

Evening Sermon Outline – June 13, 2021
“A Long List of Sins Psalm” Psalm 106

I. A Praise and Prayer Introduction -

1. Praise, this is hallelujah again -

¹ Praise the LORD! Psalm 106:1 A

2. Thanksgiving -

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good!* For His mercy *endures forever.* Psalm 106:1 B

3. Wonder at the greatness of the TASK of Praise -

² Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? Who can declare all His praise? Psalm 106:2

Verse 2.—“Who can utter?” etc. This verse is susceptible of two interpretations; for if you read it in connection with the one immediately following, the sense will be, that all men are not alike equal to the task of praising God, because the ungodly and the wicked do nothing else than profane his holy name with their unclean lips; as it is said in the fiftieth Psalm: “But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?” And hence to this sentence the following clause should have been annexed, in the form of a reply, “Blessed are they that keep judgment.” I am of opinion, however, that the prophet had another design, namely, that there is no man who has ever endeavoured to concentrate all his energies, both physical and mental, in the praising of God, but win find himself inadequate for so lofty a subject, the transcendent grandeur of which overpowers all our senses. Not that he exalts the power of God designedly to deter us from celebrating its praises, but rather as the means of stirring us up to do so to the utmost of our power. Is it any reason for ceasing our exertions, that with whatever alacrity we pursue our course, we yet come far short of perfection? But the thing which ought to inspire us with the greatest encouragement is the knowledge that, though ability may fail us, the praises which from the heart we offer to God are pleasing to him; only let us beware of callousness; for it would certainly be very absurd for those who cannot attain to a

title of perfection, to make that the occasion of their not reaching to the hundredth part of it.—
John Calvin.

4. Key to right praise is obedience to God’s law

³ Blessed are those who keep justice, *And he who does righteousness at all times!* Psalm 106:3

5. The Psalmist’s prayer for himself –

⁴ Remember me, O LORD, with the favor *You have toward Your people.* Oh, visit me with Your salvation, ⁵ That I may see the benefit of Your chosen ones, That I may rejoice in the gladness of Your nation, That I may glory with Your inheritance. Psalm 106:1-5 (NKJV)

II. We are the same old sinners, we have not “evolved” in any sense -

⁶ We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly. Psalm 106:6

Faith of our fathers, living still, In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword; ...
Might be - Sins of our fathers, sinning still, in spite of God’s great grace... This psalmist sings, we have followed in their sinful footsteps!

1. Let us get the record straight; pre-Red Sea dividing there was a great lack of faith in Israel -

⁷ Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders; They did not remember the multitude of Your mercies, But rebelled by the sea—the Red Sea. ⁸ Nevertheless He saved them for His name’s sake, That He might make His mighty power known. ⁹ He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it dried up; So He led them through the depths, As through the wilderness. ¹⁰ He saved them from the hand of him who hated *them*, And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy. ¹¹ The waters covered their enemies; There was not one of them left. ¹² Then they believed His words; They sang His praise. Psalm 106:7-12

A. This sad truth is seen in Exodus 14 –

¹⁰ And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹ Then they said to Moses, “Because *there were no graves in Egypt*, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? ¹² Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, ‘Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians?’ For *it would have been better*

for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness.”¹³ And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.”¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”
Exodus 14:10–14 (NKJV)

B. Only in Exodus 15, after the Egyptian soldiers were drowned, do they praise –

15 Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: “I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea!² The LORD *is* my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; He *is* my God, and I will praise Him; My father’s God, and I will exalt Him. Exodus 15:1–2 (NKJV)

2. It did not take long for the dancing and praise to turn into complaint(s) -

¹³ They soon forgot His works; They did not wait for His counsel,¹⁴ But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, And tested God in the desert.¹⁵ And He gave them their request, but sent leanness into their soul. Psalm 106:13-14

How soon is soon? Three days after the Red Sea miracle, and their song of praise, they are back to their faithless, complaining ways –

²² So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.²³ Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah.²⁴ And the people complained against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” Exodus 15:22–24 (NKJV)

3. However, complaining about food and drink was NOT their only sin, some envied Moses’ calling and position -

¹⁶ When they envied Moses in the camp, and Aaron the saint of the LORD,¹⁷ The earth opened up and swallowed Dathan, And covered the faction of Abiram.¹⁸ A fire was kindled in their company; The flame burned up the wicked. Psalm 106:16-18

16 Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took *men*;² and they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown.³ They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, “*You take* too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation *is* holy, every one of them, and the LORD *is* among them.

Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?”

⁴ So when Moses heard *it*, he fell on his face;⁵ and he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, “Tomorrow morning the LORD will show who *is* His and *who is* holy, and will cause *him* to come near to Him. That one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him.⁶ Do this: Take censers, Korah and all your company;⁷ put fire in them and put incense in them before the LORD tomorrow, and it shall be *that* the man whom the LORD chooses *is* the holy one. *You take* too much upon yourselves, you sons of Levi!”

⁸ Then Moses said to Korah, “Hear now, you sons of Levi:⁹ Is it a small thing to you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself, to do the work of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to serve them;¹⁰ and that He has brought you near to *Himself*, you and all your brethren, the sons of Levi, with you? And are you seeking the priesthood also?¹¹ Therefore you and all your company are gathered together against the LORD. And what *is* Aaron that you complain against him?”

¹² And Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, but they said, “We will not come up!¹³ Is it a small thing that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, that you should keep acting like a prince over us?¹⁴ Moreover you have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, nor given us inheritance of fields and vineyards. Will you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come up!”

¹⁵ Then Moses was very angry, and said to the LORD, “Do not respect their offering. I have not taken one donkey from them, nor have I hurt one of them.”

¹⁶ And Moses said to Korah, “Tomorrow, you and all your company be present before the LORD—you and they, as well as Aaron.¹⁷ Let each take his censer and put incense in it, and each of you bring his censer before the LORD, two hundred and fifty censers; both you and Aaron, each *with* his censer.”¹⁸ So every man took his censer, put fire in it, laid incense on it, and stood at the door of the tabernacle of meeting with Moses and Aaron.¹⁹ And Korah gathered all the congregation against them at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the congregation.

²⁰ And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,²¹ “Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment.”

²² Then they fell on their faces, and said, “O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and You be angry with all the congregation?”

²³ So the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,²⁴ “Speak to the congregation, saying, ‘Get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.’ ”

²⁵ Then Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him.²⁶ And he spoke to the congregation, saying, “Depart now from the tents of these wicked men! Touch nothing of

theirs, lest you be consumed in all their sins.”²⁷ So they got away from around the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram; and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the door of their tents, with their wives, their sons, and their little children.

²⁸ And Moses said: “By this you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for *I have not done them* of my own will.²⁹ If these men die naturally like all men, or if they are visited by the common fate of all men, *then* the LORD has not sent me.³⁰ But if the LORD creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the pit, then you will understand that these men have rejected the LORD.”

³¹ Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them,³² and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all *their* goods.³³ So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly.³⁴ Then all Israel who *were* around them fled at their cry, for they said, “Lest the earth swallow us up *also!*”

³⁵ And a fire came out from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.

³⁶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:³⁷ “Tell Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, to pick up the censers out of the blaze, for they are holy, and scatter the fire some distance away.³⁸ The censers of these men who sinned against their own souls, let them be made into hammered plates as a covering for the altar. Because they presented them before the LORD, therefore they are holy; and they shall be a sign to the children of Israel.”³⁹ So Eleazar the priest took the bronze censers, which those who were burned up had presented, and they were hammered out as a covering on the altar,⁴⁰ to be a memorial to the children of Israel that no outsider, who *is* not a descendant of Aaron, should come near to offer incense before the LORD, that he might not become like Korah and his companions, just as the LORD had said to him through Moses. Numbers 16:1-40

4. *Their sin distorted the truth about God, and displayed their sinful hatred for Him - God – see Exodus 32*

¹⁹ They made a calf in Horeb, and worshiped the molded image.²⁰ Thus they changed their glory into the image of an ox that eats grass.²¹ They forgot God their Savior, Who had done great things in Egypt,²² Wondrous works in the land of Ham, Awesome things by the Red Sea.²³ Therefore He said that He would destroy them, Had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in the breach, To turn away His wrath, lest He destroy *them*. Psalm 106:19-23

When they built the golden calf, they not only

distorted God’s image, they show they had forgotten Him altogether, they had definitely forgot His commands –

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of *anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth;⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. Exodus 20:4-6

5. *When coming to the promised land, they feared the giants and despised God’s land and His plan –*

²⁴ Then they despised the pleasant land; They did not believe His word,²⁵ But complained in their tents, *And* did not heed the voice of the LORD.²⁶ Therefore He raised up His hand *in an oath* against them, To overthrow them in the wilderness,²⁷ To overthrow their descendants among the nations, *And* to scatter them in the lands. Psalm 106:24-27

6. *The Baal of Peor incident–*

Balaam was a wicked false prophet for hire. He is known for being rebuked by a donkey. He is also known for attempting to curse Israel, yet every time he tried to curse Israel the Holy Spirit overpowered him and forced him to bless Israel!

Finally, frustrated he coached Balak king of Moab to destroy Israel by sending Moab’s beautiful women among them, tempting them to sin and to worship Moab’s false gods -

²⁸ They joined themselves also to Baal of Peor, *And* ate sacrifices made to the dead.²⁹ Thus they provoked *Him* to anger with their deeds, *And* the plague broke out among them.³⁰ Then Phinehas stood up and *intervened*, *And* the plague was stopped.³¹ *And* that was accounted to him for righteousness To all generations forevermore. Psalm 106:28-31

⁵ So Moses said to the judges of Israel, “Every one of you kill his men who were joined to Baal of Peor.”⁶ And indeed, one of the children of Israel came and presented to his brethren a Midianite woman in the sight of Moses and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who *were* weeping at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.⁷ Now when Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw *it*, he rose from among the congregation and took a javelin in his hand;⁸ and he went after the man of Israel into the tent and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her body. So the plague was stopped among the children of Israel.⁹ And those

who died in the plague were twenty-four thousand.

¹⁰ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

¹¹ “Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned back My wrath from the children of Israel, because he was zealous with My zeal among them, so that I did not consume the children of Israel in My zeal. Numbers 25:5–11 (NKJV)

7. *Moses striking the rock when he did not need to -*

³² They angered *Him* also at the waters of strife, So that it went ill with Moses on account of them; ³³ Because they rebelled against His Spirit, So that he spoke rashly with his lips. Psalm 106:32-33

8. *Not killing the Canaanites -*

³⁴ They did not destroy the peoples, Concerning whom the LORD had commanded them, ³⁵ But they mingled with the Gentiles And learned their works; ³⁶ They served their idols, Which became a snare to them. ³⁷ They even sacrificed their sons And their daughters to demons, ³⁸ And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with blood. ³⁹ Thus they were defiled by their own works, And played the harlot by their own deeds. ⁴⁰ Therefore the wrath of the LORD was kindled against His people, So that He abhorred His own inheritance. ⁴¹ And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles, And those who hated them ruled over them. ⁴² Their enemies also oppressed them, And they were brought into subjection under their hand. ⁴³ Many times He delivered them; But they rebelled in their counsel, And were brought low for their iniquity. Psalm 106:34-43

What is discussed in verses 34-43, started when Joshua died, was corrected at various times in Israel's history, but continued with Saul and continued throughout Israel's history until they captive in Babylon.

What went wrong was people were too sympathetic to sin and sinners, they were not like Phinehas, and neither have we been.

We allowed evolution to be taught in schools and now Christianity is kicked out of schools!

9. *Yet, even now we can look to a merciful God -*

⁴⁴ Nevertheless He regarded their affliction, When He heard their cry; ⁴⁵ And for their sake He remembered His covenant, And relented according to the multitude of His mercies. ⁴⁶ He also made them to be pitied By all those who carried them away captive. ⁴⁷ Save us, O LORD our God, And gather us from among the Gentiles, To give thanks to Your holy name, To triumph in Your praise. ⁴⁸ Blessed be the LORD God of Israel From everlasting

to everlasting! And let all the people say, “Amen!” Praise the LORD! Psalm 106:44-48

What William Bridge said at verse :8, applies even more so at verse :48

Verse 8.—“Nevertheless he saved them.”—If God should not shew mercy to his people with a *nevertheless*, how should the glory of his mercy appear? If a physician should only cure a man that hath the head-ache or the tooth-ache; one that hath taken cold, or some small disease; it would not argue any great skill and excellency in the physician. But when a man is nigh unto death, hath one foot in the grave, or is, in the eye of reason, past all recovery; if then the physician cure him, it argues much the skill and excellency of that physician. So now, if God should only cure, and save a people that were less evil and wicked; or that were good indeed, where should the excellence of mercy appear? But when a people shall be drawing near to death, lying bed-rid, as it were, and the Lord out of his free love, for his own name's sake, shall rise, and cure such an unworthy people, this sets out the glory of his mercy. It is said in the verse precedent, “They rebelled at the sea, even at the Red Sea,” or, as in the Hebrew, “even *in* the Red Sea”; when the waters stood like walls on both sides of them; when they saw those walls of waters that never people saw before, and saw the power, the infinite power of God leading them through on dry land; *then* did they rebel, at the sea, *even in* the sea; and yet for all this the Lord saved them with a *notwithstanding* all this. And I say, shall the Lord put forth so much of grace upon a people, that were under the law; and not put forth much more of his grace upon those that are under the gospel?—William Bridge.

Arnold Brevick