

September 9, 2012  
"God Our Portion" Psalm 119:57-64

I. Having God as our PORTION satisfies us, both in this life and definitely in the next –

You are my portion, O LORD - :57 A

1. When he says "You are my portion ..." the Psalmist is saying something to the LORD, about Himself!

A. He is claiming, "I am one of YOUR people"... If you possess God, He also owns you –

"... I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jeremiah 31:33b NKJ)

B. He is saying, he is determined to make this Covenant / Relationship REAL ~ God is his God and his ALL and ALL! **Deuteronomy 6:4-5**

2. Some had / have God as their Portion by position –

<sup>9</sup> Therefore Levi has no portion nor inheritance with his brethren; the LORD is his inheritance, just as the LORD your God promised him.) (Deuteronomy 10:9 NKJ)

3. Israel was privileged to have God as their Portion nationally – Every metalsmith is put to shame by the carved image; For his molded image is falsehood, And there is no breath in them. <sup>18</sup> They are futile, a work of errors; In the time of their punishment they shall perish. <sup>19</sup> The Portion of Jacob is not like them, For He is the Maker of all things; And Israel is the tribe of His inheritance. The LORD of hosts is His name. (Jeremiah 51:17-19 NKJ)

A. This brought them great advantages, but did not guarantee SALVATION to individuals –

<sup>4</sup> who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises;

<sup>5</sup> of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.

<sup>6</sup> But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, (Rom 9:4-6 NKJ)

B. They were marked by circumcised foreskins, yet the REAL ISRAELITE had a circumcised heart –

<sup>16</sup> "Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer. (Deuteronomy 10:16 NKJ)

4. Whatever else you may have or even DREAM of having, the BEST PORTION is always God – Psalm 73

5. We will realize the full blessing of God being our Portion when we reach Heaven –

<sup>11</sup> You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. (Psa 16:11 NKJ)

II. Having God as our PORTION should result in our loving and "keeping" the Bible (God's Words) –

I have said that I would keep Your words --:57 B

1. The Bible is God's Word for us, it is God breathed, it is profitable for us, it is the letter in which He tells us He has loved us with an everlasting LOVE!

2. If God is truly our Portion, we should prize His Word –

A. David did –

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. (Psalm 19:10 NKJ)

B. Jeremiah did –

<sup>16</sup> Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts. (Jer 15:16 NKJ)

III. Having God as our PORTION should excite our prayers –

<sup>58</sup> I entreated Your favor with my whole heart; Be merciful to me according to Your word.

1. God is able to answer our prayers –

<sup>20</sup> Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, (Eph 3:20 NKJ)

<sup>25</sup> Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began (Rom 16:25 NKJ)

<sup>24</sup> Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, (Jud 1:24 NKJ)

2. God is willing to answer our prayers –

<sup>3</sup> 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.' (Jer 33:3 NKJ)

<sup>9</sup> "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup> "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he asks* for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> "Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:9-13 NKJ)

IV. *Having God as our PORTION should lead us to godly self-examination –*

<sup>59</sup> I thought about my ways

V. *Having God as our PORTION should speed repentance and obedience –*

And turned my feet to Your testimonies. <sup>60</sup> I made haste, and did not delay to keep Your commandments

1. "turned" = repentance
2. "I made haste, and did not delay" = speed
3. "to keep Your commandments" = obedience
4. *This speedy obedience is even in spite of dread obstacles –*

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

VI. *Having God as our PORTION means HE will be with us at midnight –*

<sup>62</sup> At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You, Because of Your righteous judgments

1. *This speaks to me as a single person –*

<sup>32</sup> But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord-- how he may please the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But he who is married cares about the things of the world-- how he may please *his* wife. (1Co 7:32-33 NKJ)

2. *Yet, if He is truly our PORTION He is there for us whenever we need Him, even if we are not single –*

<sup>20</sup> "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen. (Mat 28:20 NKJ)

3. *This is a comfort to us mere human ministers –*

<sup>5</sup> Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as *being* from ourselves, but our sufficiency *is* from God, (2Co 3:5 NKJ)

VII. *Having God as our PORTION is the sweetest thing we share with each other –*

<sup>63</sup> I *am* a companion of all who fear You, And of those who keep Your precepts.

VIII. *Those who have God as their PORTION find Him and His sweet mercy, EVERYWHERE! –*

<sup>64</sup> The earth, O LORD, is full of Your mercy; Teach me Your statutes. (Psalm 119:64 NKJ)

1. *It is something the atheist cannot, does not see*
2. *Yet those who HAVE GOD as their PORTION see HIM and find HIM EVERYWHERE!*

He is not far from each one of us; <sup>28</sup> "for in Him we live and move and have our being (Act 17:27-28 NKJ)

All around us are little fishes looking for the sea; people living, moving, having their being in an ocean of God's providence, but who can't see the ocean for the water. Maybe it's because we call it by another name. The ancient Hebrews from whom the Bible came were a religious people. They thought in religious patterns, they spoke in religious phrases, they saw in every event the direct activity of God. It rained; it was God who sent the rain. When crops were good, it was God who yielded the increase. But that is not our language, nor our pattern of thought. We think in terms of law - chemical, natural law. When it rains we know that it is a natural condensation of vapor. When crops are good we credit it to the fertilizer.

An amazing thing has happened in our way of thinking that leaves no room for Him. So many of our wants are provided by what seems natural and impersonal forces that we have lost sight of the Great Provider in the midst of providence. Some of us who were brought up in the country and then later moved to the city remember how easy it was to get out of the habit of returning thanks at the table, partly because the food on it came not directly from the earth but from the grocery store. A physician in New York City said, "If you ask a child where milk comes from, he won't think of saying 'from a cow' He will say 'From a container'.

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