

RADIO CHURCH OF GOD

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Dear Brethren:

Greetings! This is not a newsletter, nor will there be one this week. I did, however, want to send you a summary of my last sermon and set forth a couple of items.

First, the newsletter has placed such a demand on our time that we see it is not practicable to send it out every week. We now hope to compose one every other week, God willing. Second, we need more news items about you brethren, especially you who are scattered. Any items which might be of interest to the brethren could be sent to us and as we have opportunity, they will be placed in the newsletter.

SUMMARY OF SERMON

By Mr. Waterhouse

FIFTH BOOK OF PSALMS

The FIFTH Book of Psalms reveals the thankful attitude Israel is to manifest through the millennium and the diligence by which they seek God's Commandments and Laws. They will reflect on the way God has worked with them since bringing them out of Egypt to finally bring them to where they want to serve Christ with all of their heart -- hence, the reason for many flashbacks in this book. Also, the end of God's PLAN on earth in grooming mankind for His Family is revealed -- when all have finally come to see the wisdom, mercy and lovingkindness of God and everyone has learned to offer continual PRAISE to Him! BOOK FIVE starts with Psalm 107 and includes the remaining Psalms. The beautiful picture of Israel giving THANKS to God and understanding His great MERCY toward them opens the theme of this book, with emphasis placed, by way of repetition on the wonderful attitude of Israel toward Christ -- verses 8, 15, 21, and 31, "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men!" The "redeemed of the Lord" will finally come to see the marvellous plan of God when they are led to Palestine FROM ALL NATIONS, east, west, north and south -- Israel has never been delivered in such a manner before (vs. 2-3). The way God works in bringing Israel to total repentance and faithful service to Him is brought out several times through this entire book. That way is by first letting them go their own way until they have brought on a miserable condition -- so uncomfortable they do not want to remain in it -- out of which they finally realize only God can extricate them, then they cry out to God, God hears and delivers; afterward they are willing to serve God, realizing that no other way will produce the desired result. Man always goes astray until he is afflicted and learns to seek God's way of life (Ps. 119:67). "Yet setteth he the poor on high after affliction, and maketh him families like a flock" (v. 41, margin). After the great tribulation, Israel will KNOW that SIN DOESN'T PAY, "all iniquity shall stop her mouth" (v. 42). The whole nation will finally see the only wise and sure way by which they should live to experience happiness and learn of the lovingkindness of the Lord is by His Commandments (v. 43, Ps. 111:10). When Israel's eyes are fixed on Christ instead of her "lovers", then He will lead them out of captivity and to Jerusalem (Ps. 108:1, 10, 11; Isa. 10:20; Isa. 26:3; Jer. 16:12; 23:8; 50:5; 51:50). Israel will come to see that to have trusted in her "lovers" -- her allies through pacts, treaties, parleys, and military alliances, etc. -- was a very foolish thing to have done (Ps. 109:4; Lam. 1:19; Jer. 30:8, 14; Hos. 2:7, 10, 16). Israelites will be willing to serve Christ after He has intervened in world affairs to deliver them out of captivity (Ps. 110:3). Then they will praise Him with their WHOLE HEART (Ps. 111:1; Jer. 29:13; 24:7; Isa. 26:16; Hos. 5:15). They will come to understand the wonderful works Christ performed in dealing with them -- that through events during their history, Christ was moulding them into an acceptable nation (Ps. 111:2; Isa. 64:8; 65:9; 66:8-9). Their big error of forgetting the Covenant they had with Christ and that they were to obey the Commandments and

laws of God will be fully realized after the tribulation (Ps. 111:4-5; Jer. 2:32; 3:20-21; 7:23-28; 16:10-11). When Israel remembers that God's laws and Commandments are eternal, are hungering and thirsting after them, turn wholly to Christ, He will then make a NEW COVENANT with them (Ps. 111:6-10; Mal. 4:4; 2:7-9; Jer. 31:31-34). When obeying willingly FROM THE HEART, they will come to delight in the Commandments of God (Ps. 112:1) -- afterward they will be able to properly direct the wealth and riches God will bestow on them (v.3). From the SECOND EXODUS -- not before -- will they learn to live by God's laws in spite of the way they look at it (Ps. 113:2). To most, it looks perfectly right for the wife to run a business, manage men, vote, have equal rights in running a nation, having as much right to say how the family is run as the husband, etc. For this reason, there are about as many women working in various facets of industry as men. How much longer will such a topsyturvy condition exist? Only until Christ informs all the Israelites that the woman's place is in the home, being a homemaker and rearing children rightly (Ps. 113:9; I Cor. 11:3; I Tim. 2:11-12; Eph. 5:22-23). Most women don't agree with their Creator, but had rather BLASPHEME THE WORD OF GOD by NOT believing the wife is to be subject to the husband and that a woman is NOT to be over men (Titus 2:5; I Tim. 2:11-12). AND, too many men are either like spineless jellyfish or, else, they want to be a domineer-type husband -- not ruling over the wife as Christ does over the Church (Eph. 5:25-28). Israel has yet to learn many lessons -- I hope we are properly learning them now? Israelites have followed the pagans -- or heathen -- about them in much of their religion and society (Eze. 5:5-7; Jer. 2:11-12, 8). X'mas, Sunday and Easter have been adopted by Israel from the sun-worshippers of BAAL and have tagged them with a "Christian" label (Hos. 2:8, 13, 17; Hos. 9:10; Jer. 2:23) -- even the X'mas tree used in sun worship has come from the heathen (Jer. 10:1-7) as well as hot-cross buns used to worship Easter, the "Queen" of heaven (Jer. 7:18-19; 44:19). Our people will come to see what abominations these are in the sight of God and Christ will erase them from this earth (Ps. 115:4-9). Psalm 118 shows how Israel is to finally come to see the real GREATNESS of Christ and the RIGHTEOUSNESS of His ways. Once He is seen for what He is, they will want to zealously obey the Commandments and Laws of God -- the reason why the longest chapter in your Bible which covers the LAW of God in its many ramifications is placed at this specific juncture in this fifth Book of Psalms (Ps. 119). Ps. 120 shows Israel will not yearn to obey God's laws until after they have been in "distress" -- through the great tribulation. After "help" comes from Christ (Ps. 121:2), they will be "glad" and rejoice that God is to build up Jerusalem and establish Israel in Palestine (Ps. 122). They will "trust" in Christ and "peace shall be upon Israel" (Ps. 125). A realization of how "great things" Christ did in delivering them out of captivity will be experienced (Ps. 126). No longer will they try to build a family, community or nation without the supervision and direction of Christ -- right family life will be experienced (Psalms 127 & 128). Psalm 131 reveals a repentant Israel, no longer trying to exercise themselves in "great matters" -- trying to convert the world through missionaries and church movements nor trying to convince the Gentiles they need our democratic form of government -- which are prerogatives of Christ! Christ is coming back to convert the world and enforce God's theocratic form of Government on them, not democracy. Israel has had a zeal to change the world but without the proper knowledge of God which shows how it must be done and without knowing that only Theocracy will work (Rom. 10:1-3). After they learn that there is only one true religion and it is to be under God's Theocratic form of Government, then they will dwell in absolute unity -- not split in hundreds of ways by denominations (Ps. 133). Because Israel will learn these lessons first, they will be used to teach these precious TRUTHS to the entire world (Ps. 149; Isa. 61:6; 60:1-12). Eventually, through the millennium and the Great White Throne Judgment period which follows, all nations and people will come to a knowledge of the Truth, live by God's Commandments and Laws and MOST will qualify to become members in God's Family and Kingdom (Isa. 66:19-24; Mic. 4:1-3; Isa. 2:1-5; 11:1-9). Finally the beautiful and satisfying picture is revealed of all peoples PRAISING GOD for His mercy, goodness, lovingkindness, holiness and for showing them the way of abundant living and bringing them to the place where they can be BORN INTO GOD'S FAMILY, as sons in His Spiritual Family!'.!

This completes the five books of Psalms and I have been thankful to serve you in this manner.

Sincerely, your servant in Christ,

Gerald S. Waterhouse