

SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

*WORSHIP - DISCOVERING WHAT
SCRIPTURE SAYS*

SRMBC Family Bible Study
Jan – Feb 2019



Every Wednesday
8000 Derry Street (Rear)
Harrisburg PA 17111
6:30 pm

SRMBC JAN - FEB Bible Study Schedule

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Date</u>
Worship the Lamb	Revelation 4 – 5	1/9/2019
For Keeps	Exodus 24:1 – 11	1/16/2019
Mercy, Not Sacrifice	Psalms 50	1/23/2019
Broken for Me	Mark 14:1 – 11	1/30/2019
Planning for Praise	Isaiah 61:1 – 11	2/6/2019
All to Jesus	Luke 20:20 – 26; 45 – 47; 21:1 – 4	2/13/2019
Living Worship	Romans 12:1 – 8	2/20/2019
Our Longing Fulfilled	Revelation 21:1 – 8	2/27/2019

SRMBC Family Bible Study

Worship – Discovering What Scripture Says

Lesson 3: Mercy Not Sacrifice

Psalm 50

The Book of Psalms

Author: David is listed as author in 73 instances, but not the author of the entire collection. Some authors such as Asaph were priests or Levites who provided worship music for the sanctuary.

Date of Writing: The 150 individual psalms were written by different people over 1000 years of Israel's history and compiled by an unknown editor after 537 B.C

Purpose of Writing: The Book of Psalms is a collection of prayers, poems, and hymns that focus the worshiper's thoughts on God in praise and adoration.

Practical Application:

- One of the results of being filled with the Spirit or the word of Christ is singing. The psalms are the "songbook" of the early church that reflected the truth in Christ..
- Psalms is the longest and most diverse book in the Bible, dealing with many subjects such as: God, creation, war, worship, wisdom, sin and evil, judgment, justice, and the coming of the Messiah.
- We can bring all our feelings to God—and we can rest assured that He will hear and understand.



Asaph, the Musician-Prophet

Group Discussion: Is there a difference between Praise and Worship? How do we see the difference in the Worship services you attend?

Praise vs. Worship

When discussing praise and worship we shouldn't see praise as one thing and worship is another. If anything, praise seems to be a subset of the worship.

Praising God for what He has done, leads to worshipping Him for who He is.



Points to Ponder

- While we can praise our family, friends, boss, or pastor – the highest praise is reserved for God.
- Worship, however is only and exclusively given to God. The Lord alone is worthy of all worship (Psalm 29:2).
- Wise worship leaders know how to structure a worship service to allow participants to both praise and worship the Lord.

Psalm 50:1 - 6 (NKJV)

1 The Mighty One, God the Lord, Has spoken and called the earth From the rising of the sun to its going down.

2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth.

3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; A fire shall devour before Him, And it shall be very tempestuous all around Him.

4 He shall call to the heavens from above, And to the earth, that He may judge His people:

5 “Gather My saints together to Me, Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”

**6 Let the heavens declare His righteousness, For God Himself is Judge.
Selah**

Psalm 50:7 - 11 (NKJV)

7 "Hear, **O My people**, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you; **I am God, your God!**

8 **I will not rebuke you** for your sacrifices Or your burnt offerings, Which are continually before Me.

9 **I will not take** a bull from your house, Nor goats out of your folds.

10 For **every beast** of the forest is Mine, And the **cattle on a thousand hills**.

11 I know all the **birds of the mountains**, And the wild **beasts of the field are Mine**.

Psalm 50:12 - 16 (NKJV)

12 "If I were hungry, **I would not tell you**; For the **world is Mine**, and all its fullness.

13 Will I eat the flesh of bulls, Or drink the blood of goats?

14 **Offer to God thanksgiving**, And pay your vows to the Most High.

15 **Call upon Me** in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

16 But to the wicked God says: "**What right have you to declare My statutes**, Or take My covenant in your mouth

Psalm 50:17 - 21 (NKJV)

17 Seeing **you hate instruction** And cast My words behind you?

18 When you saw a thief, **you consented with him**, And have been a partaker with adulterers.

19 You **give your mouth to evil**, And your tongue frames deceit.

20 You **sit and speak against your brother**; You slander your own mother's son.

21 These things you have done, and I kept silent; **You thought that I was altogether like you**; But I will rebuke you, And set them in order before your eyes.

Psalm 50:22 - 23 (NKJV)

22 "Now **consider this**, you who forget God, Lest I tear you in pieces, And there be none to deliver:

23 Whoever **offers praise glorifies** Me; And to him who **orders his conduct aright** I will show the salvation of God."

1. What does it seem is at the heart of God's concern for his people?

- God seems to want His people to view Him as He truly is – the Holy Righteous Judge of all the earth.
- He is concerned that His people are simply going through the motions in worship.
- God not pleased with a worship – that does not include obedience to His Will and His Word.

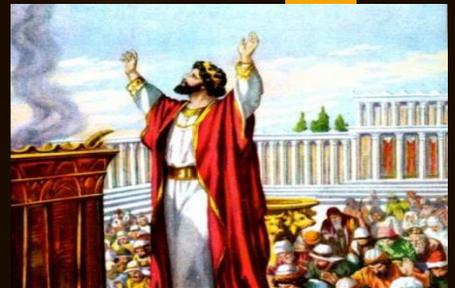
Points To Ponder

- It is important to see that God is still committed to Israel.
- He calls them “my people” and reaffirms that he is their God (v. 7).
- He doesn't back out when they (or we) renege.
- What the people are not doing is implied in God's directives

2. What is God not rebuking them for? Does this surprise you in anyway?

1. God is not rebuking – For the foundation of the sacrifice in worship – God affirms and acknowledges that the covenant was made by a sacrifice.

"Gather My saints together to Me, Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice." (vs. 5).



2. God is not rebuking – for the action of the Sacrifice in worship – He doesn't have a problem with the act of sacrifice in and of itself.

I will not rebuke you for your sacrifices Or your burnt offerings, Which are continually before Me (vs. 8).



3. How is God distinguished (or how does he distinguish himself) from humans in this psalm?

Position Of God

- The Mighty One God The Lord (vs. 1)
- God Himself Is Judge (vs. 6)
- I am God, your God (vs. 7)

Possession Of God

- For the world is Mine (v.12)
- Gather My Saints/My people (vv. 5 – 7)
- All The Birds/The Wild Beasts/Cattle (vv. 10 – 11)

Power Of God

- Has spoken and called the earth From the rising of the sun to its going down. (vs. 1)
- Fire and power (vv. 3 – 4)
- Power to deliver and worthy of glory (v. 15)



4. From what God says to the people, what does it seem has become their attitude in offering sacrifices to God?

The Purpose of The Sacrifices

- To remind the Israelites of God's mercy and forgiveness The Word of God Is Central to The Worship of God from The People
- To stress that God desires a relationship with his people.
- To realize/remember that God provides a means to deal with the real barrier of sin.

The Problem With The Sacrifices

- They were bringing sacrifices to appease God or to fulfill their religious duty
- They did not bring the desire to honor or draw close to him.
- To realize/remember that God provides a means to deal with the real barrier of sin.

...the essence of the sacrifice was not really that men gave bulls and goats to God, but that by their doing so, God gave Himself to men" (Reflections on the Psalms – CS Lewis)

5. What commands does God give to remedy the situation (vv.14 – 15) ?

God's Commands	Remarks
Offer To God Thanksgiving (v.14a)	No matter what – give God the thanks for every thing – recognizing that all we have comes from Him.
And Pay Your Vows To The Most-High (v. 14b)	Make giving a portion (possessions, praise, etc.) that has been promised to the Lord a part of Worship.
Call Upon Me In The Day Of Trouble (v.15a)	Live your life in total dependence on the Lord and His Mighty Power.
I Will Deliver You, And You Shall Glorify Me (v. 15b)	As the Lord delivers you make sure to glorify the Lord – being a witness to the greatness of God to others.

6. Which one of these commands do you find easiest to do? Which is the most difficult, and why?

God's Commands	Difficult	Easiest
Offer To God Thanksgiving (v.14a)	Sometimes it is difficult to give God thanks in tough times; It is tempting to thank ourselves.	When I think of the Goodness of God/Jesus and all He has done for me...
And Pay Your Vows To The Most-High (v. 14b)	When times/money gets tight it is hard to trust God. Pride can make you think it's <u>all mine</u> and not the Lord's	Acknowledging that every good thing I have comes from the Lord. Also God will bless when I give.
Call Upon Me In The Day Of Trouble (v.15a)	It is too hard to depend on God - when I can depend on me or others - Especially when the fault is all mine.	Recognizing that God/Jesus says: "Apart from Me you can do nothing..."
I Will Deliver You, And You Shall Glorify Me (v. 15b)	We find hard not to give ourselves the credit for our blessings. We have a serious "I" problem	God has been so good to me – I just keep it to myself – what the Lord has done for me.

7. In God addresses those who flagrantly disobey his covenant. What has allowed them to act this way and think there will be no consequences (vv.16-22)?

Disobedience of God's Commands

Teaching one Thing – yet living another – lying (v. 16)

Knowing what the Lord says – yet still walking disobedience (v. 17)

Stealing and/or consorting with those do – committing Adultery in your heart (v. 18)

Cursing, defaming others, telling lies and falsehoods (text, Facebook, email, etc. v. 19)

Mistreating members of your own family (wife, husband, brother, sister , church members... v. 20)

Points to Ponder

- **Just because God was silent about their sin – that thought God condoned or didn't care about their sinful behavior.**
- **The people considered God to be just like them – indifferent to their lifestyle or the Word of God.**
- **They thought that even if God would bring hardships – they would be able to “ride it out!”**

8. How might intentional gratitude prepare a person to see God's salvation or make God's goodness more apparent (v. 23)?

- **Gratitude makes us more receptive to what God has for us.**
- **Salvation by faith in Jesus Christ is ultimately about receiving God (John 1:12) – When we reflect on all God given – we will be thankful.**
- **Speaking or showing our gratitude may help someone else see God's goodness and desire his salvation as well.**



What might you do to become more genuinely grateful, obedient or dependent on God?

Keys For Living

- *While God does not need anything from us – He deserves and graciously desires our praise and worship.*
- *Our worship is not complete or pleasing to God without obedience to His Word and thanksgiving for all He has done for us.*
- *Real worship takes place as we reflect on God's worth and gracious acts toward us as He draws near to us with His healing presence*



QUESTIONS

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