

THE LORD BE MAGNIFIED

PSALM 40:16 • TV-023B

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By

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Psalm 40:16

“Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified.”

I want you to open your Bibles to the book of **Psalms 40**.

The title of my message is: **“THE LORD BE MAGNIFIED.”**

And here in **Psalm 40:16** the Scripture says; *“Let those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee. Let such as love thy salvation say continually, the Lord be magnified.”*

Now who is the speaker? Well, first of all, it’s David, the chosen. God sent Samuel down to the house of Jesse to anoint a king for Israel. God had rejected Saul and He said to Samuel; “One of Jesses’ sons will be the king, the God anointed and chosen king of Israel.”

So Samuel went down to the house of Jesse and told Jesse he was coming. Jesse had what, seven sons, I believe it was? And he said to the youngest boy David; “Now, the prophet of God won’t be interested in you. Suppose you go out and take care of the sheep and do the other chores while your brothers and I take care of this anointing of the king for Israel.”

And so, Samuel came down and Jesse brought his sons before the prophet of God. The first one came before the prophet. He was the oldest boy, the big, strong, handsome lad, intelligent. And the prophet of God looked at him and said; “Well surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.”

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This is an impressive man. And God said; “Samuel, I rejected him; don’t anoint him.” So they came to the next one and one right after the other, the prophet of God said, “Well surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.” But each time God would say, “This is not him; I’ve rejected him.”

And finally, when all the boys came by except the one out there in the pasture, you know, feeding the sheep, taking care of the sheep; Samuel turned to the father Jesse and said; “Are these all the sons you have?”

And Jesse said; “Well no, I’ve got one more but I didn’t think you’d be interested in him.” Well, Samuel said; “You send for him; you fetch him. We’re not going to eat; we’re not going to sacrifice till he comes.”

And so a little while passed and in a few moments the door opened and young David stepped through the door. And the voice of God came to Samuel the prophet; *“Anoint him; arise, anoint him; he’s mine. God seeth not as man seeth. Man looketh on the outward appearance; God looks on the heart. Anoint him, he’s mine.”*

And the Scripture tells us in **1 Corinthians 1:26**; *“Not many mighty, not many noble, are called. God hath chosen the foolish things of this world to confound the things which are mighty and the things that are wise and the things that are not, to bring to naught the things that are that no flesh should glory in His presence.”*

God almighty chose David and anointed him king. Who’s speaking? *“Let all those that seek me rejoice and be glad in thee. Let such as love thy salvation say continually, the Lord be magnified.”*

Well, who’s speaking? It’s David, *“The man after God’s own heart.”* That’s in the Scriptures; it’s in there twice. It’s in **Acts chapter 13:22**. God said through Paul; *“I have found David to be a man after my own heart.”*

The heart of God and the heart of David were one. From beginning to the end of his reign, one thing can never be questioned, David loved the Lord. His heart beat in tune with God. He walked with God.

Abraham was said to be, *“The friend of God.”* Only of David, as it says; *“He’s a man after my own heart.”* This is who’s speaking here, *“The man after God’s own heart.”* Wouldn’t that be something? How would you like to be called *“A man after God’s own heart?”* I covet that.

And then it’s David. Who’s speaking here? It’s David the exalted one. The Lord Jesus Christ was called, *“The Son of David.”* Jerusalem is called, *“The city of David.”* They hymn book of the Bible, the Psalms. This Psalm is called, *“The Psalms of David.”* The Messiah is said to sit on the throne of David.

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And then this very chapter in the Psalms here that we have as our text is the words of the Lord Jesus Christ himself. Look up **Hebrews 10:5-9** and you will find these very same words were spoken by the Master himself.

Read **Psalm 22** and you'll find David writing hundreds of years before Calvary the very words that Jesus Christ uttered on the cross. So it would be well for us to listen to this sermon wouldn't it? "**The Lord Be Magnified.**"

David tells us in this **Psalm 40:9-10** what he preached, David the chosen one, David the anointed, David the man after God's own heart, and David the exalted one. He was a preacher. It tells us five things that he preached.

Here's the sum of his message: He says in **verses 9 and 10**: "*I have preached thy righteousness. I have preached thy faithfulness. I have preached thy salvation. I have preached thy loving kindness and I've preached thy truth.*"

Let's take them one at a time and look at them. Is this what we preach? "*I have preached thy righteousness,*" David said.

Well now my friend, God is holy, God is holy. God is righteous. Isaiah wrote in **Isaiah 6**; "*In the year that king Uzziah died; I saw the Lord. (I saw Him in His glory, in His holiness, high and lifted up). And even the cherubim's and seraphim's covered their eyes and covered their feet and covered their mouths in His presence and cried: holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty.*"

God is holy, God is holy. "*God (is almighty) is light and in Him there's no darkness.*" And this we will preach. But this is not what David's talking about here; "*I have preached thy righteousness.*"

And then the law of God is holy. The law of God is righteous and some men preach that and we will preach that. It ought to be preached. The law of God is perfect. It demands perfection, it demands perfect love, perfect obedience, inwardly and outwardly, in attitude and action.

This we will preach. But this is not what David's talking about. When we preach the perfect law; all the world it does is reveal our imperfection. It can't do anything for us, that's for sure. The law can never speak mercy; it can only speak a curse; "*Cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things that are written in the book of the law to do them.*"

The law can't bless you, no way! And a preacher of the law cannot help you nor bless you. And he has no good news for you.

And then the kingdom of God is righteous. Peter wrote in **2 Peter 3:13**; "*We look for a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness.*"

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That's not what David's talking about though. I can't help you today preaching about a future kingdom. I don't know why everybody's going to seed on prophecy in these days. Everybody wants to preach on what's going to happen in the future.

I want to know what's happening right now. I'm not nearly so much interested in the reign of Christ in the future as I am His reign right now in your heart. If He doesn't reign in your heart right now as your Lord and Saviour you won't want any part of that future reign. *"You'll be one of those who's crying for the rocks and mountains to fall on you and hide you from His face."*

Here's what's important to a sinful world, is a reigning Saviour right now. Let's just forget about the future for a little while and think about your relationship with Christ right now, *"What think ye of Christ?"*

Well, what is David talking about? *"I have preached thy righteousness in the great congregation."* Three Scriptures will help us. The first one is found in **Romans 10:1-4**. Paul begins **Romans 10** with these words; *"Brethren; my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved. I bear them record. They have a zeal of God but it's not according to knowledge for they're going about to establish their own righteousness and have not submitted themselves to the righteousness of God."*

Now we're getting into it. David said; *"I preached thy righteousness,"* the righteousness of God. These people have rejected the righteousness of God, Paul said, *"They're going about to establish their own righteousness."*

"I preach the righteousness of God," not man's righteousness, not man's goodness, not man's works which are *"filthy rags."* I preach God's righteousness. Well what is that? *"Christ Jesus, verse 4, is the end (or goal or consummation) of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth."*

Christ is our righteousness. That's God's righteousness. Almighty God is perfectly holy. His law is perfectly holy. Man is perfectly evil. In order for God to have anything to do with us, in order for God to receive us, in order for God to accept us, we've got to have a righteousness too; *"Two can't walk together except they be agreed."*

"Who can stand in His presence, he that hath clean hands and a pure heart, who have not lifted up his soul to vanity?" That's not you and that's not me. But Christ is that righteousness and He came down here in the flesh and He met the law of God as a man in the flesh and obeyed it perfectly.

And now in Him, our representative, in Him our Redeemer; we have a righteousness which the Father can be pleased, which He can accept. And it's not ours; it's His, His own righteousness provided by His own Son who met His own law and obeyed it, according to His own specifications. *"This is my Son in whom I'm well pleased."*

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Paul said; *“In the flesh no man can please God.”* But Christ did and in Him we have a perfect righteousness.

The second Scripture in **2 Corinthians 5:21**; *“He who knew no sin was made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God.”*

This is what we’re talking about. David said; *“I preach God’s righteousness, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”* Christ not only obeyed the law but He took our sins in His body. *“He who knew no sin was made sin.”*

The sinless became sinful, why, that the sinful might be sinless? Sin can’t be in two places. You see, my sins were heavy upon me and Christ came down here and took my sins and put them on himself and bore them away and paid for them and died for them. And now I don’t bear them anymore and the Father can accept me because I’m righteous in Christ.

Philippians 2:9; Paul looked back at all his religious heritage, tradition, custom, accomplishments, and he said; *“I count these things but dung that I may win Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is of the law, (which is chalked full of holes, which is self-righteous rags, which God won’t accept) but the righteousness of God which is by the faith and through the faith of Jesus Christ.”* Paul preached Christ as our righteousness.

That’s what David’s talking about; *“I’ve preached (declared) thy righteousness.”* A righteousness to be had and you won’t find it in here and you won’t find it in there; you’ll find it only in Christ.

And then David said; *“I preach thy faithfulness.”* What is God’s faithfulness? Do we know something about man’s faithfulness? We will say, “He’s a very faithful person.” You mean by that a loyal person. You mean by that a person that keeps his word, a person that will do what he says he will do.

All right, the faithfulness of God is the very same thing; it’s the immutability of God, the unchangeable quality of God, the characteristic or attribute of God that says; *“I am the Lord, I change not. Jesus Christ the same, yesterday, today, and forever.”*

“The gifts and calling of God are without change.” Now you and I don’t know a whole lot about that do we? The song writer says:

**“Swift to its close
Ebbs out life’s little day
Earth’s joys grow dim
And its beauties fade away.**

**Change and decay
All around thee I see;
(that’s about all we know anything about isn’t it?)**

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O thou that changest not Abide with me.”

He changes not. David said, “That’s what I preach; God doesn’t change.” God is unchanging in all of His purposes, decrees, and His counsel.

Listen to this Scripture in **Isaiah 46:9-10**; *“I am God; there is none else. I am God there is none like me. I declare the end from the beginning and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying my counsel shall stand. I will do all my pleasure.”* God is faithful in every purpose, every counsel, and every decree. It shall be done exactly as He decreed it, nothing changing.

And then our God is faithful, immutable, and unchangeable, in every promise, in every prophecy, in every word concerning Christ Jesus. He said; *“Heaven and earth shall pass away but my word, not one jot, not one tittle, shall pass till all be fulfilled.”*

You go back through the word of God and you’ll find the prophecies of Christ’s coming; He came. You go back in the word of God and you’ll find the types and pictures of His sacrifice; He died.

You go back in the Word of God and you’ll find the prophecies or predictions of His resurrection; He arose. You go back in the word of God and you’ll find the promises of His coming; He’s coming again.

He said; *“Do you believe in God? You believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions. If it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you; I’ll come again and receive you unto myself that where I am there you may be also.”*

It’ll be done. *“Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. He was buried and rose again according to the Scriptures.”* He reigns at the right hand of the Father according to the Scriptures. He’ll come again according to the Scriptures. My body will be raised according to the Scriptures. That which was sown in mortality shall be raised in immortality according to the Scriptures.

It’s all been fulfilled so far and it’ll all be fulfilled until naught because He said that; *“Until heaven and earth pass away not one jot or one tittle shall pass from my word till it all is fulfilled.”*

And then God is faithful, immutable, and unchangeable, in His promise to believers. He says; *“I’ll never leave you, I’ll never forsake you.”* Paul wrote; *“All things work together for good to them that love God, who are the called, according to His purpose.”*

He said; *“I’m persuaded neither height, nor depth, no length, nor breath, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor any other creature can separate me from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus.”*

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**“That soul that on Jesus
Hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not
Desert to its foe,**

**That soul though all hell
Should endeavor to shake
I’ll never, never, never, forsake.”**

“I’ve preached thy faithfulness.” Oh the faithfulness of God. Have you ever heard that hymn?

**“Great is thy Faithfulness
O God my Father
Great is thy faithfulness
Now unto thee.”**

And then David said; *“I have preached thy salvation.”* Now listen to me; will you listen a moment? David rightly called it, *“Thy salvation.”* Notice that David didn’t say “I preached thy righteousness and I preached thy immutability, thy faithfulness, and I preached my salvation.”

That’s what we call it, not David, not the anointed of God, not the chosen of God, not the man after God’s own heart, not the exalted David. He’s got more spiritual intelligence than that. He says; *“I preach thy salvation.”*

Salvation is not something David did for God; salvation was something God did for David. David knew it. David wrote several times in **Psalm 51**; he says; *“O Lord restore unto me the joy of thy salvation.”*

In **Psalm 3:8** he says; *“Salvation belongeth to the Lord.”* In **Psalm 37:39** he says; *“The salvation of the righteous is of the Lord.”*

Jonah, in the depths of the sea, in the belly of the whale, with the gates of hell closed upon him and the weeds, the seaweeds about his head, and darkness engulfing him cried; “One of these days I’m going to get saved. One of these days I’m going to give my heart to Jesus. One of these days I’m going to make a decision and start doing better.” No he didn’t say that!

Down there in the depths of the impossibility, down there in the depths shut up to the impossible inability of any creature only to the power of God he cried; *“Salvation is of the Lord.”* That’s what Peter said as he sank beneath the waves; *“Lord; you save me or I perish. Salvation is of the Lord.”*

Now you can call it what you want to. You can call it your decision, your experience. You can call it what you will but the man who knows God knows who saved him. He knows God saved Him and He knows God saved him on purpose.

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And he knows God saved him by the death of His Son, by the blood of Christ, and not by anything that that man did or contributed. And he knows that God almighty saved him by His grace and that God saved him for His own glory, *“To the praise of the glory of His grace.”*

My friends; our salvation is of God in its origin. *“Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.”* That’s what the Scripture says; *“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us.”* Christ said to His disciples; *“You didn’t choose me; I chose you. We love Him because He first loved us.”*

Salvation is of the Lord in its execution; God sent His Son. We didn’t send for Him; He sent His Son. *“It pleased the Lord to bruise Him.”* We tried to destroy Him. We tried to cast Him out of our world. We asked Him to leave our shores and never come back. That’s man’s reaction.

Christ said; *“I’ve come in my Father’s name and you won’t receive me. Let another come in his own name and you will receive him. You will not come to me that you might have life.”* You would have never come to Christ if God had not drawn you.

Salvation is of the Lord in its application; *“We are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus. It pleased the Lord to reveal His Son to me. He hath made us accepted in the beloved.”*

And I’ll tell you something; it’s of the Lord in its sustaining power. **Philippians 1:6** says; *“He that hath begun a good work in you He will perform it (He’ll perfect it) until the day of Christ.”* The book of **Peter** says; *“We’re kept by the power of God through faith, (not apart from faith), through faith.”*

But David said; *“I preached God’s righteousness and God’s faithfulness and God’s salvation. Then I preached God’s lovingkindness.”*

Let me talk to you privately a minute, confidentially, just me and you; you listen to me. Will you listen to me? It’s quite evident to me that somewhere down the line our preachers have failed us, totally failed us.

I don’t believe our preachers have preached the love of God as it ought to be preached. And do you know why I believe that, because there’s so little of God’s love manifested by those who claim to know Him. Somebody’s failed. Either they didn’t preach it or we didn’t hear it.

Now the Word of God says; Christ said; *“You love one another as I have loved you.”* Now then, evidently we don’t know how He loved us because there’s not much of that kind of love today is there? *“You love one another as I love you,”* unselfishly, sacrificially, everlastingly, infinitely, when you were unlovely.

And then the Scripture says; *“Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as I have forgiven you, as God for Christ’s sake has forgiven you.”* Now, where is that kindness? Where is that tenderness? Where is that forgiving spirit?

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Evidently we haven't heard about it. Evidently we don't understand His kindness and tenderness and forgiving love. Something's missing. Most churches are the hotbed of confusion and conflict, contradiction and hatred.

And then the Scripture says; *"Be ye merciful as your Father in heaven is merciful."* Do we know how merciful our Father is? Are we acquainted with His mercy? Are we? We aren't showing it.

"Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the church." Evidently we don't know how much Christ loved the church or how He loved the church or to what extent He loved the church because there's very little happiness in most homes today. Most of them are just little bits of hell.

In **John 13:13** our Lord washed the disciple's feet and He said; *"If I your Lord and Master have washed your feet; you ought to wash one another's feet. I've given you an example as I've done to you; you ought to do to one another."*

We're not talking about literally washing feet. That was a service rendered to people in that day who wore sandals and walked in dusty ground and needed their feet washed as they came in the home through the door, you know, and a servant washed their feet.

And Christ took the place of a servant. He rendered a humble service. He rendered a loving service. He rendered a caring service. He rendered a service with nothing to be gained by it. To His loved ones He gave Himself.

**"Oh love of God, how rich, how pure
How measureless, how strong
It shall forever more endure
The saints and angel's song."**

Oh for the power to preach the love of God, the eloquence, the ability, the spirit to preach the love of God so that somebody will hear it, believe it, receive it, and show it and give evidence that it's been shed abroad in his heart. *"He that loveth not knoweth not God."*

"By this shall all men know that you're my disciples if you love one another." Not much discipleship is there? Now we want to convince people that we're disciples of Christ by how loud we can preach and how long we can pray.

We want to convince people that we're disciples of Christ by how much we give to the church and how many services we attend and how faithful we are, how much doctrine we know, and what clean livers we are.

That's not what He said; He said, *"By this shall all men know you're my disciples if you love one another."*

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And then David closed and he said, *“I preached thy truth. I have not concealed thy truth.”* Paul said the same thing; *“I’m not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel (the whole counsel) of God.”* If it’s there I’ll preach it. For if I please men I’m not the servant of Christ.

Somebody said; “Every man has his price.” Well, Paul had his. He was sold out to Jesus Christ. The Lord bought him with a price of blood. You couldn’t threaten him because he said: *“If God be for me who can be against me?”*

And you couldn’t buy him with silver; he’d been bought with blood. You couldn’t promote him. You couldn’t give him a bigger church. He was a son of God. He was an under shepherd; he was an assistant pastor in Jesus Christ. He wasn’t looking for promotion!