

December 12th Sermon notes

Text: Psalms 33:1-5 ¹ *Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.* ² *Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.* ³ *Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.* ⁴ *For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.* ⁵ ***The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.***

The Main Idea: We can celebrate in chaos when we focus on what is certain.

The text mentions three things that are not subject to the vagaries of the world. Three things that transcend the chaos. They are immutable because they are of the Lord, from the Lord and performed by the Lord.

1. **The word of the Lord is right and true.**

- The world is awash in relativism, but the Lord's word remains a compass for us.
- "Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will never pass away" (Matthew 24:35).
- "Sanctify them in the truth, Your word is truth" (John 17:17).
- God demonstrates the truth of His word to us in personal ways that say, "What did I tell you!"

2. **He is faithful in all He does.**

- Faithful in what He gives. Faithful in what He withholds. Faithful in the immediacy of His response. Faithful in His delayed response.

3. **The earth is full of His unfailing love.**

- Not only does He love justice and righteousness, but He is also presently, actively *exercising* it on earth (*Jeremiah 9:24*).
- Despite its present condition, violence, sickness, lawlessness, natural disasters and other ailments. it remains true that the earth is full of the Lord's love, justice and righteousness. Because, to the extent that those qualities exist on any level, they are from Him.
- If the evil one, who's objective is to steal, kill and destroy had his way, the world would be completely devoid of any expression of these.

What we don't have here on earth is the *exclusive* display of God's love, justice and righteousness.

- God's attributes are not exclusively on display because we live in a fallen world, under the temporary control of the evil one.
- The Lord has not asked us to *explain* everything to people. When we try to put simple answers to difficult matters, we can sound **cold, cruel, clueless, or crazy**.
- We are not asked to explain but to *proclaim*

- As we did not need to have all the mysteries of the universe solved before we came to Christ, neither do others.

Presently, the Lord has a higher priority than making the world a perfect place. That priority is patience. Patience with mankind to receive His provision for eternal life through Jesus Christ.

The day is coming when earth will be governed by His absolute justice and righteousness, and where His love will be perfectly manifested. But that time is not right now.

- The earth is a sinking cruise ship, and this is the time of the lifeboat.