

November 10, 2019
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Psalm 90

“A Prayer of Moses: Teach Us to Live in Light of Eternity – Part 1”

BACKGROUND to Psalm 90:

Author = Moses - “A prayer of Moses, the man of God”

Date

- Option #1: During wilderness wanderings
- Option #2: Prior to the Exodus

Note: Ps. 90-92 arranged to form a trilogy: Ps. 90 = Problems of Man; Ps. 91 = Protection of Man; Ps. 92 = Praises of Man (toward God)

I. Man’s Problems (v. 1-10)

A. Eternity of God vs. Brevity of Man (v. 1-6)

¹ *Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.*

² *Before the mountains were born or You gave birth to the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.*

³ *You turn man back into dust and say, “Return, O children of men.”*

⁴ *For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it passes by, or as a watch in the night.*

⁵ *You have swept them away like a flood, they fall asleep; in the morning they are like grass which sprouts anew. ⁶ In the morning it flourishes and sprouts anew; toward evening it fades and withers away.*

B. Righteousness of God vs. Sinfulness of Man (v. 7-10)

⁷ *For we have been consumed by Your anger and by Your wrath we have been dismayed.*

⁸ *You have placed our iniquities before You, our secret sins in the light of Your presence.*

⁹ *For all our days have declined in Your fury; we have finished our years like a sigh.*

¹⁰ *As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, or if due to strength, eighty years, yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; for soon it is gone and we fly away.*

So what?

Discussion & Application:

1. Read **Psalms 90-92**. Which of the three are you more naturally drawn to for purposes of meditation? Why? In what way are they helpful as a trilogy?
2. Read **Ecclesiastes 7:1-5** from different translations (especially the New Living Translation if you have it). What is the point Solomon is making? Why is it better to go to a funeral than a party? What are the benefits to thinking deeply about death? [Bonus application: take an hour or more sometime this week to walk through a cemetery and meditate on the brevity of life. Ask God to give you wisdom from the experience.]
3. Moses said a typical life was 70-80 years long. If you are 80+ you are blessed by God and should be profoundly motivated to apply the wisdom from Psalm 90. If you are less than 80, calculate the number of **years** you have left before you reach 80. Multiply that by 52 for the number of **weeks** you have left. How might you be a better steward of the remaining years / weeks than you have been with the years / weeks already past?
4. Moses says that God has always been God and will always be God. What are the ways that we “**play god**”? How does this show up in the way we use our time? In the way we spend our money? Other ways?
5. **Read verses 4-5**. How long is yesterday? How long is a watch in the night? How does Peter use this concept in 2 Peter 3? What other passages of Scripture come to mind when you think about the brevity of our lives? List as many as you can find and discuss the practical implications.
6. Why does Moses bring up God’s anger, wrath and fury? How does meditating upon the righteousness of God vs. the sinfulness of man impact our “pity parties” about life’s circumstances? What **perspective** should we gain from this?
7. Read back through Psalm 90:1-10. What passages in **Genesis** come to mind? How did meditating on Genesis help Moses grow in wisdom?
8. Spend some time in **prayer**. Ask the Lord to open your eyes to live in light of eternity. Ask Him to make you a better steward of His gift of time. Ask Him to help you see how everything you do can bring Him glory and count for eternity. Pray the same for others in your family / group.