

Quarter Two: Allusions, Images, Symbols: How to Study Bible Prophecy

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Lesson 8—In the Psalms: Part 1

Thursday: Teach Transgressors Your Way

May 22, 2025

- **Last Week:** “Foundations for Prophecy”
 - The redemption & cleansing offered through Jesus – and how God’s people can be restored & exemplify His self-sacrificing character
- **This Week:** “In the Psalms: Part 1”
 - Studying the Psalms to discover the symbols & meaning of Revelation & to uncover our role in these closing moments of earth’s history

Memory Text: “Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father’s name written on their foreheads” (Rev 14:1, NKJV)

The week in brief:

- 1. **Sunday:** Our High Priest (James)
 - Heb 9 / Ps 122 – studying the sanctuary in the OT (& Psalms) helps to understand the sanctuary in Revelation
- 2. **Monday:** On Mount Zion (John D)
 - Ps 15 & 24 / Rev 14 – the description of the people who stand in God’s presence
- 3. **Tuesday:** Law in Our Hearts (Shelley)
 - Ex 33, 34 – God’s name, His character, His law in our hearts & exemplified by obedience
- 4. **Wednesday:** Psalm 5 (Daniel)
 - Ps 5 & Rev 14 – comparison between Ps 5 & Rev 14 & the redeemed
- 5. **Thursday:** Teach Transgressors Your Way (Jill)
 - Ps 51 – once redeemed & transformed, we tell others; go & tell

Thursday: Teach Transgressors Your Way

Isa 6:1 – 8; Ps 51:7 – 15; Rev 14:6 – 9

- **Witnessing:** we cannot share what we do not have
 - How do you teach the Word, if you’ve never met Jesus?
 - How do you share salvation, if you’ve never been forgiven?
 - How do you impart, what you yourself do not possess?
- **Call of Isaiah:** Isaiah 6 (last week)
 - 1. **Saw** who God really is
 - Vs 1 – 3 - high & lifted up
 - 2. **Sensed** his own unworthiness
 - Vs 5a - “Woe is me, for I am undone! ...”

- **3. Repented** and confessed his sin
 - Vs 5b – “...Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips...”
- **4. Received** forgiveness & cleansing
 - Vs 6, 7 – “Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. (7) And he touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Behold this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.’”
- **5. Answered** the call
 - Vs 8b – “...Then I said, ‘Here am I! Send me.’”
 - Lesson: “Once Isaiah knew he was right with God, and despite knowing his faults, he was ready to work for God.”
- **7 steps to prepare to witness** (from Psalm 51:7 - 15)
 - David’s prayer of repentance
 - After his sin with Bathsheba
 - & rebuke by Nathan
 - Ps 51 = penitential Psalm
 - We study this for an example of repentance & cleansing
 - What if it were steps to prepare to witness?
 - **1. Convicted:** recognize sin & desire cleansing
 - Vs 7 – “**Purge** me with **hyssop**, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.”
 - Purge = Lit, “un-sin me”
 - Hyssop = a plant used in cleansing rituals (Lev & Num)
 - Hyssop was dipped in blood & applied
 - Heb 9 – in conjunction with the covenant with Moses
 - Heb 9:12 – 14 – “Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. ... (14) how much more (than the blood of bulls & goats) shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”
 - Cleanse me by Your blood
 - We want to start with witnessing:
 - I’m going to teach the Sabbath / state of dead
 - First step is recognition of our own sin & desire for cleansing
 - **2. Cleansed:** receive forgiveness (justification; imparted righteousness of Christ)
 - Vs 9 – “**Hide** Your face from my sins, and **blot out** all my iniquities.”
 - Hide = Heb, “hide” or “conceal”
 - Blot out = “utterly wipe away, blot out,” or “obliterate”
 - Once we’ve received forgiveness & grace,

- Can teach about it
 - Can extend it to someone else
- **3. Created:** recreated by God (transformation; sanctification; imputed R)
- Vs. 10 – “**Create** in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”
 - Create = *bara* = used of God’s activity to create something from nothing
 - Used only when God is the subject
 - Gen 1:1
 - 2 Cor 5:17 – “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold all things have become new.”
 - Eze 36:26 – “I will give you a new heart and put a new **spirit** within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”
 - Spirit = Heb, “disposition”
 - Once we’ve experienced change & transformation,
 - We want to share what we’ve experienced
- **4. Changed:** infilled by the Holy Spirit (sanctification)
- Vs 11 – “Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.”
 - Dwell in His presence – allow Him to dwell in you by the Holy Spirit
 - Eph 3:16 & 17 –
 - Strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man
 - That Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith
 - Col 1:27 – “Christ in you, the hope of glory”
 - Who dwells in you?
 - Rom 7:17 – “But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that **dwells** in me.”
 - Dwells = Gk, Oik’-eo – “to inhabit, dwell, make a home”
 - Sin has settled down & taken up residence
 - Gal 2:20 – “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”
 - Christ has settled down & taken up residence
 - Mistake in Adventism
 - Saved by grace
 - Sanctified by works
 - Imparted righteousness of Christ = Christ in you the hope of glory
 - When I surrender & He lives inside, He imparts His life & righteousness to me

- **5. Contented:** filled with His joy
 - Vs 12 – “Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit.”
 - Joy comes from forgiveness
 - No more guilty conscience
 - Joy comes from oneness with Christ
 - Walking in unity with Him
 - Nothing between me and Jesus
 - Joy comes from His presence
 - Vs 11 – “do not cast me away from Your presence”
 - Ps 16:11 – “The joy of the Lord is your strength”
- **6. Called:** to proclaim the gospel
 - Vs 13 – “**Then** I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You.”
 - Then – once we’re
 - Convicted
 - Cleansed
 - Created (recreated)
 - Changed (infilled by the Holy Spirit)
 - Contented (filled with His joy)
 - Then, we want to witness
 - We have something to witness about
 - “No sooner does one come to Christ than there is born in his heart a desire to make known to others what a precious friend he has found in Jesus; the saving and sanctifying truth cannot be shut up in his heart. If we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ and are filled with the joy of His indwelling Spirit, we shall not be able to hold our peace. If we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good we shall have something to tell. Like Philip when he found the Saviour, we shall invite others into His presence.” (SC, p. 78)
 - If we have no desire for souls, perhaps we’re not changed
 - **Revelation 14**
 - God’s people are standing on Mt Zion – changed & transformed
 - Redeemed
 - Followers of the Lamb
 - No guile in their mouths
 - Without fault before the throne of God
 - (they have experienced Jesus)
 - They are then equipped to proclaim the 3 angels’ messages
- **7. Chosen:** to praise Him
 - Vs 14, 15 – “Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. (15) O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise.”
 - Testify of His goodness
 - Praise God
 - For what He’s done / what He can do

- Who He is
- Rev 4 & 5 – praise & adoration in the throne room of Heaven

7 steps to prepare to witness (from Ps 51)

- 1. Convicted: recognize sin & desire cleansing
- 2. Cleansed: receive forgiveness (justification; imparted righteousness of Christ)
- 3. Created: recreated by God (sanctification; imputed righteousness of Christ)
- 4. Changed: infilled by the Holy Spirit (sanctification)
- 5. Contented: filled with His joy
- 6. Called: to proclaim the gospel
- 7. Chosen: to praise Him