My Notes 7-25-2023 Tuesday Meeting

Psalm 103:1-12 Bless the LORD, O my soul: And all that is within me, *bless* his holy name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all his benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; Who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; Who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things; So that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

6 The LORD executeth righteousness And judgment for all that are oppressed.

7 He made known his ways unto Moses, His acts unto the children of Israel.

8 The LORD *is* merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

9 He will not always chide: Neither will he keep *his anger* for ever.

10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, *So* great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, *So* far hath he removed our transgressions from us

Our Handfuls with purpose. So I want you to find your places in the Bible in <u>Psalm 103</u>. So we've got at least the first 14 verses or so to cover. I think it's one of the grandest places in the scriptures I think you'll find it to be enlightening this morning.

Lord, we always look for your blessing as we begin we know that without you we could do nothing. With you, Lord, we can understand the deep things. So we pray that you'll help us Lord, as we search out the scriptures this morning and find strength and edification in Jesus name Amen.

Alright, so hopefully you found your places in this glorious passage so. <u>Psalm 103:1-12</u> Bless the LORD, O my soul:

And all that is within me, *bless* his holy name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul,

And forget not all his benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities;

Who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction;

Who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things*;

So that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

6 The LORD executeth righteousness
And judgment for all that are oppressed.
7 He made known his ways unto Moses,
His acts unto the children of Israel.
8 The LORD *is* merciful and gracious,
Slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.
9 He will not always chide:
Neither will he keep *his anger* for ever.
10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins;
Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.
11 For as the heaven is high above the earth,
So great is his mercy toward them that fear him.
12 As far as the east is from the west,
So far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: And all that is within me, bless his holy name.

And, like as a father, pitied his children so the Lord pities them that fear him, for he knoweth our frame, and he knoweth that we are dust. Alright, so let's begin right there at that first verse. So all this is very inviting these passages. So we begin with this expression. Bless the Lord.Now we're.Used to.Being beneficiaries of his blessings.Where recipients? So all of us today as John rightly said, look we we woke up on the right side of the grass, so that's that's the beginning of blessings, but many, many blessings that all of us experience on a daily moment by moment basis, but what does it mean to bless the Lord? God has everything he's self-sufficient. So there's nothing that he needs from us, and yet here he receives our blessings. Bless the Lord. So here we are, blessing God. So we what might look at this a little bit more curiously, and wonder how we we might be able to bless the Lord today. He's done so much for us. What could we do in return? So well, of course, let's, we'll look at it from a familial position, you know, where sons and daughters of the living God now, and sons and daughters, how can they please their father? How can they bless their father, we think, and the answer to that I find in <u>3 John 4</u> where it says I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. So I'm a father with two beautiful daughters who have grown up to love Jesus with all their heart and raising their families to fear God, and these are things that delight my soul. In fact, I often will write this text to them and say this is, this is my greatest joy, is to know and to hear that you're serving Christ, that you're walking with the Lord walking in the truth. So in the spiritual sense, as children of God, this would this would be a way that we bless the Lord. We bless the Lord by walking in his truth, by obeying him, and this is this is pleasing to our Creator God. When I was in grade school we had a little project where we took a stone, we go outside in the yard and we found a rock, you know, and we brought it to school, and we brought it into art class, and we got these different paints and started to apply it to the rock and then it was actually a ceramic type of a paint and then we put it in as a little kiln that they had and then they would kind of bank the paint onto it. We put glitter on it and all the rest, you know, kind of decorate it, and then we could present it to our parents, and so, so I did that and put a little note on it to my father probably for Father's Day, something of that nature, and was

hoping that it would be a blessing to him, but you know, when your childish, you think that you're really giving your father something very valuable, something that he really needs, you know of course he doesn't need that rock. Who would need that? You know to put on your desk with the little glitter of paint on it, but because it was given to him by his son, it meant something. Again, there was no intrinsic value in the rock, but the fact that it was presented with love and care from his son he he received it gratefully, but it went a step further and I remember my dad was a principal at Rankin elementary school and then later in the high school at Scott High School in Braddock, but I remember going into his office often as a, you know, maybe on a weekend, my dad would have work to do and he'd take us down to the school. We would play a little bit in the gym and then I remember coming into his principal's office, and to my surprise, there on his desk was that rock, and he used it as a paperweight, and so this that I gave to him, you know, it meant something to him. Again, we understand there was no value in it it's just a rock with some glitter on it, but the fact that I found it on his desk there and that he was using it as a paperweight that thrilled my soul that I gave my dad something that he needed, apparently, right? He needed this. So I think in the same sense when we bless the Lord that he doesn't need our blessings he can live without our blessings and without whatever little gifts we think we're giving to him, he doesn't need any of that, but he receives it, and he uses it. Isn't that something? So here we are what talents, what abilities do we have? I mean really, such poor abilities when we look at the omnipotent God that we serve and love, he doesn't need us to help him along in his work, and yet he desires to use it. He uses the simple things that we offer to him he is blessed by that. So we might keep that in mind just again, you know, just going into his office and seeing on his desk this paperweight. Of course, there were other things in his office I saw as well. my dad, you know, his old school, and he paddled his students, what to God we had teachers and principals like that today. They're not allowed to do this. They'll they have a lawsuit, you know?But my dad, he was known for being a martinet and a disciplinarian. You know, a World War 2 veteran, he wasn't taking nonsense from children, and in fact, he would tell the kids if you came back after he paddled them, he said you come back the next time he says I'm going to use the electric paddle and he had to paddle up on the filing cabinet with a cord on it, and he used to point to that, you know, like that scared the life out of those kids. Of course they obeyed their principle thereafter, you know. So maybe we can think of blessing the Lord in that sense that our obedience, our love for the truth, our defense of the truth. Our propagation of the truth all these bless the Lord. So here, um, bless the Lord, O my soul. Let's take the next portion of the first verse there, so. My soul and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name. So now we're talking about the inward man. So we blessed, the Lord from within all that is within us, so our goal is requiring of us totality of virtue, strength, intelligence, whatever we have to offer it needs to come from within, and be it needs to be a full and complete surrender to the Lord. In our lessons, oh, weeks or months ago, when we were in First Thessalonians 5:23 I think we might have even started with that as our handfuls. You might remember we got to that fifth chapter where, I pray God, your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we see the tripartite nature of man, the body, soul, and spirit, and this is a rather definitive passage on the that motion that there are three components. To all of us, and we're not always aware too much of the difference between soul and spirit, but nonetheless, from this text we recognize that there is that, and certainly in Psalm 103:1, all that is within me so the inner man, the soul and spirit of man. So this tripartite nature I liken it unto a peanut. You know it has a shell, and it has two components inside the shell, though, and that that's pretty much what our body is all about. It's a container for the soul and the spirit, and of course we understand soul. Spirit is the that's the eternal part of us. The shell is

corruptible and it will experience temporal existence here on earth, then ultimately decay because it's subject to the curse. So it's all that is within me bless the Lord. So we want we want to take the soul and the spirit part of us. God is not impressed with ostentatious worship. The Pharisees offered such worship it was all external. They went through the motions, and some of us, in our religious experience perhaps, went through the motions. It was that we just did what we were supposed to do. It was external there was nothing from within. There was no heart, there was no soul in our worship Jesus excoriated the Pharisees in Matthew 15:8-9 by saying, you draw nigh to me with your lips, but your heart is far from me. There's a big difference so God wants us to worship from within. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me. So that's the notion of totality now back to this tripartite nature of man, we have the body which is rather world conscious. but the soul is self-conscious. It's aware of itself, and we can go to the next step, of course, the regenerated soul is God conscious, and for that matter, the unregenerate soul is as well lost. People are aware that there's something, there's something more. They just they go further in their exploration of this. God consciousness when they leave it, but this is what brings conviction to the heart and mind and the need for eternal life and a regenerated spirit. So there again we see the inward and the outward and the contrast Ephesians 3:16 -19 addresses the matter as well, and that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his spirit in the inner man that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith that ye being rooted and grounded in love. May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the depth and the length and the breadth and the height and to know the love of God, which passeth knowledge. So there's that's the complete text. The inner man is aware of this and has spiritual perception. There's so much different than just the outward man with the we have the five senses, and that is what puts us into contact with the world that is about us, but the inner man understands the world that is unseen. We have spiritual understanding, and that's where faith comes in at <u>Hebrews 11:1</u> Now faith which is the substance of things, hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. The inner man can perceive of these things. The outer man demands proof. I have to see it, feel it, touch it, taste it, that sort of thing, but the inner man understands and perceives things which are guite unseen. Again about this inward man in Second Corinthians 4:16, 5:1 which was one of our recent studies as well in our handfuls. For which cause we faint not; but though they're outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day we see the contrast between outward and inward man, and further and Second Corinthians 5:1 we find that we know that the earthly house the outer man of this tabernacle, the word tabernacle attempt you know it's temporary dwelling place. Though the earthly House of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God and house not made with hands eternal in the heavens. This takes us to the the next level and the the hope of a glorified body. Now the reunion of soul and spirit with a body now they can tolerate eternity. I can live forever, will not be subject to aging and the curse, and so that tripartite in the resurrection will be reunited at death the soul and spirit leaves the body, leaves this tabernacle, this temporary place, but we await that resurrection. So all that is within me bless his holy name. So what does when the when the master, when the lawyer came to Jesus, said in <u>Matthew 22:36</u> master, what is the great commandment of the law? Jesus said Matthew 22:37 thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, now he's talking about the inward compartment, isn't he? This is the first and great commandment, and this is of course, taken from the Old Testament in Deuteronomy 11:13 It shall come to pass if you shall hearken diligently to my commandments, which I command you this day, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul. So that's very much what we are seeing here kind of reiterated. In the Psalm Psalm 103 and then later when Jesus was accosted

by the lawyers, his answer was to love the Lord thy God or or what the Jewish people refer to as the Shema, and this Shema is the encapsulation of the law. You know, Jesus said in Matthew 22:40 on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets, and what is it but found in Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Hero Israel the Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, with all my might. And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in thine heart. Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shall talk of them when they'll sit in thine house, and when thou walkest, by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou wisest up. That shall bind them for a sign upon thy hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. You know I have a little picture here that demonstrates what the Orthodox Jew will do, and that is the phylacteries where they wrap it around their arm. It's the leather bands about their arm and also about your the the head with the little compartment with scripture in it, and that's the frontlets between thine eyes, and that's what write them on the posts of thy house and on thy gates. So this is as it were when asked about the what's the great commandment. Jesus said this is the great commandment to love the Lord thy God. Upon this he says all the prophets, everything that has ever been written can be distilled to this purest form, and that is to love with all your heart, so we have it there. Again, the psalmist is nothing but reiteration of this Shema, the notion of loving, so bless the Lord, Oh my soul and all that is within me, heart, soul, mind, all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Psalm 103:2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all his benefits:

Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, and forget not all of his benefits. So at this point we move on to the benefits if you go take a job somewhere you normally want to know, well, what are the benefits you wanna know? You know, are we going to have any vacation time. Is there any? Is there a health benefit? Do we have eves and ear benefit and that sort of thing? Is there a retirement fund? So we want to know what the benefits are, all their benefits with believing, that's for sure, and they are eternal benefits. Well, I might say they're temporal as well what believer here isn't benefited every day by the presence of the Lord and the peace of God within our hearts we have all of these things, but the benefits. So let's delineate perhaps a list of those benefits even now., and that's what Psalm 103 does so. So Psalm 68:19 Blessed be the Lord who daily loadeth us with benefits. So we do expect that were loaded with them. As a matter of fact I hope everybody sees this, because sometimes, because of the agony of the flesh and the groanings and the problems, and we're apt to be focused more on what we don't have than what we do have, and that I think that's an egregious mistake. It's an unthankful spirit, complaint is something that's really a sin. So God wants us to meditate on the good things and the things that he has provided. He daily loaded us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. I think we should always keep uppermost in our thinking the fact that we're safe people no matter what's happening here on earth. We have the benefit of eternal life. That's right on the Horizon spoke with two people last night, and both are facing imminent death, and at least for the one the notion of salvation is an anchor to the soul as she's going through the various changes and recognizing the temporal nature, you know, cancer is a hard thing to beat sometimes and so. She's recognizing that and then, you know, the great benefit that we have to know that we are saved, and what a difference that truly makes in the life. So Psalm 116:12 also refers to what shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me. So we're the

beneficiaries, he's the benefactor, and this is a wonderful word, the prefix Benny, of course, is the root of this word. It speaks of good things. So benevolence but God provides for us so, and then of course in the New Testament concept we have Second Corinthians 1:15 That you might have a second benefit. All right, so let's take a a closer look at the benefits now. So, now he delineates a list of them, and not all of them, by the way. Just enough for us, I think, to be satisfied. Here we have a list of the benefits, forgiveness, healing, salvation, right, loving, kindness and satisfaction. So we have that in the next number of verses. That we're going to look at in Psalm 103 so he forgiveth all thine iniquities. Now that's it. That's the first thing that we're reminded of and I never want to lose sight of this. I've often said, look, if we received nothing else from God, we've received this. This is the most important thing I just preached a couple weeks ago on the paralytic, he's brought down through the roof as he's suspended, juxtaposed between the ceiling and the floor on his way down Jesus said, son your sins are forgiven, thee now of course, they were hoping for something else. He was born of four, and they all were expecting his healing. That's why they brought this paralytic. They wanted Jesus to heal him, and Jesus would do that in due time, but first he uh I have to say he gives it to him the greatest gift, the best gift first of all, forgiveness. So that your sins are forgiven you. So he says, son, thy sins are forgiven thee. So this is the great gift he forgiveth all thine iniquities it's rather powerful statement. Psalm 85:2-3 we have the highest forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin, Selah. That was taken away all thy wrath: Thou hast turned thyself from the fierceness of thine anger. That's a good way to consider all of this, isn't it so? Iniquity by the way, there's several Hebrew words that are given for sin and transgression and iniguity. We translate it with different English words iniquity being perhaps the foulest, you know where where the the depths. Here the depths of iniquity. So he's forgiven the iniquity of thy people, covered their sin, and taken away wrath. Turn thyself from the fierceness of thine anger. I mean, it's a good description of what forgiveness provides for us here, and how it reaches to the extremity of our sin, the iniquity all the way down to the the worst kind of sin. We have Jesus as the great sin bearer offering the forgiveness, of course, through the explation of our sins at the cross that's there that he says, father forgive them for they know not what they do. So indeed, this is the first and best benefit of all that we receive from the master forgiveness of our sins, and David writes, of course Psalm 32:1-2,5 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sins is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputed not iniquity, and whose spirit there is no quile. I acknowledged my sin David Writes unto the end mine iniquity have I not hid I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah. Now this again we understand repentance we understand confession. No one is saved that doesn't first acknowledge who they are and what they are. We can't hide our sin from God so he that cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God, in John 3:21, so that notion of bringing it out confessing it, and then receiving the benefit of the forgiveness of iniguity. Oh, what a glorious thing it is. So now turn also to Colossians 2:12-14. You know, the New Testament gives us such a wonderful amplification of all these concepts. The Old Testament was an atonement, the covering of the sin, but now we have the sin taken away i its totality. By the way, this in Colossians 2:12-14 I like, especially the second chapter. You being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh that the quickened together with him having forgiven you all trespasses blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, in contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross. Well, this is uh you can take just a few verses and really explain the process whereby God has taken away the sin and what he has done and how he's done it and nailing it, the cross. Jesus becomes then a mediator for us we were dead, we were as good as dead and in hell,

but God has quickened us he's raised us from the dead, and has forgiven, and again. look at the totality of this all your trespasses. All your trespasses, so just on Sunday, I was going back over the list of sins. You know, was that Wednesday? I guess so, and sin list that we have in the Bible. We have them both littered throughout the scriptures. Of course we could start with the 10 commandments, but there are many other places where we we see one after the other. Mark 7, for instance, where Jesus even speaks about out of the heart of man proceed evil thoughts and adulteries and fornications and he goes on, you know a list of 20 different sins. First Corinthians 6. Galatians 5. Revelation 21. So we have all these different places, and all these different sins and categories of sins that are covered in the Scripture, and across all of this God writes the word forgiven. I've forgiven you all trespasses so what a mighty benefit we have in this forgiveness, and we're believers now, and we can say, well thank God all those sins have been forgiven, but you know, this is a past, Present, future. Believers do not live without sin yeah, that's very clear from 1 John 1:8-9 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have no sin, we make him a liar, and the truth is not in us. So there's the notion of, you know believers, now if we say we have no sin, we're we're deceiving ourselves so there's no sinless perfection, but what we do have is now the Holy Spirit within us, living within us and reminding us, and giving us conviction of sin, and in fact we begin to understand the exceeding sinfulness. It's not until you become a believer that you really begin to recognize how we have offended a holy God, and as we read the Scripture and we become more acquainted with the righteousness of God, we begin to recognize things that maybe once we could say, oh, there's nothing wrong with this, and then we see how wrong it really is, and so it makes us enjoy the word forgiveness, and the benefit of forgiveness even the more, and this expression, as we find in Colossians 2:13 forgiven all trespasses.

<u>Psalm 103:3</u> Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; Who healeth all thy diseases;

Well, we'll move to the next benefit, which is healing. Who healeth all thy diseases. Now, this speaking, this can become a stumbling block for people. They'll look at this and say, well if this be true why do I still have backache? Why do I still have heart problems? Why do I still have diabetes? Why do the list goes on and on? So we'll look, we're we're gonna cover this here, but about. We certainly understand in the absolute sense with his stripes, we are healed in the absolute sense, by that I mean ultimately, we're going to a place where sickness is banished, thank God. So that will be the end of our problems, but if you haven't noticed, we're not there yet. This is certainly not the Kingdom, and we're not in heaven so to to take the passage in its absolute sense. Then he will heal all diseases, but we might also look in the temporal sense here. All disease that we've ever had has been healed by God. I mean all of us are afflicted everybody here has had a cold and has gotten through it, and everybody here has scraped themselves one way or another, and you know the bleeding came, and then in a couple of days of scab appears and the next thing we know, we don't even know that we were cut. So it is as it were, uh a faculty that has been applied to the human experience, whether we're saved or not. God has equipped the body with a certain propensity to heal itself. I remember a doctor friend saying that to me once because, you know, they get puzzled over some things and you go to them and you expect them to be omniscient, and that' I don't think they're

omniscient, and I I some of them act like they are, but they really aren't, and so I don't blame them if they can't solve this problem or that problem. There's an awful lot of disease that they have no answer for. They do their best. I think in a in 100 years from now someone will look back and say you did what to people too, you know, uh, and that's what we do now. We look back at the at 100 years ago and what they used to do to heal people, and now today we think it's savage, you know. So by the grace of God, making some advances medically, but ultimate healing is something reserved for the Kingdom to come. In the meantime though, yes there is the propensity of healing that has been applied to the physical frame, and my doctor friend said to me once, he said, well you know, he said the body has an amazing way of healing itself, and I kind of joke with him. I said, what does that mean? I don't have to pay you a a copay today. I mean, the Lord gets the credit then, right? If if there's a healing well, he is the Great Physician after all, isn't he?Just a little study on that. Well, in case you didn't notice, the creation is cursed thanks to Adam. Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin. So this isn't the way God made it, and when people blame God for not doing this or doing that for them, and why do we have to go through this suffering and trouble and so on. That wasn't the original creation. It's not what God said when he said everything was very good. This was because of disobedience, and now we have a generational curse that has fallen upon us and all of Adams children. Have fallen prey to the curse and we've all experienced. To some degree or another, the aspects and the pain of the temporal world. This passage in Romans 8:22-23 says it right. We know that the whole creation, so it's not just us, but the creation itself, groans and travails in pain together until now, and not only they, but ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves grown within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. So something is going to happen in the future where we could see the absolute promise of Psalm 103. He healeth all our diseases, but for now, as Jesus said, in the world you shall have tribulation. John 16:33 Be of good cheer I have overcome the world. So when he returns, the curse will be banished in the meantime, though you can expect, even as believers that trouble will come in your direction, and it doesn't surprise us. Great men of faith have suffered sickness. We consider the life of Job, for instance, he was covered with sores some sort of form of leprosy, apparently very painful, and he went through a physical suffering as well as terrible grief. The loss of his children, the loss of his estate all of this gone, so God's people, the godliest of God's people suffer. We'll look at Daniel, and Daniel and godly man in the midst of the paganism, and we find him fasting, praying, and sick. The Angel finally comes and relieves him, but he went through this as well. Elisha dies of a sickness, and even though he was not only filled with the spirit, but a double portion of the spirit. We think of Jesus good friend Lazarus these were godly people. Mary, Martha, and Lazarus they opened their home to Jesus on many occasion. While he in his itinerant ministry needed a place. They offered their place to him, but Lazarus, a man that loved the Lord, dies, and then he is risen from the dead, but still yeah, I do experience this sickness. The Apostle Paul himself speaks of a thorn in the flesh. We don't know what it was, but we know that it was a terrible affliction. We might posit that it was his eyes. He couldn't see very well. He had to write with large letters when he wrote. So it might be that he said that the Galatians were willing to pluck their eye out and give their eye to him. So perhaps it was something to do with his eye. His bodily presence was contemptible, he says in <u>2 Corinthians 10:10</u>. So that that word contemptible is an interesting word., but some say that means that he was stooped over. He could not, he had some form of osteoporosis, apparently. Well, there's all sorts of conjectures about what Paul had. Why didn't he just tell us? Well, he didn't. So that you and I could say, well, I have a thorn in the flesh. You have a thorn in the flesh. We all have something, and it's part and parcel

with the fleshly experience. The good man of Epaphroditus who came to minister in a temporal way to Paul's needs while he was in the Roman jail was nigh to death, he said, and God healed him up, but still he he was subject to sickness. Timothy had stomach problems, and Trophimus was left in Middleton, sick, but all of these were outstanding illustrations of men that love the Lord and yet were afflicted. So we don't want to get too carried away with some of the modern heresies that you, as long as you have enough faith you can be healed, and that God wants us to be healed, and if you don't, if you're not healed, you don't have enough faith. This is just terrible teaching it's not biblical. As you can see from these illustrations, godly people get sick, and it has nothing to do with their faith, uh so alright.

So Ecclesiastes 12. Kind of an interesting commentary about remember now thy creator, in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shall say I have no pleasure in them. So we have some young people here today. Well, you won't be young for long and eventually the curse catches up with every one of us it's almost a comical chapter there, the 12th chapter I kind of enjoyed taking this maybe a little further. Alright if you read there, you're gonna find in the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and I think that it must be in reference to our legs, right? So as we get older, our legs begin to tremble and used to be sure footed. I used to be able to walk on the edge of a roof without even thinking twice about it now I don't think that's a good idea anymore, but it the the keepers of the house are starting to tremble now you know, start to get tremors in your legs and you can't stand for long periods. Then it says the strong men shall bow themselves, and I think this strong men are the shoulders, right, and they begin to bow themselves. In other words, you know you're not standing upright like you used to, and the the shoulders. There's pain in both of them and just that picture itself. I had those shoulder surgeries, and the grinders cease because they are few so I don't think it's just what Solomon meant. I would think so right. The grinders what else could the Grinders be? You're missing teeth, and those that lookout the windows be darkened. So I think that refers to the eyes, right, and you can't see like what used to, right. We have cataracts and all those surgeries that they do for us now and glasses, spectacles and so on, and the doors shall be shut in the streets. which means that, uh, well, we just can't get out like we used to. Just saw our brother Tommy Vanko yesterday and he's shut up at the veterans hospital stroked had apparently two or three different strokes, and he just told me yesterday, said I just wanna be able to walk again. I want to be able to get out. I wanna be able to come back to church. I wanna be able to drive my car, but for now he's shut in. The doors shall be shut in the streets. The sound of the grinding is low, so um, oh, how we know this. We can't hear like we used to, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird. So we have some insomnia. Anybody having problems with these things? I would imagine right after a while you hear the birds chirping at 5:00 in the morning and say, oh, I guess gotta get up or, the daughters of music shall be brought low. So we don't have the strong voice that we once had, perhaps, and they shall be afraid of that which is high fear of heights, and fears shall be in the way fear of everything. Don't they call that agoraphobia or something where you fear everything? So and people that watch the news, they get all scared, they watch all these things that are happening, what's going to happen and they get worried, worried about this and that. What's gonna kill me, what these diseases might come and so forth. We're afraid of things, and the almond tree shall flourish and perhaps speaking about our white hair, gray hair. The grasshopper shall be a burden little things are a big problem for people, right? They're irritated about little things that they can't even change

anymore. So happens as you get old, you get splenetic, and there get up and go has got up and gone right. Desire shall fail, and because men go with to his long home and the mourners go about the streets. This is all about, and people tell me all the time, you know, they read the newspapers that the first place they go to is the obituaries. They look for the death notices. To see I guess if their name isn't there, they're kind of happy, right? They they just wondering all their friends are dying though, just a couple weeks ago, on a Wednesday night, one of my classmates, high school classmates showed up at church and I haven't seen him for 50 years, and he had gone to the 50 year reunion, and he said to me they had a chart, he said of all the people that have died in our class, we had a class of 400 or 500 people, and that list of all these people that died, and it is a sober, sobering moment that when you read of classmates that are dead right, and think, well, you know, there could be many next. When I tell people about, well, I just did a funeral, that first thing they asked me is how old was he? They wanna they wanna compare themselves, you know? The silver cord shall be loosed I think that refers to the spinal column, the silver cord. And as you get older, of course it just it's out of place, it's out of joint, it becomes loose and then people actually go to chiropractors to get the adjustments. It's funny they have to keep going though. So part of the experience of the old physical form the golden bowl is broken the brain not working like it used to, and the picture be broken at the fountain. Perhaps speaking up our lungs pictures, you know, that fill up with life giving oxygen broken at the fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern the heart disease. Well, so he healeth all thy diseases, Malachi 4:2 But unto you that fear my name, shall the Son of righteousness arise with healing in his wings. Psalm <u>16:10-11</u> For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine holy one to see corruption. Thou will shew me the path of life in thy presence is fullness of joy at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore. So the believer has the great prospect of ultimate healing. No matter what healing you may receive here on Earth, and all of us again are beneficial this year, he's a daily healings God, doing things that we don't even realize are happening. You know, repairs that are being made all the while while we just sit here and cellular reproduction that takes place, and all of this is part of the miracle of life, but because it's marred by the curse, it's ultimately going to fail. So God has to restore the physical frame and heal us of all our diseases which is the ultimate promise. Luke 20:36 So neither can they die anymore, for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. So we're children of the resurrection of the resurrected body, the glorified body that's the hope of the believer in Philippians 3:20-21 were told our conversation. Is in heaven, from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ to show change our vile body that it may be fashioned like under his glorious body, according to the working, whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself, and then I like this passage in 1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be, but when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope and himself purify himself, even as he is pure. Now notice here in first John talking about well let's look at it a little differently here. So in this passage we have the standing in the state of the believer. So notice again, behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us. Now are we the sons of God? This is our standing with the Lord. So here we are our names written in the Lambs book of life. The moment that one believes he is sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. He cannot lose his salvation it is settled forever. The immutable promise of God is to save those who from a sincere and repent heart call upon him. So that's now. That's our now experience. We're as good as saved now as we were at the moment we called upon the Lord. Our standing is secure? Now our state is another matter. So it does not yet appear what we shall be. See, so it's it's not what we it's not as we are right now, that our state is different matter

and that that's why we have to understand our passage before us, the healing, and then he's going to do ultimately is our standing. It's as good as done. Yet our state is such that we're still, but we're in the body that's waiting for the redemption, groaning and travailing in pain. So it does not yet appear what we shall be that's that's ultimately going to happen. So we we call this the standing in the state of the behavior that this all has to be kept into proper perspective else wise, and we've got a lot of those today that are kind of teaching kingdom now principles. We're living in the Kingdom now all the promises are for us now right, and that's just not so. That's what we shall be, certainly, but it's not what it is now. We need to keep that in proper perspective else wise what happens is that when things don't quite turn out the way people thought they were going to turn out they are apt, then, to lose faith. I think they're just ill taught and as a result, they're expectations are that you know, everything good 's gonna happen. Believers gonna I guess we'll never die then. So I mean, really shocking is when somebody dies. What did you think was going to happen? This is a temporal state we're in, so we understand it's that's not yet appear what we shall be. So the believers hope is in another world, not this one. He will yet show us the path of life alright.

<u>Psalm 103:4</u> Who **redeemeth** thy life from destruction; Who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Zechariah 3:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; Even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: *Is* not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

So the next benefit that we have is salvation. So we have we forgive with all the iniquities who heal with all the diseases redeemeth thy life from destruction. With salvation uh this is indeed. So we have we have throughout the scripture. Scripture is all about the saving power of God, and his willingness to say. <u>Acts 16:29</u> There was the jailer that sprang in with a light. There's this miraculous earthquake. Paul and Silas had been unjustly incarcerated, thrown not just into prison but into the inner sanctum into the hole. Earthquake comes in the prison bars are opened and the jailer now realizes about to lose all of his charges and runs in with a light to see what the matter was, and he comes in trembling, and in humility he has beaten Paul and Silas, thrown them in here, treated them as a common. Wow, prisoners and common malefactors now, of course, it's everything's changed and it brought out and he said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? Redeem my life from destruction in other words, he's ready to kill himself. Paul says put up your sword. We're all here, and he answers his guestion Acts 16:31 Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. So this is, this is the redemption of the promise of redemption that you can be saved. You can't be forgiven even though this jailer was an unjust man, apparently in great need, and the Lord meets him at his need. Well salvation of course is seen throughout the Bible, as I've mentioned. Being glorious texts, this is the golden text John 3:16 I suppose we'll get to this in some point with our discussion of handfuls of promise, but who here does not know for God so love the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. So it is this is our redemption. This is how God redeems us from destruction. He sends his only begotten Son into the world, and

Romans 5:8-9 But God commends his love toward us. In that while we were vet sinners. Christ died for us. So much more, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from Wrath through him. So God indeed so loved the world and provided for us a means of redemption. That he could redeem our lives from destruction through the unmerited favor of grace applied to us through the purchased price of redemption on the cross. Ephesians 2:4-7 God being rich in mercy for his great love, wherewith he loved us even while we were dead in sins, have guickened us together with Christ. By grace, you are saved. When it's raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that whosoever believeth in him. So there is the the grand promise, the whosoever the gates are open wide. The whosoever means that Christ on the Cross has no limited atonement, as Calvinists wrongly teach, but a wide open arms opened invitation to the whosoever that will meet the conditions of heart belief can be saved and saved in fact from eternal damnation. Redeeming our life from destruction. Jesus said in Luke 13:5 I tell you, except you repent, you shall all likewise perish, and so should not perish. Or here we have that Greek word appollymi, and it meaning here eternal destruction. He Saves us from eternal destruction and in its place gives us everlasting life.

Well, Lord, we've come to the end of our study here. This encouraging passage in <u>Psalm</u> <u>103</u>. It's one of our favorites., and we'll come back to it many, many times. We have it in our hearts hopefully memorized all of its promises and we are partakers of its benefits on a daily basis. Truly how you have loved us with these daily benefits and our hearts, Lord are thankful. So give us your blessings here today, Lord, and our studies. Were ever thankful for the eternal God who loved us and gave himself for us. May our lives prove to be a blessing to you Lord, and to be obedient in the things that you call us to do Lord. Maybe we find a good purpose while we're here in this temporal place Lord, as we go through our experiences in life, our difficulties and our illnesses, our pains. That you'll be with us Lord. That you'll encourage our hearts, That you'll help us to remember that we're pilgrims and we're traveling on a journey here, That this is a hostile environment, and that we have the devil hot on our heels at all times, and we are exposed to the dangers of this world. As did your son, and so Lord comfort us. May we realize that one day we'll finally walk through the valley of the shadow of death fearing no evil because you will certainly be with us in Jesus name Amen.