 - And His Troubled Soul Was Encouraged By The "Wonderful Works" Of God!
 - Asaph Was Comforted By:
 - The Work Of The Lord's Deliverance!
 - Which He Summarizes For Us:
 - In 77:15 - "Thou Hast With Thine Arm Redeemed Thy People!"
 - Of Course - Asaph Is Looking Back To The Redemption Of God's People From Their Bondage In Egypt!
 - But - As Paul Tells Us In 1 Corinthians 10:11:
 - "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples!"
 - This Means - That The Deliverance Of God's People From Egypt:
 - Is An Illustration & An Object Lesson For The Greater Deliverance:
 - He Accomplishes Through The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - When You Turn To & Trust In Jesus:
 - For Salvation From Your Sin:
 - He Redeems You & Delivers You:
 - From The Bondage Of Sin & Death & Satan Himself!
 - And Then - You Can Remember:
 - This "Work Of The Lord" Every Single Day:
 - Of Your Life!
 - Have You Done That?
 - If Not, Why Not? If So, Never Get Over It!
 - But - You Can Also Be Comforted By:
 - The Work Of The Lord's Destruction!
 - Even As Asaph Did - When He Described:
 - Just ***How*** The Lord Rescued His People:
 - From Pharaoh - In 77:16-18!
 - Not Only Did God Use:
 - The Piled-Up Waters Of The Red Sea:

- To Wreak Havoc And Destruction On The Army Of Pharaoh:
 - He Also Used The Power Of:
 - Rain & Thunder & Lightning & An Earthquake!
- In Deuteronomy 26:8 - Moses “Remembered The Works Of The Lord” - When He Described Their Deliverance This Way:
 - “And the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders!”
- The Work Of The Lord’s Judgment & Destruction:
 - Was A Source Of Great Comfort:
 - To God’s People! And It Still Is!
- Because - Through The Jesus:
 - God Will Judge & Bring About The Final Destruction Of *ALL* Your Enemies!
 - With His “Mighty Hand” & With His “Outstretched Arm” - Jesus Will:
 - Destroy With Everlasting Destruction:
 - All Sin! All Death! All Disease! All Sorrow! All Pain! And The Source Of It All - The Devil Himself!
- Revelation 20:10 - “And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever!”
 - This Too Is The “Work Of The Lord!”
 - Remember It! And - Take Comfort In It!
 - “For The Coming Of The Lord – To Do All This – Draweth Nigh!” (James 5:8)
- But - In The Meantime:
 - You Can Also Take Comfort In:
- The Work Of The Lord’s Direction!
 - Which Asaph Also Remembered In:
 - 77:19-20 - “Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known. / Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron!”
 - As Charles Spurgeon Once Described It:
 - “The Smiter Of Egypt Was The Shepherd Of Israel!”
 - And This Is Still The “Work Of The Lord”:
 - Every Day Of Your Life - When You **Believe** In Him & **Belong** To Him!
 - He Directs & Shepherds You:
 - In His Own Path & According To His Own Ways!
 - And He Does So Through:
 - The “Good Shepherd”:
 - Who “Gave His [Own] Life For [His] Sheep!” (John 10:11)
 - The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - Even Though Many Times:
 - Like Asaph - It May Seem To You Like His:
 - “Footsteps Are Not Known!”
 - And You May Only See One Set Of Footprints In The Sand!
 - Remember This!
 - “It Was Then That [He] Carried You!”
- Will You Resolve Today:
 - To “Remember The Works Of The Lord”?
 - Because - The Way The Lord Worked:
 - In The Past - Is The Way The Lord Works:
 - In The Present!
 - **IE**: He Is **Not** Like An Investment In The Stock Market! With Every Investment You Make, There Comes A Caution: “Past Performance Is No Guarantee Of Future Results!” Not So With The Lord & His Work!
 - Because - The Work Of The Lord Reveals:
 - The Will Of The Lord:
 - Which Never Changes!
 - And When You Remember This Truth:
 - It Will Bring You Great Consolation:
 - When Your Soul Is Troubled & Overwhelmed!

Conclusion:

1. It Was The “Works Of The Lord” That Took Asaph:
 - From The Deep Valley Of:
 - Spiritual Conviction & Confusion:
 - To The Mountain-Top Heights Of:
 - Contemplation In The Lord:
 - And Consolation From The Lord!
 - The Lord’s Works Of:
 - Deliverance & Direction & Even Destruction!
2. And - They Can Do The Same For You Today!
 - So - Remember Them!
 - Make This Resolution:
 - Psalm 77:14 - “I Will Remember The Works Of The Lord!”
 - Because:
 - More Than Anything Else You Might Fill Your Memory With:
 - God’s Works Are Most Worthy:
 - To Be Remembered!
 - They Are Not Trivial!
3. “Remember The Works Of The Lord!”

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