

2022



Study Guide For

August 7 Sunday Sermon

Pastor Brian Bales : Lead Pastor

Songs to Sing: In the End - Psalm 75

We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your name is near. We recount your wondrous deeds. "At the set time that I appoint, I will judge with equity. When the earth totters, and all its inhabitants, it is I who keep steady its pillars. Selah. I say to the boastful, 'Do not boast,' and to the wicked, 'Do not lift up your horn; do not lift up your horn on high, or speak with haughty neck.' "For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up, but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another. For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup with foaming wine, well mixed, and he pours out from it, and all the wicked of the earth shall drain it down to the dregs. But I will declare it forever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob. All the horns of the wicked I will cut off, but the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up. Psalm 75

A Life Application Study Guide

James 1:22-25 tells us to put into practice what we are discovering in God's word.

REVIEW

How did you read a chapter in the book of Psalms with a new perspective this week?

LESSONS TO EXPLORE

1. Your Name is Near – God is Ever Present
2. God's Timing is Absolute
3. Only God shall be Exalted

INTRODUCTION - Psalm 75

The title of this psalm is **To the Chief Musician. Set to "Do Not Destroy." A Psalm of Asaph. A**

Song. Some suppose **the Chief Musician** to be the Lord GOD Himself, and others suppose the reference to be a leader of choirs or musicians, such as Heman the singer ([1 Chronicles 6:33](#) and [25:6](#)). The tune **Do Not Destroy** was also used in the Davidic [Psalms 57-59](#). The author **Asaph** was the great singer and musician of David and Solomon's era ([1 Chronicles 15:17-19](#), [16:5-7](#); [2 Chronicles 29:13](#)). [1 Chronicles 25:1](#) and [2 Chronicles 29:30](#) add that Asaph was a prophet in his musical compositions.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. This is a song about God's timing and his justice. We aren't certain of this psalm's specific context, but the thoughts expressed in it seem to be universal.

- a. Have you ever had similar thoughts like, *when will this be over? When will we get there? How much longer will this last?*
 - b. Some events in life seem to go on for too long, and we wonder if there is an end in sight. If you have found yourself in a scenario that has lasted too long, where did you find comfort as you were waiting?
 - c. Consider a time when you needed God to do something significant, but you found yourself waiting and wondering about His presence. What thoughts ran through your mind?
 - d. In verse two, the Lord says, *“At the set time that I appoint, I will judge with equity.”* What can we learn or discover about God from this brief verse?
 - e. Where in scripture do we see God speak and see the results of His spoken word? How might we apply our observations to this teaching?
2. Pastor Brian notes that Psalm 74 Asaph is crying out to God: *“How long, O God, is the foe to scoff? Is the enemy to revile your name forever? Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand? Take it from the fold of your garment and destroy them!”*
- a. Here the psalmist is seeking God’s justice and in lament, states his position: *“there is no longer any prophet, and there is none among us who knows how long.”* Whose justice are we seeking when we cry out to God, ours or His?
 - b. When in your life have you sought justice and what was the outcome?

c. Where in the current events of our world are we still waiting for a justice that has not yet been delivered? How might you speak to this ongoing in justice?

d. What questions do we have for God when circumstances seem to indicate that He is silent?

3. Asaph begins this psalm (or song) extolling God's presence and his power (your name is near; we recount your wondrous deeds).

a. Brian calls this praising God in anticipation of his greatness. What do you require in order to praise God? Does praise come naturally to you or is it a struggle?

b. When do you find yourself most often praising God and why?

c. Where in this passage do we see God's sovereignty? "*I appoint, I will judge, it is I who keep steady its pillars.*" How does this passage give you confidence that God is "at work and active"? How might this add to your understanding of Psalm 23?

4. It is God who exalts: "*it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another*" vs 7. James 4:6 says, "*God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*" How often are we inclined think that only other people are proud?

- a. What is the final condition of those who boast or lack humility and see themselves as greater than God?

- b. How can we (like Asaph), praise God when the promise is a *foaming cup of wine* (which represents certain judgment)? What are we praising him for?

- c. If we are comforted by these words in the above passages, how can we share this with others?

MAKING IT REAL

- How will you live this week knowing God's judgement is certain?

- How will you praise Him before your circumstances warrant praise?