

20:20 Vision Ministries – Devotions by Roger Browning Week 48 (November 20-26, 2016)

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, there is no better place in the Scriptures to turn than the psalms.

Sunday, November 20 (read Psalm 62)

My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will never be shaken. (Psalm 62:1-2)

Wow! I don't really need to add anything to the printed passage today, but I will try to emphasize what God has already said. Jesus promises **rest** to those who are weary and exhausted (Matthew 11:28). God says that there is a Sabbath-rest for His people if we will obey His Word (Hebrews 4:9-11). God gives **salvation** to those who believe in the finished work of His Son. He is the **Rock** on which the church is built. He is the **fortress** that protects us from the enemy's attacks. He is our **all in all!** What are you worried about today? How difficult will it be for you to give thanks to Him this week?

Monday, November 21 (reread Psalm 62)

They fully intend to topple him from his lofty place; they take delight in lies. With their mouths they bless, but in their hearts they curse. (Psalm 62:4)

David may have written these words when his son, Absalom was trying to overthrow him; however, they should also have meaning to us today. You may feel like your body or your faith is "leaning" and "tottering" (v. 3). You may be hurt deeply by those who claim to be your friends, those who bless you with their mouths, but curse you in their hearts (v. 4). Where do you turn when it seems as if everyone whom you trusted has turned against you? You must return to the One who is your **salvation**, your **rock** and your **fortress** (v. 1-2). "What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31)

Tuesday, November 22 (reread Psalm 62)

Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will not be shaken. (Psalm 62:5-6)

In today's printed passage, we return to the subject of finding rest. It can only be found when we keep looking up—fully rely on God (Klufrog). Drugs can help us sleep, but only in God do we find rest! There is a vast difference between the two! Are you willing to trust Him completely, even when it seems that everything is falling apart? Can you trust Him to supply your needs even during a time of famine (Philippians 4:19)? Do you use the word, "hope" as a noun of assurance or as a verb of wishing? The Bible always uses the word, "hope" as assurance. Are you trusting God to do for you what you cannot do for yourself? If so, you have learned to find rest in the Lord!

Wednesday, November 23 (reread Psalm 62)

My salvation and my honor depend on God; He is my mighty rock, my refuge. Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge. (Psalm 62:7-8)

The psalmist repeats words he has already introduced to you (salvation, rock, refuge), but he adds some more that we will explore. He says that our honor depends on the same One who gave us salvation; therefore, we don't need to seek it for ourselves (v. 7). He then introduces the verb, "trust" as a command to anyone who wants to experience rest (v. 8a). Many people believe in the works of Jesus Christ, but few of them trust in His promises to provide their daily needs. The psalmist tells us to "pour out [our] hearts to Him" (v. 8b) in prayer. Is prayer something you use when you are in trouble, or is it the way you start your day as you pour out your heart to Him? The answer to that question will determine whether or not you find rest in Him alone!

Thursday, November 23 (reread Psalm 62)

Do not trust in extortion or take pride in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them. (Psalm 62:10)

Today is the day when folks around the country will join you in giving thanks. Many will give thanks to the provider of the meal and others will give thanks to the cook. You should give special thanks to God, your **salvation**, your **rock**, your **fortress** and your **refuge**! Our lives on earth are short and, whether we are poor or rich, we will return to the dust (v. 9). Those who have gotten rich by taking from others will pay an eternal price. At best, riches are temporary, and they have no value in eternity. Matthew 6:21 states, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Be sure that you find rest and peace in God and not in your financial portfolio.

Friday, November 24 (reread Psalm 62)

One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that You, O God, are strong, and that You, O Lord, are loving. Surely you will reward each person according to what he has done. (Psalm 62:11-12)

It is imperative that we understand both sides of the coin as we worship God. On the one hand, He is loving, compassionate, caring, full of grace, merciful and forgiving. On the other hand, He is strong and does not fail to punish sins and disobedience. His children are judged only on the **quality** of their works, since **salvation** has been given to them through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (see 1 Corinthians 3:10-15). A judgment of works will also face those who reject God's offer of salvation; however, they must pay the penalty for their own sins since they did not receive God's Son. They will stand before a holy God, knowing that just one sin will condemn them to eternity in hell (Revelation 20:11-15). Which do you choose, grace or judgment?

Saturday, November 25 (reread Psalm 62)

Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge. (Psalm 62:8)

We have spent the entire week in thanksgiving and praise. This beautiful psalm should be very special to you from now on. Is God your **salvation**, your **rock**, your **fortress** and your **refuge**? If so, you will find rest, even in the midst of life's storms. If not, you need to be aware of the coming judgments of God on those who have rejected Him. He is a loving God, for sure, but He will not fail to punish those who refuse to believe in His Son. Have you read this week's devotions with thanksgiving and praise? If so, you are a part of the family of God!