

MAGNIFY HIM WITH THANKSGIVING (PSALM 69)

"Psalm 69 : To the Chief Musician. Set to "The Lilies." A Psalm of David." [Regarding "The Lilies", the "shoshannim", Biblehub.com explains, "The use of Shoshannim in the titles of these Psalms [45, 60, 69, and 80] suggests that it was a well-known melody or musical style during the time of their composition. The exact nature of this tune is not known today, but it likely evoked the beauty and elegance associated with lilies. The Psalms that reference Shoshannim are diverse in theme, ranging from royal weddings (**Psalm 45**) to cries for deliverance (**Psalm 69**), indicating that the melody was versatile and widely used in worship."¹ The same can be said about the Psalms. They too are diverse in theme, and even within one Psalm, it may go from a cry to God for deliverance or help and move on to a praise unto God for what He has done for us individually and/or collectively, and also just for who He is, as the one and only true God. Just as He declared through Isaiah the prophet, "Remember the former things of old [how can we remember? We have His Word!], for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me." (**Isaiah 46:9**) The same praise unto God in the Psalm that we'll read today, **Psalm 69**, is in **Psalm 113**, which is an abbreviated version, and agrees with **Isaiah 46:9**. "Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord! Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forevermore! From the rising of the sun to its going down the Lord's name is to be praised. The Lord is **high above all nations**, His glory above the heavens. Who is like the Lord our God, Who dwells on high, **Who humbles Himself to behold the things that are in the heavens and in the earth?** He raises the poor out of the dust, and lifts the needy out of the ash heap, that He may seat him with princes— with the princes of His people. He grants the barren woman a home, like a joyful mother of children. Praise the Lord!" That Psalm begins with "Praise the Lord!" and ends with "Praise the Lord!"

Yet one cannot "praise the Lord" if they don't know Him or don't want to respect and honor Him. After all, the choice is ours. Yet we have been given the incredible privilege of not only having life on this earth in the present, which at times does not seem like such a great blessing, but we have been given the promise and guarantee that we are not going to have to live in this sin-plagued world forever!!! And **all things will be made new!** Praise the Lord!!! I pulled another quote off of Biblehub.com and only changed a few words here and there for better clarity. "When a person encounters Jesus Christ and surrenders to Him as Lord and Savior [as that IS WHO HE IS], that individual is now "in Christ," [by believing on Him and receiving Him, His Spirit, the Holy Spirit, by being born-again as Jesus put it (**John 3:3, John 1:12-13**). We are then:] joined to Jesus in His death and resurrection: "We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead

1 <https://biblehub.com/topical/s/shoshannim.htm>

through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life" (**Romans 6:4**). We [then] become a new creation in Jesus Christ (**Galatians 6:15**). Our "former way of life," or "old self," which was "corrupted by its deceitful desires" (**Ephesians 4:22**), was "one way,". But the "new self" in Christ, "created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness" (**Ephesians 4:24**), is "completely different." [The Apostle Paul further explained in **Romans 6:11** to "reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord." That is, as we read last week, what the prophet Samuel called "the right way", and what we read the week prior to that, in **Psalms 107**. It is in Christ alone who is our "right way" unto God and eternal life—in Christ! As Jesus plainly stated, "I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (**John 14:6**)] Through union with Jesus Christ, all things have become new for born-again believers. [As in our old life we were dead in sin, our sins against God, but now:] "if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be **slaves of sin**. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him" (**Romans 6:19**). All things have become new then illustrates the beginning of our transformation—our inward renewal and regeneration—that will culminate in the fullness of our salvation to be experienced in eternity. [Praise the Lord!!!] Our Savior's death and resurrection ushered in a foretaste of an entirely new world still to come: "But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells" (**2 Peter 3:13**). Eventually, everything in creation will be made new (**Romans 8:19-20**; cf. **Isaiah 65:17-25**)."² One thing I most look forward to besides seeing my Lord, God, and Savior in all of His glory, is what the Apostle Paul says in **Romans 8:16-18**, "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be **glorified together**. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with **the glory which shall be revealed in us**."!!!!!!! That day is coming, brothers and sisters in Christ! And what a day that will be! Praise the Lord!]

[Psalm 69:1-3 (An Urgent Plea for Help in Trouble)] Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing; I have come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary with my crying; my throat is dry; my eyes fail while I wait for my God.

[You ever feel like your swimming in a sea of evil, water having a thick consistency of oil, or maybe more like quicksand, seaweed tries

2 <https://www.gotquestions.org/all-things-have-become-new.html>

to wrap around you and choke you, jellyfish stinging you, you see a shark fin coming toward you? We mentioned Simon Peter, in his brief moment of walking on the sea with Jesus, a couple of weeks ago. The narrative is as follows, "Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "**Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.**" And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." So He said, "**Come.**" And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?**" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and **worshipped Him**, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." (**Matthew 14:25-33**) That was, for Simon Peter, and for us, a lesson in faith. But I say that he actually passed the test, so to speak, as he knew of Whom to cry out to. The Apostle Paul had said, based on his past accomplishments prior to his encounter with Christ Jesus, "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the **knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord**, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may **gain Christ and be found in Him** [where He is, is where I want to be] , **not having my own righteousness**, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may **know Him** and the **power of His resurrection**, and the **fellowship of His sufferings**, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead." (**Philippians 3:7-11**) That fellowship of his sufferings that we all partake in as children of God in Christ, is not a philosophical concept, it is a literal act of being in Him and He in us! Imagine what Jesus had to endure in His own sufferings all the way to His death on a cross, yet still He also goes through it **with us in our sufferings**, which is really then OUR (His and our) sufferings.]

[Psalm 69:4-7 (Enemies All Around)]

Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head; they are mighty who would destroy me, being my enemies wrongfully; though I have stolen nothing, I still must restore it. O God, You know my foolishness; and my sins are not hidden from You. Let not those who wait for You, O Lord God of hosts, be ashamed because of me; let not those who seek You be confounded because of me, O God of Israel. Because for Your sake I have borne reproach; shame has covered my face.

[That reminded me of the prayer of Jabez. Jabez prayed, "[1] Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and [2] enlarge my territory, [3] that

Your hand would be with me, and [4] that You would keep me from evil, [5] that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested." (**1 Chronicles 4:10**) We (Susie and I) are reminded to pray that prayer often, and the causing no pain, which is what Jabez did when he was born by his mother and then hence named Jabez, we pray that we will not cause harm or damage to the body of Christ or the testimony of Christ Jesus. That is practically impossible as Jesus warned His disciples, "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness [a-nomia] will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come." (**Matthew 24:9-14**) We're getting close folks!]

[Psalm 69:4-7-28 (Enemies All Around)] I have become a stranger to my brothers, and an alien to my mother's children; because zeal for Your house has eaten me up, and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me. [fellowship in His sufferings] When I wept and chastened my soul with fasting, that became my reproach. I also made sackcloth my garment; I became a byword to them. Those who sit in the gate speak against me, and I am the song of the drunkards. But as for me, my prayer is to You, O Lord, in the acceptable time; O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, hear me in the truth of Your salvation. Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink; let me be delivered from those who hate me, and out of the deep waters. Let not the floodwater overflow me, nor let the deep swallow me up; and let not the pit shut its mouth on me. Hear me, O Lord, for Your lovingkindness is good; turn to me according to the multitude of Your **tender mercies**. And do not hide Your face from Your servant, for I am in trouble; hear me speedily. Draw near to my soul, and redeem it; deliver me because of my enemies. You know my reproach, my shame, and my dishonor; my adversaries are all before You. Reproach has broken my heart, and I am full of heaviness; I looked for someone to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none. They also gave me gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. [prophecy of Christ Jesus on the cross] Let their table become a snare before them, and their well-being a trap. Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see; and make their loins shake continually. Pour out Your indignation upon them, and let Your wrathful anger take hold of them. Let their dwelling place be desolate; let no one live in their tents. For they persecute the ones You have struck, and talk of the grief of those You have wounded. Add iniquity to their iniquity, and let them not come into Your righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

[We do not have to wish that upon anyone. In the end, as Jesus is recorded as saying in Matthew 25, that God will gather all of us together and will separate the sheep (those who are His) from the goats (those who are not). We are reminded by the Apostle Paul, as he says, "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, **"Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,"** says the Lord." (**Romans 12:19**) Instead we live as best as we can according to the fruits of righteousness, bearing the fruit of the Spirit (**Galatians 5:22-23**) of which includes the love of God as God is love. And then, even when we are corrected by the Lord, the writer(s) of Hebrews tells us, "Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the **peaceable fruit of righteousness** to those who have been **trained by it.**" (**Hebrews 12:11**) Jesus also commands us saying, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." (**Matthew 5:43-45**)]

[**Psalm 69:29-30**] But I am poor and sorrowful; let Your salvation, O God, set me up on high. I will praise the name of God with a song, And will **magnify Him with thanksgiving.**

[Some of that thanksgiving is for what He has done, some of which He is doing, some of that we are believing by faith in Christ that He is doing and will accomplish or complete. As the Apostle Paul spoke his words of encouragement to the Philippians it is spoken to and of us as well, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that **He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;**" (**Philippians 1:3-6**) Thank You Lord! We are one anothers' parakalountes [yes, I made the verb exhort/encourage become a noun) to where we are encouraging, uplifting one another in Christ and praying for one another, as we are also being comforted by and guided by the Parakletos, the Holy Spirit, into the Way, Truth, and Life that is in Christ Jesus! And as the Psalm of David continues, as we "magnify the Lord with thanksgiving":]

[**Psalm 69:31-36**] This also shall please the Lord better than an ox or bull, which has horns and hooves. The humble shall see this and be glad; and you who seek God, your hearts shall live. For the Lord hears the poor, and does not despise His prisoners. Let heaven and earth praise Him, the seas and everything that moves in them. For God will save Zion and build the cities of Judah, that they may dwell there and possess it. Also, the descendants of His servants shall inherit it, and **those who love His name shall dwell in it.**

[Praise the Lord!!! Let us magnify the Lord with thanksgiving!!!]