



Closer to Our God

Responding to God

'His heart is steadfast'

1



Closer to Our God

Outline of Studies:

1 - *'men of my counsel'*

Making the most of the Psalms

2 - *'I pour out my complaint before Him'*

Lamenting to God

3 - *'Hallelujah'*

Praising God

4 - *'his heart is steadfast'*

Responding to God

5 - *'my heart is overflowing with a good theme'*

Majesty of the King

2

More careful ordering

Book ends:

Egyptian Hallel

111-112 113 119
114
115
116
117
118

Psalms - Responding to God

3

111 - God is unchanging

Key quality:

v3 'endures forever'
v4 'works to be remembered'
v5 'will ever be mindful of His covenant'
v7 'precepts are sure'
v8 'stand fast forever and ever'
v9 'commanded His covenant forever'
v10 'His praise endures forever'

Psalms - Responding to God

4

Psa 111-112

Two of a kind:

Psalm 111	Psalm 112
<i>Hallelujah</i>	<i>Hallelujah</i>
One who praises God and delights in his works (v1-2)	One who fears God and delights in his commandments (v1)
"righteousness endures forever" (v3)	"righteousness endures forever" (v3,9)
"gracious and merciful" (v4)	"gracious and merciful" (v4)
"given food to those who fear him" (v5)	"deals graciously and lends" (v5)
"justice" (v7)	"justice" (v7)
"His precepts are sure...stand fast forever and ever" (v7-8)	"heart is steadfast... heart is established; he will not be afraid" (v7-8)
"He has sent redemption to His people" (v9)	"he has dispersed abroad, he has given to the poor" (v9)
<i>Ends with fear of the LORD</i>	<i>Begins with fear of the LORD</i>
<i>Ends with a positive response to God</i>	<i>Ends with a negative response to God</i>

Psalms - Responding to God

5

Psa 111-112

Psalm 111

God

Works of God

Commemorate

Psalm 112

Godly man

Works of godliness

Demonstrate

Psalms - Responding to God

6

Mordecai (a man of God)

Psalm 112	Scroll of Esther
"his descendants [Heb. seed] will be mighty on the earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed" (v2)	"...the Jews themselves overpowered those who hated them... fear of them fell upon all people" (9:2-3) "...the days on which the Jews had rest from their enemies..." (9:22) "...speaking peace to all his descendants [Heb. seed]" (10:3)
"wealth and riches will be in his house" (v3)	"...appointed Mordecai over the house of Haman" (8:2) " <u>So</u> Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, with a great crown of gold and a garment of fine linen and purple..." (8:15)
"light in the darkness" (v4)	"the Jews had light and gladness, joy and honour" (8:16)
"he is gracious and full of compassion, and righteous" (v4)	"Mordecai sent letters... with words of peace and truth" (9:30) "...seeking the good of his people and speaking peace to all his descendants" (10:3)
"a good man deals graciously and lends" (v5) "he has dispersed abroad, he has given to the poor" (v9)	"...of sending gifts to one another and gifts to the poor... the custom...as Mordecai had written to them" (9:20-23)
"he will guide his affairs with discretion" (v5)	" <u>So</u> Mordecai went his way and did according to all that Esther commanded him." (4:17) "What honor or dignity has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?... Nothing has been done for him." (6:3) "...Mordecai went back to the king's gate" (6:12) "... was second to King Ahasuerus, and was great among the Jews and well received by the multitude of his brethren" (10:3)

7

Mordecai (a man of God)

"he will never be shaken... not afraid of evil tidings; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD, his heart is established; he will not be afraid, until he sees his desire upon his enemies" (v6-8)	"But Mordecai would not bow or pay homage... he would not listen to them" (3:2-4) "letters were sent by couriers... to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all the Jews..." (3:13) "...relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place... Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (4:14) " <u>so</u> they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai" (7:10)
"his horn will be exalted with honor" (v9)	" <u>Thus</u> it shall be done to the man whom the king delights to honor" (6:11) " <u>So</u> the king took off his signet ring... and gave it to Mordecai" (8:2) "Mordecai was great... increasingly prominent" (9:4) "...the greatness of Mordecai to which the king advanced him" (10:2)
"the wicked will see it and be grieved... melt away... perish" (v10)	"Haman hurried to his house, mourning and with his head covered" (6:12) "...before whom you have begun to fall... you will not prevail against him but will surely fall before him." (6:13) " <u>So</u> Haman was terrified before the king and queen... so they hanged Haman..." (7:6-10)

8

The Principle

Philippians 2:12-13

‘work out your salvation’

Psalms - Responding to God

9

Renewing the Image of God in Us

2 Corinthians 3:18

‘But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the spirit of the Lord’

Psalms - Responding to God

10