

## Evening Sermon Outline – August 20, 2017

### “Our Portion, Plus...”

Psalm 119:57-64

#### I. Our Portion –

**HETH. You are my portion, O LORD; I have said that I would keep Your words. (Psalm 119:57 NKJ)**

**Whom have I in heaven *but You*? And *there is none* upon earth *that I desire besides You*.<sup>26</sup> *My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (Psalm 73:25-26 NKJ)***

*About Asaph, the human author of Psalm 73, and several other Psalms -*

“One of David’s three chief musicians, along with Heman and Jeduthun (Ethan), and the reputed author of Pss. 50 and 73–82; the son of Berechiah (1 Ch. 6:39). After the ark was taken to Jerusalem (15:16–19), he conducted with cymbals the music performed in the tent of the ark (16:5, 7, 37). Heman and Jeduthun did the same at Gibeon (vv 41f). Four of Asaph’s sons (fellow guild members?) were among those appointed to conduct under him sections of the great chorus (25:1ff), and all took part at the dedication of the temple (2 Ch. 5:12). The “sons of Asaph” formed a musical guild and were prominent in temple worship, especially as singers (cf. 1 Ch. 25:1ff; 1 Esd. 1:15).

Asaph is said to have “prophesied under the direction of the king,” through his music (1 Ch. 25:2); and Jeduthun and Heman are called “royal seers” (v 5; 2 Ch. 35:15); cf. 1 S. 10:5. G. W. Bromiley

*Could Asaph have collaborated with David on Psalm 119? Yes, he very well could have!*

*Verse 57.—“Thou art my portion, O LORD.”* God is all sufficient; get him for your “*portion*,” and you have all; then you have infinite wisdom to direct you, infinite knowledge to teach you, infinite mercy to pity and save you, infinite love to care and comfort you, and infinite power to protect and keep you. If God be yours; all his creatures, all his works of providence, shall do you good, as you have need of them. He

is an eternal, full, satisfactory portion. He is an ever-living, ever-loving, ever-present friend; and without him you are a cursed creature in every condition, and all things will work against you.—*John Mason—1694.*

#### II. Our Prayers –

**I entreated Your favor with *my* whole heart; Be merciful to me according to Your word. (Psalm 119:58 NKJ)**

**Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. (James 5:16 NKJ)**

*Verse 58.—“With my whole heart.”* Prayer is chiefly a heart-work. God heareth the heart without the mouth, but never heareth the mouth acceptably without the heart.—*Walter Marshall.*

#### III. Our Path –

**I thought about my ways, and turned my feet to Your testimonies. (Psalm 119:59 NKJ)**

*Two things to note here:*

##### 1. Self-examination –

**Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. ... (2 Corinthians 13:5 NKJ)**

##### 2. Repentance –

**"Therefore say to the house of Israel, `Thus says the Lord GOD: "Repent, turn away from your idols, and turn your faces away from all your abominations. (Ezekiel 14:6 NKJ)**

**"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says the Lord GOD. "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin. (Ezekiel 18:30 NKJ)**

**"but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance. (Acts 26:20 NKJ)**

#### IV. *Our Pace* –

I made haste, and did not delay to keep Your commandments. (Psalm 119:60 NKJ)

This readiness in the work of obedience is doubly expressed; affirmatively and negatively. Affirmatively, “*I made haste*”; negatively, “*I delayed not.*” Thomas Manton

#### V. *Our Prisoner’s chains* –

The cords of the wicked have bound me, *But* I have not forgotten Your law. (Psalm 119:61 NKJ)

*We have chains:*

1. *Chains caused by our own sins, weights that would slow us down –*

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,<sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJ)

2. *Chains of the world, sometimes literal –*

Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. (Hebrews 11:36 NKJ)

*The Apostle Paul had such chains -*

for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. (Ephesians 6:20 NKJ)

#### VI. *Our Midnight Praise* –

At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You, Because of Your righteous judgments. (Psalm 119:62 NKJ)

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.<sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was a great

earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. (Acts 16:25-26 NKJ)

#### VII. *Our People* –

I am a companion of all who fear You, and of those who keep Your precepts. (Psalm 119:63 NKJ)

#### VIII. *Our Place* –

The earth, O LORD, is full of Your mercy; teach me Your statutes. (Psalm 119:64 NKJ)

*Verse 64.—“The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy.”*

“Why bursts such melody from tree and bush,

The overflowing of each songster’s heart,

So filling mine that it can scarcely hush

A while to listen, but would take its part?

’Tis but one song I hear where’er I rove,

Though countless be the notes, that God is Love.

“Why leaps the streamlet down the mountain-side?

Hasting so swiftly to the vale beneath,

To cheer the shepherd’s thirsty flock, or glide

Where the hot sun has left a faded wreath,

Or, rippling, aid the music of a grove?

Its own glad voice replies, that God is Love

“Is it a fallen world on which I gaze?

Am I as deeply fallen as the rest,

Yet joys partaking, past my utmost praise,

Instead of wandering forlorn, unblest?

It is as if an unseen spirit strove

To grave upon my heart, that God is Love!”

*Thomas Davis, 1864.*

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,  
All nature sings, and round me rings The music of the spheres.

Maltbie D. Babcock

*Arnold A. Brevick*