"Great is God's Faithfulness"

Psalm 89:30-37
7/29/2012



INTRODUCTION: Verses 1 - 29

***God abides faithful**.

I. God is faithful
<u>Despite the unworthiness</u> of His people (v. 30-31)

II. God is faithful
<u>To discipline the rebellion</u> of His people (v. 32)

III. God is faithful
<u>Not to break His promise</u> to His people (v. 33-37)

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This psalm emphasizes the phrase "for ever" (or "for evermore") (v. 1, 2, 4, 28, 29, 36, 37, 52)

Not many things last forever. God's promises, however, do.

The theme of Psalm 89 centers around God's faithfulness.

--God's faithfulness is made known (v. 1)

--God's faithfulness is established (v. 2)

--God's faithfulness is praised (v. 5)

--God's faithfulness is incomparable (v. 6 - *8)

--God's faithfulness is experienced by the seed of David (v. 20-29)

*READ Verses 20-29

V. 25

The picture is of David measuring the land allotted to him with his hands. His left hand reaches into the Mediterranean Sea, and his right hand straddles the Jordan River to the east, the Nile to the South, and the Euphrates to the North (cp. Ex. 23:31; Ps. 72:8; Zech. 9:10).

V. 26

The cry shall be heard when multitudes of Jews repent in the future Trib. (Zech. 12:8-14).

V. 27

Redeemed Israel will be treated with honor.

"Firstborn" = a position of honor and privilege given by God.

V. 29

"His seed" = David's seed (Israel) will never be wiped out.

The perpetual existence of the Jewish race up to today is a miracle!

David's throne will perpetually endure. Reason: Because Christ will sit on it, and He is eternal.

Whereas the Abrahamic Covenant primarily dealt with the seed of Israel (Gen. 12:1-3; chap. 15). . .

And the Mosaic Covenant with the Law of Israel (Deut. 27-29) . . .

The Davidic Covenant dealt with the throne of Israel (II Sam. 7:12-16).

NOTE on II Sam. 7:12-16 -

"The covenant did not guarantee uninterrupted rule by David's family (and, in fact, the Babylonian Exile interrupted it), but did promise that the right to rule would always remain with David's dynasty. Jesus Christ is the ultimate fulfillment of these promises (Luke 1:31-33); and, although at this present time He is not ruling from the throne of David (Heb. 12:2), at His second coming He will assume the throne (See Mt. 1:11, 19:28; Acts 15:15)." (Ryrie note).

The faithfulness of the Davidic Covenant - SEE: Isaiah 55:1-5 *v. 3

Is. 61:8 - "For I the LORD love judgment, I hate robbery for burnt-offering; and I will make an everlasting covenant with them."

Acts 13:34 - "And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David."

Despite the seeming breach of God's consistency in His goodness to Israel (v. 38-51) - the theme of Psalm 89 is: GOD IS FAITHFUL!

***God abides faithful**.

I. God is faithful
Despite the unworthiness of His people (v. 30-31)

V. 30

"His children" = the sons from the line of David

"Forsake ... walk not ... brake ... keep not ..." - four different ways to describe disobedience.

II Sam. 7:14 - "I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men."

"Law ... Judgments ... Statutes ... Commandments" - four different ways to describe the Word of God.

II Tim. 2:13 - "If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny Himself."

"If we believe not" = if we are unfaithful.

II. God is faithful
<u>To discipline the rebellion</u> of His people (v. 32)

A. The <u>certainty</u> of God's discipline

"<u>Will</u>" - refers to the absolute certainty of God's chastisement (SEE: Heb. 12:5-11; Psalm 119:65-71, 75)

Job 5:17-18 - "Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty: For He maketh sore, and bindeth up: He woundeth, and His hand make whole."

B. The <u>cause</u> of God's discipline

God is faithful to never spank without cause.

"Then" - refers back to the <u>disobedience</u> described in Verses 30-31.

"Their transgression" - to deliberately overstep God's boundaries.

"Their iniquity" -

God <u>disciplines</u> His children, but never permanently <u>divorces</u> them.

III. God is faithful
Not to break His promise to His people (v. 33-37)

A. He cannot take away His promise (v. 33a)

"Lovingkindness" = God's steadfast loyal love (this word is indicative of faithfulness)

B. He cannot fail in delivering His promise (v. 33b)

Is God's relationship to Israel over? NO!

This nation has been under the chastening hand of God for 2,000 years. This chastisement will culminate in the Tribulation.

(Rom. 11:1, 22-29)

C. He cannot break His promise (v. 34a)

One reason why the covenant of marriage must not be broken (Mal. 2) is because marriage is an illustration of Christ's faithfulness to His bride.

D. He cannot change His promise (v. 34b)

E. He cannot lie about His promise (v. 35)

The fidelity of God's promises are based on:

1. God's oath (cp. Heb. 6:13-19)

"Once have I sworn" - God does not have to give a promise more than once to be faithful to it!

2. God's holiness

His character forbids lying - Titus 1:2 - "In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;"

V. 36

"His seed" = His descendants

V. 36-37

Just as the sun and moon are consistent (in coming up and going down), so is God consistent with His promises!

V. 37

"Selah" = the O.T. poetic equivalent of Amen! or Truly!

Again, a word that exclaims God's faithfulness.

CONCLUSION: