

# **2022 Q4 On Death, Dying, and the Future Hope—Lesson 4** The Old Testament Hope

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

**Thank You!** Thank you to all of our supporters and friends who have been praying for us and supporting us. It is all of **you** who have made it possible to purchase and renovate this space.

I also want to thank Come and Reason Board, and I want to thank our building committee who has worked very hard, volunteering untold number of hours in planning, researching materials, going and examining products, installing equipment and no one has done more than Dean Scott.

I want to thank the rest of our building committee Karin Covi, Lori Atkins, Michael Land, and Francesca Brewster.

Our purpose in purchasing and renovating this building is to continue to share the final message of mercy with the world. It is this purpose, this vision, to hasten the coming of the Lord that we have committed ourselves and our resources. And therefore, we are going to pray a prayer of dedication, dedicating this space to the glory of God.

We know that God does not dwell in buildings made by human hands, but in the hearts and minds of His people. So we are not dedicating this building as a dwelling place for God, but as a workspace for us, His children to work for Him and to carry forward His purpose for us at this time.

Father—this space is not ours; it is yours and we are your stewards. We have dedicated ourselves to you Lord, and now we dedicate this space to you—to glorify your character and methods of love. We ask you to dispatch angels to watch over this place and will hold back all evil influences and forces that would attempt to infiltrate this place and undermine your will. We ask for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit here today and upon these people and all those who come to this place to work for you and to worship you and also upon all the people who support us online and who dedicate themselves to work for you in sharing this message throughout the world. We love you and seek only to honor you and to say about you what is right. To that end, we ask for your presence, your inspiration, your cleansing from all sin, and your power to succeed in taking your truth to the world. Thank you Father, thank you Jesus, thank you Holy Spirit, and we close with the words of your friend Peter,

"Whoever speaks, let it be with God's words. Whoever serves, do so with the strength that God supplies, so that in everything God will be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 4:11 NET).



# SABBATH

The Old Testament Hope—what was it? And is it different from the New Testament hope?

Read first paragraph, "The Old Testament hope..." What is the hope suggested here? Is it resurrection from the dead?

Hmmm.... Isn't it true that both wicked and righteous are resurrected from the dead—to either the resurrection of life or the resurrection of damnation? So, is merely being resurrected from the dead *the* hope or is resurrection part of the hope, a manifestation of the hope, a result of experiencing what we truly hope for, a consequence of the hope?

Isn't the true hope for both Old and New Testament the hope of deliverance from sin, of taking away the sin of the world, of removing sinfulness from us and from the planet and the universe, of restoring human beings back into God's original ideal for our existence, of bringing us back into unity and oneness with our Creator? And isn't that hope found in the promised Messiah of Genesis 3:15?

Thus the Old Testament hope is the same as the New Testament hope the promised Messiah, Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and cleanses us from all unrighteousness and restores us to at-one-ment or unity with God, who destroys him who holds the power of death that is the devil, who destroys the devil's work, who destroys death and brings life and immortality to light— and who restores us and the universe to sinless perfection.

So, the hope is not simply in the resurrection, the hope is in Jesus and the eradication of sinfulness from us, and there are some people who participate in the "hope" that will never be resurrected bodily from the dead, but will be like Enoch and Elijah and never die, because resurrection is a part of the hope—the real hope is in Jesus, who cleanses us from sin and we become the righteousness of God.

This is why Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26 NIV84).

The people who have been reconciled to God through Jesus never die even if their bodies die, do you believe this? How do you explain this to a non-believer?

So, what happens to people when they die? Do they return to dust? Do they go to God? Do they go to heaven? Or do they do all three?

According to the Bible, human beings are tripartite:

"Now may the God of peace himself make you completely holy and may your **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be kept entirely blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1Thes 5:23 NET, emphasis supplied).



Is it possible that at death, one part of a human returns to dust, one part goes to God, and one part goes to heaven?

Interestingly, computers are also tripartite and serve as a very poignant object lesson. In order to have an **operational computer**, one needs **hardware**, **software**, and an **energy source**. Having only two of these three, results in a computer that will not operate. All three are required for actual functioning. In a similar way, to have an **operational** (functioning) **human being**, it requires all three components—**body**, **soul**, and **spirit**:

- The Greek word for **body** is σῶμα [soma] and is analogous to a computer's hardware—the physical machine, including our brain.
- The Greek word for soul is ψυχή [psuche], from which we get *psyche*, as in *psych*iatry and *psych*ology, and means our unique individuality, personhood, identity.<sup>1</sup> It is analogous to a computer's software.
- And the Greek word for **spirit** is πνεῦμα [pneuma], from which we get *pneumonia* or *pneumatic* and means wind, air or breath, as in the breath-of-life. This is our energy source—the life-energy originating from God.

If a computer runs out of power, what state does it go into? It sleeps. This is exactly how the Bible describes those who die the first death: they sleep, awaiting the resurrection (see Ps 7:5, 13:3; Mt 9:24; Jn 11:12-13; 1Thes 4:13). So, with this in mind, we can now answer what actually happens to the various components of a human being at death.

At the first death,

- the body returns to dust (see Gen 3:19, Ps 44:25, Ecc 3:20);
- the spirit—life energy—returns to God who gave the breath of life (see Ecc 12:7);
- but what about the soul—the psyche, the individuality, the software? Where does that go?

If someone stole your laptop and was threatening to destroy it, but you had a perfect copy of the data backed up on a cloud-server, you might say, "I'm not afraid of the one who can destroy my laptop [body] but cannot destroy the software [soul/psyche]." This is what Jesus described in Matthew 10:28 when He spoke about those who might kill us for our faith in Him.

Why is it, that killing of the body cannot destroy the soul? Because the soul is our psyche, our individuality, our unique personhood and is distinct from the body. The question is, *Where does the soul go when it is absent from the body*? The apostle Paul said,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The use of the term *soul* can be confusing, because sometimes the term soul refers to the entire living being. When someone sends out an SOS (save our souls), they are calling for their entire living selves to be saved. In this article, however, the soul as referenced in 1Thes 5:23 is not the entire living person, but one (the psyche/individuality) of the three components that make up the entire human being.



Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be **absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord**. (2Cor 5:6-8 KJV, emphasis supplied)

But where would our identities (souls) be stored in heaven? Would it not be in the heavenly records the Lamb's book of life? Which the Bible says contains the names of the righteous, which are the Bible way of saying their character, their identity, their individuality.

If someone destroyed your laptop but your data was safe on a cloud-server, the data would not be active and operational but dormant—awaiting download to new hardware. And when our bodies die and decay to dust; the breath of life returns to God; and our souls (individualities) are safely secured on the heavenly "servers" in the presence of the Lord, in what state are they? They are asleep / dormant / in stasis, awaiting download into new bodies (hardware) at the resurrection. The apostle Paul brilliantly describes this very process:

Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who **fall asleep**, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that **God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him**. The Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and **the dead in Christ will rise first**. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. (1Thes 4:13-18 NIV84, emphasis supplied)

Did you notice that the very same righteous dead who arise out of the ground are also coming down out of heaven with Christ, and that they are described as coming from heaven in a state of sleep? How can this be? Because their souls (psyches/software), which are stored/recorded on the heavenly "servers," are coming down with Christ to be downloaded into their new immortal bodies during the resurrection at the Second Coming! Jesus, the Builder of our tripartite beings, understood this and proclaimed,

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. (Jn 11;25,26 NIV84)

The righteous may *sleep*, but they never *die*. Their individualities are safe with Christ in heaven!

So is our hope in the resurrection or in cleansing from sin and reconciliation with God from the work of Jesus in us?

Read second paragraph, "But how could..." after our explanation of the tripart nature of humanity does it make clear sense how destroying the body, the hardware, does not destroy the soul, the software—individuality? And that our individuality is safe and secure with Christ in heaven waiting to be downloaded onto new upgraded hardware?



The lesson says in the third paragraph that "we know that in the beginning God brought life into existence from nonlife through the power of His word…"

I just want to clarify this statement, God was not dependent on external material whether living or nonliving material for Him to create life. The lesson is correct in that God spoke into existence both the living (plants, animals) and the nonliving materials. Thus, God did not use evolution to form life from lower forms over millions or billions of years, but created it directly. However, life comes from life and while God was not dependent on external living matter to create life, God is a living being and all life originates in, and comes from, God who shares His life, His life-giving energy with all living beings—what the Bible calls the "breath of life."

This is one of those testable points that differentiates a creationist worldview from a godless worldview. The godless teach that living organisms arose from nonliving materials on their own. Science disproves this, as no living organism has ever been demonstrated to arise from nonliving material. However, the creationist view has a living being, God, creating other living organisms and all of nature shows that one living being can share its life to give rise to other living organisms.

### SUNDAY

Read Job 19:25-27:

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me! (Job 19:25–27 NIV84).

What does this passage mean? Some suggest this is not describing the nature of humans in death or the resurrection, but only describing Job's mindset, Job's understanding and hope. What would you say to this perspective?

Do we have any Biblical examples of people who have died being resurrected? So, if we believe the Bible to be true, then the historical resurrection of people from the dead would support this text as describing reality not merely Job's wishful thinking?

Do other Bible writers teach the same truth, about bodily resurrection from the dead? And did Jesus teach resurrection from the dead?

And if Jesus Himself, was not bodily raised from then Scripture says we are t be people most pitied.

So given the weight of evidence from the rest of Scripture and history, Job was not merely expressing his own imaginings, but his awareness of the reality of the future in God's universe. Though we may fall asleep in the first death that "death" is not the destruction of our individuality, our souls/software, and God will resurrect us from the dead into a new heaven and new earth.



# MONDAY

The lesson asks us to read from Psalm 49, let's read it in its entirety from The Remedy:

- <sup>1</sup> Hear this, everyone;
  - listen carefully, every person who lives on the earth,
- $^{2}$  both young and old,

rich and poor alike:

<sup>3</sup> I will tell you real wisdom,

because I understand how reality works. [You want to know how Daniel, Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego were 10 times wiser than the other fellows? It wasn't simply because they ate a vegetarian diet. It was because they worshipped the Creator God and understood God built reality and His laws are the laws upon which reality works, design laws, and they sought to harmonize their lives with how God's reality works.]

- <sup>4</sup> I will use my insight to discern profound proverbs
  - and bring forth the hidden meaning like music from a harp.
- <sup>5</sup> Why should I fear in the days when evil abounds,
  - when the depravity and villainy of my enemies surround me-
- <sup>6</sup> those who believe they are spiritually superior because of their wealth

and boast of their great riches? [Do we see this in the world today, evil abounding, villainy, and people who believe their godless worldview is superior and boast of their earthly wealth and power? Do we need to fear?]
<sup>7</sup> No one can ever cure their own terminal condition,

- - no human can buy the remedy from God-

<sup>8</sup> the cost to procure it is beyond our means. [What is the cost? Is it a monetary cost? It is a legal cost? What is it? It is what reality required, perfect harmony with the laws upon which life is built—a sinless life that confronted and destroyed Satan's power of death—the lies about God by perfectly revealing the truth about God, eradicated sinfulness from humanity, destroyed death and replaced the death causing principle in humanity with the life causing principle in humanity thereby becoming the second Adam, the second head of the species human. It cost the life of the Son of God to achieve this outcome and none of us had the sinless life or constitution necessary to engage this battle, not being God ourselves we couldn't reveal the truth about God, and we didn't have a sinless life to confront and overcome the evil and replace the carnal infection with sinless perfection. Only Jesus could do this for us.]

Nothing we could provide would ever cure our mortal state

<sup>9</sup> so that we would live forever

and never experience death. [But the godless of this world are trying to use their wealth and power to do just this, to provide their own cure, to create means for them to live forever. They are doing this through genetic and cybernetic research. Looking for ways to extend human life or to transfer human consciousness onto a cybernetic platform.]

<sup>10</sup>For all can see that everyone dies—

the wise, the foolish and the thoughtless brutes-

everyone perishes and leaves their wealth to others. [This text appeals to reality—look around, all can see that everyone dies. But we live in a time when reality is denied, what is actually real



and objective is rejected and replaced with feelings, wishes, fantasies, imaginations, and desires. If a person doesn't feel one way, it doesn't matter what objective biology and reality says, they can proclaim they are not what they are and demand everyone else agree with them. It is claimed that their feeling, their subjective experience is their "truth" and all of us are required to accept their feeling as reality. Understand this clearly, what is happening in our society today is not primarily about gender, it is a demonic assault on truth, on reality, on minds. The goal is to infect minds with the idea that there is no objective reality. If there is no objective reality then there is no standard upon which anything can be right or wrong and thus no justification for judging anything as good or evil. In this demonic view all perspectives are equally valid. And when this lie, that there is no objective truth, is accepted, it destroys the ability of intelligent beings to think, to discern, to examine situations and actions of others and decide if those actions are good or evil. Thus, the only thing left for decision-making is power. You must submit to and accept as right the ruling authorities. If the authorities say that it is right, you are not allowed to question because there is no other standard than their position and power to judge them by. To question someone in authority is to be rebellious, insubordinate, a threat and you must be eliminated. This is the true goal of the demonic forces working in this world. It is a set up for beastly powers. And we see this very clearly in modern medicine—no longer are physicians encouraged to think, to question, to search for testable evidence, but are threatened by those in positions of authority to submit to the powers that be. This is the same method as the Dark Ages church, rejecting the Reformers' appeal to the evidence of Scripture, or Galileo's appeal to the evidence of science, and instead demanding submission to authority.]

<sup>11</sup>Their inner thoughts (characters) are fixed

as their permanent state of being.

- Though they claimed the earth as their own,
- <sup>12</sup> their prized selfish—sin-infected—world will not last:

they will die just like brute beasts. [Though they claim "we must save the planet," the earth, as it is, will be destroyed and replaced with a new earth. Worse, because of their godless worldview they have no hope of a sinless future in a earth made new, and therefore they advance policies that harm the people in order to save the planet because they value this planet more than the people. But we know the truth and we understand reality and we value the people more than the planet. We always act as good stewards and will not exploit the planet, but we won't get tricked into advancing policies that are harmful to the people in order to seek to save the planet.]

<sup>13</sup>This is the inevitable end for those who trust in themselves,

and of all who follow them and embrace their selfish ways.

<sup>14</sup>Like mindless sheep they are destined for the grave,

and death will consume them.

When the earth is made new,

the righteous-those restored to God's perfect design-will walk over their graves;

their bodies will turn to dust in the grave,

and they will never live in heavenly mansions.

<sup>15</sup>But God will heal my terminal condition and resurrect me from the grave;

he will most certainly take me to live with him. [This is reality. We must keep our eyes on Jesus. We must always see things through the lens of God's kingdom, which is not of this sinful world.]



<sup>16</sup>Don't be distraught when the selfish become rich,

when their estates become increasingly opulent and grand,

- <sup>17</sup> for they will take nothing with them when they die their wealth will not follow them into the grave.
- <sup>18</sup>Though they proclaim themselves fulfilled and triumphant and they are praised for their success—
- <sup>19</sup>they will die like all the other selfish people before them; they will never see the light of life again.
- <sup>20</sup>A person who is wealthy without understanding the reality of God's design is like the mindless beast doomed to perish.

What lessons from this psalm apply to us today? Is it only wealth? What about power and position and fame?

Does Satan use the glamor of this world to get us to focus on earthly things and forget heavenly things? Do we sometimes get jealous when we see evil appearing to succeed? Would we trade a clear conscience and a pure heart for more wealth, more power, more earthly success?

Do you remember the Sports Illustrated poll of aspiring Olympic athletes back in 1997?

• 198 sprinters, swimmers, power-lifters and others answered two questions:

Q) You are offered a banned performance-enhancing substance with 2 guarantees: you will not be caught and you will win your competition. Would you take it?
A) 195 – yes, 3 – no

Q) You are offered a banned performance-enhancing substance with 3 guarantees: you will not be caught, you will win every competition you enter for the next five years and, you will die from the side effects. Would you take it?A) More than half – yes

source: Sports Illustrated, April 14, 1997

Do you think in the past 25 years this has improved in society? Or has this attitude of selfishness worsened?

- Do we live in a society where character is valued or where the ends justify the means?
- Do we live in a society where we respect the property of others or where those who shoplift from stores are defended and protected as merely seeking to right some institutional wrong?
  - But do we ever hear a public discussion about what is happening to the hearts, minds, characters of the people doing the stealing?
- Do we live in a society where individual God-give rights of self-determination and liberty of conscience are respected, or where the ends justify the means and it is considered just to coerce consciences for the so-called greater good?



• Do we ever hear about what happens to the hearts, minds, and characters of those who would use such methods on others?

Two wrongs do not make a right and we cannot win God's cause using Satan's methods. One of Satan's strategies is to inspire or tempt someone to do real wrong and then incite anger, outrage, and hate into the hearts of others and get them to seek to make the wrong right by using more of Satan's methods, whether eye for an eye retaliation, or vigilante acts, or using the laws of the state to inflict various forms of so called retaliatory justice on those viewed as being in the wrong.

True Christian justice is doing what is right because it is right, and what is right or just is defined by God's law of love, the protocols upon which reality is built. Thus, true justice always seeks to eliminate the infection of sin, to eradicate fear and selfishness with love, to eviscerate lies with truth, and to win our enemies into being our friends.

But worldly justice is about payback, about inflicting pain and suffering upon those who have done us wrong, about forcing our ways upon others and worldly justice always results in perpetual cycles of violence and abuse in which everyone is injured.

#### WEDNESDAY

Read first paragraph, "The book of Isaiah..."

Let's read Isaiah 56:1-7:

This is what the LORD says:

"Maintain justice
and do what is right,
for my salvation is close at hand
and my righteousness will soon be revealed.
2 Blessed is the man who does this,
the man who holds it fast,
who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it,
and keeps his hand from doing any evil."

Let no foreigner who has bound himself to the LORD say,"The LORD will surely exclude me from his people."And let not any eunuch complain,"I am only a dry tree."

4 For this is what the LORD says:

"To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,



who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenantto them I will give within my temple and its walls 5 a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters: I will give them an everlasting name that will not be cut off. And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD 6 to serve him. to love the name of the LORD, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenantthese I will bring to my holy mountain 7 and give them joy in my house of prayer. (Isaiah 56:1-7 NIV84).

What does this mean? What do you believe is the central message of this passage? Isn't the central message that God's salvation is for all people, it is not restricted by genetics?

There is something about the Sabbath that seems important here, would you agree? What is it? Is it knowing the right day? Is it avoiding work on the right day?

Did the Jews who crucified Christ go to Temple on the wrong day? Did they run their business on that day? Did they pick heads of grain on that day?

What is the point of asking these questions? Can one identify and make behavior changes to not work in any way on the Sabbath and to also attend church every Sabbath and still not be "keeping" the Sabbath?

- If you have the right Sabbath but trust the wrong god, are you saved or lost?
- If you have the right Sabbath but practice the wrong principles, are you saved or lost?
- If you have the right Sabbath but develop the wrong character, are you saved or lost?
- If you have the wrong Sabbath but trust the right God, are you are saved or lost?
- If you have the wrong Sabbath but practice the right principles, are you or saved or lost?
- If you have the wrong Sabbath but develop the right character, are you or saved or lost?

Is the Sabbath a gift from God? For what?

• Is it to assist us in knowing God and experiencing His healing from sin, or is the Sabbath a rule we must keep to prove to God we are on His side and are good people?

Was the Sabbath made? And, according to Jesus, for whom was it made?



And what is the purpose of the Sabbath according to Scripture?

I gave them my decrees and made known to them my laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them. Also I gave them my **Sabbaths as a sign between us, so they would know that I the LORD made them holy**. (Ezekiel 20:11-12 NIV84).

Are we saved by law-keeping? Does the law have power to save and heal from sin? Is the Sabbath able to save and heal from sin?

What is the Sabbath a sign of? A sign that God makes us holy, what does this mean?

# Is the Sabbath a sign to us that God is the one who makes us holy OR is our Sabbath-keeping a sign to God that we are holy?

The Sabbath was created by God at the end of creation week in the context of Satan's rebellion against Him and the Sabbath stands as a memorial of God's kingdom and methods of love. As such the Sabbath is a sign, like a flag, it is an evidence of God's methods, principles, and design laws built right into time so that it cannot be removed from our experience. We all pass through it every week. We may not recognize it, we may have forgotten it, but it is still there and cannot be destroyed by Satan.

This is amazing! God built this sign into time itself so that it would remain for all of us to witness and see and this sign is like a flag, it inspires, it signals, it communicates truths about God and His kingdom of truth, love, and liberty.

It was in six days that God created the earth and its solar system, and rather than using His power to force Satan into line, God rested on the seventh day. God stopped using power and rested and God blessed the Sabbath day by investing it with His methods of governing—the truth (His creatorship revealed), love (a planet whose ecosystem operates upon the design law of love, with sapient beings designed to govern in love and capable of pro-creating beings in their image), and freedom (God rested and left His children free rather than compel them with power to obey).

In creating the Sabbath, God memorialized religious liberty, truth, presented in love, while leaving His intelligent creatures free to decide for themselves. Thus the Sabbath is a sign that God makes us holy by restoring us to live in harmony with His methods of truth, love, and liberty in how we treat others.

All week long we are to remember the Sabbath, remember what it stands for, remember the kingdom and methods of God and live those methods all week long. This is how we keep the Sabbath holy. And then we trust God with our fortunes, our futures, our success in this world by refusing to act in selfinterest on the Sabbath, we rest in our trust relationship with Him demonstrating that we live out His principles in all that we do.

Think about it, if we do evil on the Sabbath have we made it less holy? If we worship God on Sabbath have we made it more holy? So we are not keeping Sabbath holy, we are living as holy beings when



we honor the God of the Sabbath by having His law written upon our hearts and living out the principles that the Sabbath is a sign of.

But if we, like the Jews 2000 years ago, have the right day of the week, but the wrong god, the wrong understand of law, and the wrong character, then we will crucify the Lord of the Sabbath and want Him off the cross in order to be sure and keep the Sabbath day holy.

### TUESDAY

The lesson focuses our attention on Psalm 71, David who has had many struggles finds comfort and reassurance in recounting God's care for Him in the past. Let's read the psalm from The Remedy:

<sup>1</sup> O Lord, I trust you completely;

take away all my shame. [From where does shame come and why does it need to be taken away by Jesus? What does shame do to a person? What impact does it have? And what helps us overcome the shame of sin?]

- <sup>2</sup> Recreate me and restore me to your perfect and righteous design; hear me and save me from fear and selfishness.
- <sup>3</sup> Be my remedy and my recovery room
  - to which I can always go;
  - give the command to heal me,

for you are my remedy and my refuge.

- <sup>4</sup> Set me free, O God, from fear and selfishness, from the clutches of evil and cruelty.
- <sup>5</sup> For you, O Creator God, are my only hope, the source of my confidence since my youth.
- <sup>6</sup> I have relied on you since birth; you have provided for me since the day I was born. I live in continual praise to you.
- <sup>7</sup> To many, my life is evidence of your saving power, because upon you I have relied for healing and restoration.
- <sup>8</sup> Praise for you constantly pours from my mouth;

I proclaim the beauty of your character of love all day long.

<sup>9</sup> Do not force me to retire when I am old;

do not release me from your service when my strength is gone. [Is there a principle of God's kingdom expressed here? Is this in contrast to what the world teaches? Does the world teach that we should retire, quit working? But one of God's principles is the benefit of useful labor. We grow stronger as we exercise, as we employ ourselves into God's cause and work in our communities, not for pay but for the glory of God, we are benefited. Those who volunteer live longer, have less illnesses, less depression, less dementia and stay out of nursing homes longer than those who do not volunteer. One of the actions that can accelerate one's decline is to retire and quit working. So I tell people, while you might retire from a paying job, don't stop working for God's cause, stay active and engaged in the Lord's work and you will be blessed.]



<sup>10</sup> My enemies misrepresent me;
they conspire together, watching for an opportunity to destroy me.
<sup>11</sup> They say, "God has abandoned him;
take him down now,
for no one will rescue him."
<sup>12</sup> O God, don't stay away a moment longer than necessary;
come quickly to help me, O my God.
<sup>13</sup> My accusers will be consumed with shame;
those who want to destroy me
will drown in their humiliation and disgrace.
<sup>14</sup> But I will continually trust you
and praise you with ever greater affection and regard.
<sup>15</sup> I will tell of your right and holy character and methods of love;
all day long I will speak of your remedy to fear and selfishness, even though the magnitude of your achievement is beyond my comprehension.
<sup>16</sup> I will go empowered by you, O Creator God; I will promote your character and methods of love, and only yours! [What is described? Do
you see contrasting methods? Do you see the wicked slandering, accusing, attacking, but the
Psalmist is not retaliating against them. He is focused upon God, upon living to glorify God which
means He lives out God's methods and designs. He does not pursue justice with worldly methods,
but via God's methods.]
<sup>17</sup> O Creator God, you have taught me of your kingdom of love since my childhood,
and to this day I proclaim how wonderful you are!
<sup>18</sup> And even when I am old and gray,
do not release me from your service, O God;
empower me to proclaim your kingdom of love to the next generation—
the power of your healing remedy to those who come after me. [Yes, let's share what we have
learned from God with the next generation, with our children and grandchildren.]
<sup>19</sup> Your right and perfect character of love, O God, is the praise of heaven;
you have done great things
and there is none like you!
<sup>20</sup> You have shown me the selfishness within me—the source of my pain and sorrow;
you bring to me your life-giving remedy,
and from the grave
you will raise me to everlasting life.
<sup>21</sup> You make me greater, healthier, holier and happier than ever before
and surround me with your comforting presence.
<sup>22</sup> I will praise you with song
for your never-changing love and goodness, O my God;
my life will be a song of praise to you,
O Holy One, in whom Israel trusted.
<sup>23</sup> I will shout for joy
and sing your praises,
for you have healed me!



<sup>24</sup>I will tell of your perfect character of love for all eternity,for those who sought to destroy me reap only shame and humiliation.

Can we have the same hope and attitude as David?

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### **NEW MAGAZINE:**

Unmasking the Beasts of Revelation 13 & 17: Discovering Untold Truths to Prepare for What Comes Next! is now available.

#### **Podcasts:**

We have a weekly podcast about 13 minutes long that is available to be delivered to your device if you sign up for it.

#### **Remedy app:**

The Remedy is available as a free app and includes the New Testament, Psalms and Genesis.

#### **Building update:**

It Is Finished! We've grandly opened and are now OCCUPYING!

#### Materials in Australia:

Simon and Maani Harrison have a Facebook group in Australia and have the following Come and Reason resources available in Australia, email Simon at <u>australia@comeandreason.com</u>

- CIBTS
- God is Love Children's book
- The Heavenly Sanctuary for the Modern World
- The Final Message of Mercy
- The Remedy NT
- The Remedy of the Lord in Song
- First set of tracts

#### Materials in South Africa:

Jacques van den Heever has materials available in South Africa you can email him at <u>comeandreason.sa@gmail.com</u>

#### The Final Message of Mercy to the World—The Three Angels, magazine:

You can read a digital version online at our website. Here is a link to the flip version <u>https://comeandreason.com/files/flipbooks/3Angels/</u>