

"THE BOOK OF PSALMS"
Book II (42-72)
Psalm 65 "God's Favor Upon Man and Earth"
February 24, 2021

Outline:(Read Ps 65 NKJV)

- A. Graciousness: God's abundant pardon (verses 1-4).
- B. Greatness: God's abundant power (verses 5-8).
- C. Goodness: God's abundant providence (verses 9-13).

Summary: Psalm 65 is a praise psalm (it opens and closes with praise). The psalmist is thankful and praises God for his abundant favor to mankind (verses 1-5) and to the earth (verses 6-13). This psalm is positive and optimistic without the curses and complaints found in previous lament psalms. First, God is praised (verse 1) because he is gracious to mankind. He answers their prayer (verse 2), he pardons their transgressions (verse 3), and he allows them to approach him in worship in his holy temple (verse 4). Next, God is praised for his greatness and power. With his great power, God answers prayer (verse 5), sets the mountains (verse 6), fills the seas (verse 7), and sends out the morning and evening (verse 8). Finally, God is praised for his goodness to his earth. He waters the earth (verses 9-10), it produces bounty, and rejoices (verses 11-13).

Review Questions:

1. What is given to God in Zion (verse 1)?
2. What does God hear (verse 2)?
3. What does God forgive (verse 3)?
4. What man is blessed (verse 4)?
5. How does God answer man's prayer (verse 5)?
6. What does God do with his strength (verses 6-7)?
7. What are people afraid of, or in awe of, concerning God (verse 8)?
8. What does God do to the earth (verses 9-10)?
9. What does God do to the year (verse 11)?
10. What does God do to the pastures, hills, and valleys (verses 11-13)?

Applications and reflections for this study:

1. God answers prayer (v.2). How does God answer our prayers (also see Ps. 69:13; 143:1)?
2. God forgives us of our iniquities and transgressions (verse 3). What did sinful Israel need to do to be forgiven (1 Kings 8:47-50)? Who is blessed (Ps. 32:1; Rom. 4:7)?
3. Man is blessed who can come and worship God in his house, the holy temple (v.4). Who are the temple of God today (1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 2:21)? Who are the house of God today (1 Tim. 3:15)?
4. Men stand in awe of the wonders of God's creation (v. 8). What do the heavens declare (Psa. 19:1)? How is mankind made (Psa. 8:3-5; 139:13-16)?
5. God waters his earth (v.9-10). What does God send to mankind and his earth (Mt. 5:45; Acts 14:17)?
6. God is good (v.11). What comes down from God (Jas. 1:17)?
7. God gives us all spiritual blessings (verse 3) and all physical blessings (v.11). What do Christians have in Christ (Eph. 1:3)? What does God give (Phil. 4:19)?

The Lenten season is from Feb 17 – March 31, 2021

Lent prayer: *Dear Lord, I know you receive what is in my heart. Let me be inspired by your words and by the actions of your son, Jesus. Guide me to make sacrifices this Lent in the spirit of self-denial and with greater attention to you and to those around me. Help me to believe that you will grant me this because of the sacrifice Jesus made for me. Amen.*