

Psalm 118:19-29

Open the gates of righteousness to me; I will enter through them, I will **give thanks** to ^{the} Lord.
20 This is the gate of the Lord; The righteous will enter through it.
21 I will **give thanks** to You, for You have answered me, And You have become my salvation.
22 A stone which the builders rejected Has become the ^{the} chief cornerstone.
23 This came about from the Lord; It is marvelous in our eyes.
24 This is the day which the Lord has made; Let's rejoice and be glad in it.
25 Please, O Lord, do save *us*; Please, O Lord, do send prosperity!
26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;
We have blessed you from the house of the Lord.
27 The Lord is God, and He has given us light;
Bind the festival sacrifice ^{the} to the horns of the altar with cords.
28 You are my God, and I **give thanks** to You; *You are my God, I exalt You.*
29 **Give thanks** to the Lord, for He is good; For His mercy is everlasting.

David writes Ps. 119 as an expression of praise for ALL that God has done to *spare* his life, *rescue* his soul, & *give* him eternal joy in the presence of God. **David is thankful & overwhelmed w/ grace**
Vs. 1: "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting"

*Firstly, this is a Psalm/song of **worship** and **thanksgiving**. (Are you grateful for your relationship with God? How would He know? How would others know? How do you show genuine gratitude?)

This Psalm of David concerns David and his experiences, thoughts, gratitude, and worship. He writes this worship song to the Lord, and the Spirit is helping him write it ALSO about the One to come...and **ALL THE BIBLE IS ABOUT JESUS!** This Psalm often quoted in the New Testament is *more* about Jesus (as the perfect fulfillment) than David. ****Partial and Perfect fulfillment/ TYPE**

Vs. 18: The Lord has disciplined me severely, but He has not given me over to death.....thus,
V.19: Open the gates of righteousness to me; I will enter through them, I will **give thanks** to the Lord. =salvation produces gratitude; deep, overwhelming gratefulness for not being overlook, passed over, neglected, rejected...GOD has accepted you -RESCUED you; *saved YOU!*

20 This is the gate of the Lord; The righteous will enter through it. All of Scripture is about Jesus!

-JESUS is the **gate**: We come to the Father through the Son -through Jesus as the door/path...

-John 10:9 "I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved.^[a] They will come in and go out, and find pasture."

-John 14:6 "I am the Way (road), the truth, and the Life – No one comes to the Father EXCEPT through me.

-Acts 4:12 "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." -Is this true of you? Have you walk through that door? **Salv?**

-Mt 7:13-14 Jesus tells us "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is constricted that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

20 This *is* the gate of the Lord; The *righteous* will enter through it.

*Jesus is not only the gate, but He is our very **righteousness**. When we accept Him as Savior, He *gives* us His righteousness (He **imputes** Righteousness to us (He **credits our account** w/ His) and He **imparts** Righteousness to us (Gives and infuses us with Righteousness through His holy Spirit =**sanctification** =an internal change within us)=**New creation**

-2 Cor. 5:21 “God made him who had no sin to be sin^[b] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” -This is the great hope of the gospel; that we are seen as Christ and we are righteous as Christ BC Christ has counted His righteousness as our (guilt is removed; in right standing with the Father (Holy God) because when God looks at you He sees the Son; When He looks at the Son He sees the cross.

²¹ I will **give thanks** to You, for You have answered me, And **You have become my salvation.**

-God is our salvation. Jesus' Name: *Jeshua*= “God is Salvation” – Jesus IS OUR SALVATION

²² A stone which the builders rejected Has become the ^[c]chief cornerstone.

-Jesus quotes this verse directly to the Pharisees about Himself. Using the Owner of a vineyard parable, he told the Jews/pharisaical leaders that b/c they abused and killed the Vineyard owners' son -that when the owner returned he would destroy those who rejected and destroyed his own son. He told them their kingdom would be taken from them & given to another people:

-Mt. 21:43 “Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a ^[c]people producing its fruit. This is the Church/gentiles who have been given Christ's Kingdom.

²² A stone which the builders rejected Has become the ^[c]chief cornerstone.

²³ This came about from the Lord; It is marvelous in our eyes. -This is the great gospel irony. The devil. The world, Evil thought they had won when Jesus was killed. BUT God vindicated Jesus; He arose from the grave and NOW reigns exalted and glorified forever – and has become the very FOUNDATION of the Church; His Church; and He is HEAD of the Church.

-This Gospel reality; this gospel irony; this gospel paradox is marvelous in our eyes. The King came to be a servant of all; in order that the servants/slaves to sin could be rescued & saved from an eternity without the King – and Christ came that we could be with Him, the KING, forever!!!

*1 Peter 2:4-10 “And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by people, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, ⁵ you also, as living stones, ^[d]are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For *this* is contained in ^[k]Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a choice stone, a precious cornerstone, And the one who believes in ^[d]Him will not be ^[m]put to shame.”

⁷ This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for unbelievers,

“A stone which the builders rejected, This became the ^[c]chief cornerstone,” ⁸ and,

“A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense”; *for* they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this they were also appointed. ⁹ But you are a chosen

people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for *God's* own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

-What is our response?

²⁴ This is the day which the Lord has made; Let's rejoice and be glad in it. =Let us find Joy in it!!

²⁵ Please, O Lord, do save us; [Hosanna] Please, O Lord, do send prosperity! **Blessing/salvation.**

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; That was initially Moses; then David; Then Jesus as Messiah. God's deliverers sent to God's people. *NOW*, in Christ **that's us to lost world** We have blessed you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷ The Lord is God, and He has given us light; Bind the festival sacrifice to the horns of the altar with cords. Our response to God's goodness, His salvation, His Light/Truth (rescuing us out of darkness) = Worship, Praise, *Sacrifice!* **Our life=HIS**

²⁸ You are my God, and I **give thanks** to You; *You are my God, I exalt You.* (praise/worship)

²⁹ **Give thanks** to the Lord, for He is good; For His mercy is everlasting. -(repeats Vs. 1)

APPLICATION

1. Entrance into God's Presence Comes Through Righteousness—Fulfilled in Christ

We do not approach God on the basis of our performance, but through Christ's finished work.
=True Worship begins with humility and dependence, not self-confidence nor self-righteousness

2. The Rejected Stone Is God's Chosen Cornerstone

God's purposes are not thwarted by human rejection. *What looks like defeat may be divine design.*
This calls us to trust God's sovereignty even in suffering or ministry opposition.

3. Rejoicing Is Rooted in Redemption, Not Circumstances

Christian joy is anchored in the unchanging reality of redemption, not fluctuating life conditions. Even in hardship, there is a deeper cause for rejoicing. He is worthy no matter what

4. True Blessing Comes Through the Coming King

We must personally receive and submit to Christ as King. Worship is not just celebration—it is surrender.

7 Community Group Discussion Questions

1. Read Psalm 118:19–21 alongside John 10:7–9.

How does Jesus fulfill the idea of the “gate of righteousness”? What does it mean practically to enter through Him?

2. Compare Psalm 118:22 with Matthew 21:42 and Acts 4:10–12.

Why do you think Jesus was rejected by the very people who should have recognized Him? How does this challenge us today?

3. Read Psalm 118:23 in light of Acts 2:23–24.

How does the cross demonstrate both human responsibility and God's sovereign plan?

4. Psalm 118:24 is often quoted generally—how does its deeper context (salvation/victory) reshape your understanding of rejoicing?

5. Read Psalm 118:25–26 alongside the Triumphal Entry (Matthew 21:8–11).

What were the crowds expecting from Jesus? How does that differ from what He actually came to do?

6. Psalm 118 ends with thanksgiving for steadfast love (v.29).

How is God's steadfast love most clearly displayed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus?

7. The people cried “Hosanna” (save us), yet many later rejected Jesus.

Where might we be tempted to want Jesus as Savior but resist Him as Lord?