

Hymn of the Week: A Mighty Fortress is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing;
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing;
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us:
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth:
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.

Text by Martin Luther, 1529; translated from German to English by FredericH. Hedge, 1853.
<http://nethymnal.org/htm/m/i/mightyfo.htm>

Suggested Baptist Catechism Questions:

Question 79: What does the fourth commandment teach us?

To keep the Sabbath holy.
(Leviticus 19:20; 23:3; Isaiah 58:13, 14)

Question 80: What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath?

The first day of the week, called the Lord's Day.
(Acts 20:7; Revelation 1:10)

Question 81: Why is it called the Lord's Day?

Because on that day Christ rose from the dead.
(Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:9; Luke 24:1-6; John 20:1)

Morningview Family Worship

Week of August 8, 2010

Psalm for Prayer and Praise: Psalm 29 (ESV) **A Psalm of David.**

1 Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.
3 The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.

4 The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
6 He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
7 The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
9 The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"
10 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
11 May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Scripture Memory for the Week: Psalm 24:1

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

Praying through the Psalms

Week of August 8, 2010

Day 1 ~

Read: Psalm 29:1-4

Consider:

For Adults: In this Psalm, we see the power of God exemplified in the metaphor of a storm moving into the land from the Mediterranean sea in the East and traveling across the Holy Land to eventually capture the vista of a worshipper observing from the temple in Jerusalem. As the Storm moves across the land, we see its awesome power unfold and in each facet of the storm, the believer is reminded of the power of God. With the Psalmist, we see here that power of nature which often leaves us breathless in awe is but only a glimmer of the power of God. Consider the power of God today as you read these verses and ascribe to Him the Glory due His name.

Older Children: Verse 2 tells us to ascribe to God the Glory that is due to Him. How do you think we do that? How does nature help us to understand God's glory and power?

Younger Children: Have you ever listened to a powerful thunderstorm as you lay in your bed at night time? How did it make you feel? What does it teach us about the one true God who made the storm?

Family Application: Talk together about how you have seen God's glory together in nature and about how we should train our hearts to quickly rise to God in worship when he see His witness in creation.

Pray: Praise God today for His absolute sovereign power and for how he exercises His power in mercy to all of Creation in His common grace. Thank God for His kindness to your family and and pray that He would give you grace to better see His glory and beauty in all that He has made.

Meditate: Write this week's memory verses on a white board in your home and/or on index cards that each family member can carry with them during the week.

Day 2 ~

Read: Psalm 29:5-8

Consider:

For Adults: In this section of the Psalm, we see God's voice personified in the great storm moving across the land and we see the storm make the mountains (Lebanon and Sirion) appear to shake from their foundations. We are reminded of the God who regards them as dust in His hands. As you read these verses, consider what adversaries or trials you face that can match such power. Rest today in the "Awe-ful" power of a God whose heart is always and only moved with love and compassion for His people.

Older Children: In these verses we see more examples of the power of God and how a storm shaking the forests of the mountains (Lebanon and Sirion) shows Gods command over nature. Think of the person or thing that you are afraid of most and then think of God's power shaking the mountains. If the one true God is your God, is there any reason to really fear anyone or anything that may be against you?

Younger Children: These verses are all about the power in God's voice and thus, the power in God's words. Can you think of some things that God used His voice and His words to make or do in the Bible? Why do you think it is important for us to listen to God's voice?

Family Application: Talk together about How God always uses His incredible power in ways that reflect His Love for His people. Consider the power that God displays when He brought His people out of Egypt and the power that God displayed in the work of Christ on the Cross.

Pray: Praise God for how He wields His power against His enemies and the Enemies of His people, namely Satan, Sin, Death and Hell. Thank God for how He defeated them all on the cross and pray that He would help you to trust Him and rejoice in Him more in your daily worship and living.

Meditate: See if anyone in the family can quote this week's memory verse. Make new note cards of any of the cards from day 1 that may have been lost.

Day 3 ~

Read: Psalm 29:9-11

Consider:

For Adults: In this final section of the Psalm, we see the reaction of those in the temple to the coming storm. The power of God on display leaves them recognizing and crying out "Glory!" in praise of the great God whose voice holds the power to both create and destroy. The Hebrew word for "flood" here (only used otherwise to refer to the Noahic flood) further suggests the awesome power that God wields in judgment is one from whom His own people are spared and delivered and thus endowed with peace.

Older Children: What do God's people in the temple call out in response to God's Awesome power? When we see God's power, what should our response be?

Younger Children: Do you remember the story of Noah and the great Flood? Who sent the Flood and told it where to go and what to do? How do you think Jesus is for us like the ark was for Noah?

Family Application: Talk together about how God shows His power in judgment, like in the great flood, but also how God always makes a way for the righteous to escape judgment and to rest in His mercy. Talk about how God makes sinners "righteous" through Jesus and how repentance and faith in Him saves a sinner from the judgment he is due.

Pray: Thank God for his Awesome and "Awe-ful" power that wield in strength and glory. Thank Him for always providing a way for His people to escape the judgment they are due as sinners and thank Him for sending Jesus as the perfect atoning sacrifice for the sins of all who would but come to Him.

Meditate: See again if anyone in the family can quote this week's memory verse. Talk about any ways that this verse has encouraged or taught you this week.

Scripture Memory for the Week: Psalm 24:1

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