

Evening Sermon Outline – September 5, 2021
“A Small Psalm with a Big Message!” Psalm 117

¹ Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples! ² For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD! Psalm 117:1-2 (NKJV)

I. *The message of this Psalm became the Apostle Paul’s entire ministry, the promises of God were fulfilled in Christ, not only for Jews but for Gentiles*

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⁷ Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. ⁸ Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers, ⁹ and that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: “For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name.” ¹⁰ And again he says: “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!” ¹¹ And again: “Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!” ¹² And again, Isaiah says: “There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope.” Romans 15:7–12 (NKJV)

1. *This passage confirms what I spoke this morning from Revelation 7, Jews and Gentiles are one people in Christ -*

⁷ Therefore receive one another ... Romans 15:7 A

A. *As Christ received us – Romans 15:7 B We have His example! Note Paul uses the word “us” a unifying word while writing to Romans (for the most part Gentiles)*

B. *to the glory of God. – Romans 15:7 C It is part of our high calling purpose*

2. *Paul confirms His ministry to the Gentiles and their part with God’s people with quotes from the Old Testament –*

:9 – from Psalm 18:49 (NKJV)

⁴⁹ Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the Gentiles, And sing praises to Your name.

:10 – from Deuteronomy 32:43 (NKJV) ⁴³ “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people;

:11 from Psalm 117:1 (NKJV) ¹ Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!

:12 from Isaiah 11:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ “And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious.”

A. *The Root of Jesse is our Lord Jesus*

B. *These quotes represent all the major parts of the Old Testament (1) The Law, (2) The Writings and (3) The Prophets. Paul includes quotes from all three to prove the Gentiles part and oneness with the Jews as God’s People!*

II. *We are saved the same way, by Jesus Christ, and we have the same calling, to PRAISE HIM -*

Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples! Psalm 117:1 (NKJV)

1. *Praising God is the same as or part of glorifying Him, this is our chief end, our main purpose, the meaning of life –*

Westminster Shorter Catechism - Question :What is the chief end of man?

Answer: Man’s chief end is to glorify God, (1 Corinthians 10:31, Revelation 4:11) and to enjoy him forever. (Psalm 73:25–26)

2. *This we are called to do with a certain level of energy, and continuance –*

Praise the LORD – IS AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS PSALM

Praise the LORD! - is at the end of this Psalm!

A. *Like our lives on earth, this Psalm is SHORT –*

B. *Yet, praising God should be from the beginning of life to its end, from youth to old age, from morning until night –*

“This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;”
Fanny J. Crosby

III. *This Psalm also speaks to reasons WHY we should praise Him –*

² For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD! Psalm 117:2 (NKJV)

1. *God's great merciful kindness toward us is reason for praise – God's merciful kindness is GREAT –*

A. *Great in that it pardons GREAT SIN ----*

¹¹ For Your name's sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great. Psalm 25:11 (NKJV)

"Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!"

Wretch - an unfortunate or unhappy person. a despicable or contemptible person.

B. *God's grace is great because it reaches even Gentiles – you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:12-13*

C. *Not only Gentiles, but DEAD, lost Gentiles and Jews – ⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved) Ephesians 2:4-5*

D. *It is great in its power, it makes the dead alive, raises us up to Heaven, it makes the sinful, righteous, the dirty clean, it ordains and enables us to good works - ⁶ and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:6-10 (NKJV)*

E. *By His mercies we are raised to Heaven, even now on earth, His mercies call us to Heavenly commitment and obedience – ¹² I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:1–2 (NKJV)*

¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10 (NKJV)

2. *His truth too, is reason for praise – and the truth of the LORD endures forever. Psalm 117:2 B*

A. *This means the truth of God's word is ALWAYS relevant, never old fashioned or out-of-date ... sin is still sin, no matter how an ungodly world tries to redefine things, for instance –*

⁵ "A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman's garment, for all who do so are an abomination to the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 22:5 (NKJV)

B. *This means God's truth, God's Word still has it same power to convict, change, save, set free –*

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31–32 (NKJV)

C. *It still has power to convert, even those who the world says are unconvertible –*

⁹ Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

"Were" – means past tense for sinners saved by God's truth and grace! God's truth convicts of sin! God's grace forgives the sinner who admits and confesses sin! And not only forgives but changes!

Arnold Brevick