

Psalms 3 Family Worship Notes: Christ gives Faith to Sinful Humans

Translation: NASB 95

Verses 1-4:

Christians will be attacked for the faith that Christ gives. These are God's people from Genesis to Revelation because God has one people throughout history. Salvation from sin comes from Christ who saves many throughout history. Christ's faith comes through salvation alone. Notice it is Christ's faith in humans washed of sin through Jesus Christ alone. The faith means the teachings of God written in the Bible through the Holy Spirit for Christians to receive. Christians should follow what God teaches through the examinable and definable Bible. Why? To love Christ means to follow what He commands. This will lead to hatred from the sinful world because of Christ's faith. The sinful world will want to persecute Christians in various ways. Persecution is from following the commands of God that sin hates. It is best summarized in the Ten Commandments found in Exodus 20. Christians are at fault when they act foolishly or break laws that do not violate God's moral standard revealed throughout the Bible. Persecution comes as God's light shines through faithful Christians who follow what God commands.

Persecution brings much discouragement. Many non-believing humans will mock God as they persecute Christians. Christians can become discouraged as persecutor's words distract them from listening and remembering God's teachings found in the Bible. These words are meant to undermine Christians to reject God's ways for an easier life. An easier life would be to end persecution. Is there hope in God? Yes. All Christians should have hope because God is a shield. God protects His special people even if it means Christians die physically. Through death all Christians are secured through Jesus Christ alone from sin and all its consequences. God goes even further with the shield of faith. The commands and encouragements through God's teaching shields Christians. Christ through the Bible protects His people with a mighty shield that cannot fail. This does not mean persecution will end. It means Christians will endure these difficult times at least. Christians should look to God knowing there is protection to endure as God answers prayers. Prayers to God should be present in the minds and mouths of Christians when there is persecution. God will answer the prayers of His children. Christians will not be abandoned or forgotten by God because of Jesus Christ's salvation.

Verses 5-8:

Christians should lay down to sleep with confidence that God is there. Why? God sustains His people. There are many ways and methods by which God sustains His people. There are spiritual activities like prayer where God listens to His people and then through the Bible God speaks to His people. God will strike down and end persecutors from persecuting or take their lives at the right time. Sinful humans only deserve God's justice like ending persecutors lives. God does this without any darkness within Himself. Christians should not be afraid because God is always with them through Jesus Christ's salvation alone. There is nothing that can remove Christians from God's hand. There is nothing to fear from persecution when it comes because God's salvation keeps His people safe. This is due to Christ's power to secure His people.

Christians pray and seek that God will save you from persecution or provide strength to endure persecution. Pray that God will comfort and help you during these troubling times. There is a time and place to pray that God will be merciful towards persecutors. Then there are other times to pray that God will deal harshly with persecutors. Ask God for wisdom in what way to pray for persecutors. All non-believers will face God's judgment in this life or in death. Persecutors have already been judged as guilty in God's holy court because of sin present in the human soul. This assumes there will be no resting and trusting in Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ protects many humans from His own justice. May all Christians remember salvation comes from God. This is indeed a blessing from God who comes to sinful humans who cannot save themselves from sin. This Psalm shows Christ's power to defeat enemies of His people. Amen!