

2-7-2021

PSALM 34

Intro: "Changed his behavior before Abimelech," I Sam. 21:10-15. Concerning the fact that the king's name is Achish and Psalm 34 refers to him as Abimelech see Gen. 20:2; 26:6-10. Abimelech was possibly a title or name given to Philistine rulers (Father-King, or Father King, or Father of a king).

Verse 1 "I will bless the Lord..." - honor, praise and thank Him.

Verse 2 To boast in the Lord is to praise and rejoice in the Lord for what He accomplishes through the humble or lowly. See Eph. 2:10: "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Verses 3-6 "magnify...(and) exalt His name (the Lord) together." Mutual encouragement.
A. Is. 41:13; 43:1-3a.
B. "This poor man..." - not materially but in a helpless condition or setting.

Verse 7 "The Angel of the LORD" - *mal'ak yahweh*, "messenger of Yahweh."
A. First, recall Ex. 3:1-6, 13-14.
B. In a number of Scriptures "the angel of the LORD" and "the LORD" are used interchangeably (e.g., Gen. 22:10-18; Judges 13:2-3, 17-22 with Is. 9:6).

Verse 8 "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is Good!" See I Peter 2:2-3. It's longing for nourishment. This is not the same as I Cor. 3:2 or Heb. 5:13-14.

Verses 9-14 "...fear the Lord, you his saints." This is filial fear. He is over all things, sees and knows all things, and is moving all things. He has redeemed us to be His. Psalm 119:120. Luther: "My hairs have bristled and stood on end from the judgments of condemnation." (AE 11:494). Ex. 19:16; Num. 4:15; 2 Sam. 6:5-9; Is. 66:2; Matt. 10:28; Acts 5:11.

Verses 15-18 2 Chron. 16:9: "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward Him."

Verse 19 Cf. Ps. 105:16-19; Heb. 12:5-6.

Verse 20 "Keeps all his bones." The person's spirit is not broken. Fulfilled in a special way in Jn. 19:36; in the perfectly righteous person of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Verses 21-22 Those in Christ will be His forever. No condemnation. Rom 8:1.