**R971 (90) Rumination for September 3, 2023**

The **T**heme: **God’s Habitation of Praise** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *But Thou art holy, O Thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.* Psa. 22:3

The **T**hots:

1. **God’s Dwellings in the Past –**
2. In the **Tabernacle** to **R**eside among His **P**eople.
	1. His **P**urpose: *And* *let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.* Exo. 25:8
	2. His **P**resence: *And I will sanctify the tabernacle …. And I will dwell among the children of Israel,* Exo. 29:44
	3. His **P**eople: *And will be their God. And they shall know that I am the LORD their God…* 29: 45, 46

 *that I may dwell among them: I am the LORD their God.*

1. In the **Temple** to **R**eceive His people’s **P**raise. Ezra 3:10

 *When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests*

 *… and the Levites … to praise the LORD*

1. In the **Body of Christ** to **R**edeem us and to **R**econcile us unto Himself.
2. *For* *in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.* Col. 2:9
3. *A* *body hast Thou prepared Me…* *Then said I, Lo, I come…to do Thy will, O God.* Heb. 10:5-7
4. *The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory,* Jn. 1:14

 *the glory as of the only begotten of the Father)*

1. *Behold*, *a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son,* Matt. 1:23

 *and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us*.

1. *God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself*… II Cor. 5:19
2. **God’s Dwellings in the Present:**
3. God’s Habitation in His **P**eople.
	1. God indwells the **B**ody of every **B**eliever – the **C**hristian.

 *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?* I Cor. 3:16

* 1. God indwells the **B**ody of **B**elievers – the **C**hurch. Eph. 2:22

 *In Whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit*.

1. God’s Habitation is His People’s **P**raise: - *O Thou that* ***inhabitest*** *the praises of Israel.* Psa. 22:3
2. God’s People are for His **P**raise – they are **E**xpected to praise God all the time.

 *But Thou art holy, O Thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.* Psa. 22:3

1. God’s People lift Him up in **P**raise – they seek to **E**nthrone Him with praise.

 *Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.* Psa. 22:3, NRSV

1. The **G**rounds for Praise:
	* It is the **G**round for Justification – the Just had suffered for the Unjust.
		+ *My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?* Psa. 22:1 cf. Mt. 27:46
		+ *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust,* I Pet. 3:18

 *that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:*

* + **G**od is now Justified in Justifying the unjust – His Holiness has seen to it.

 *But Thou art holy.* Psa. 22:3a

 *Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.* Rom. 8:33, 34

 *Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again,*

 *who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.*

1. The **G**od Who is worthy of Praise – His Habitation is the praises of His people. Psa. 22:3b
	* *Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple:*

 *and He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.* Rev. 7:15

* + *The LORD is my strength and song, and He is become my salvation: He is my God,*

 *and I will prepare Him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt Him*.Exo. 15:2, KJV

* + *The LORD is my strength and my might, and He has become my salvation;*

 *this is my God, and I will praise Him, my father's God, and I will exalt Him*. Exo. 15:2, NRSV

Let us Praise and **R**evere our God this day as we **R**emember our Lord.

*When on the cross my Lord I saw, Nailed there by sins of mine;
Fast fell the burning tears; but now, I’m singing all the time.*

*I’ll praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him all the time!*

*Praise Him! Praise Him! I’ll praise Him all the time!*

 *Edward P. Hammond*

**Reflections for the Week R. 959 (90)**

**1**. Knowing that you are the Temple of God and that *the Spirit of God dwelleth in you*

 (I Cor. 3:16) and that *your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you* (6:18),

and that God *inhabitest your praise*, would you still be able to enthrone Him with praise in your heart…

a) when your body is beset by the infirmities of the flesh?

When Paul “complained” to God of this, he received God’s response as:
*And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore, I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.* IICor. 12:9, 10

b) when your body aches with pain and your bones stiff with every movement?

David cried out to the Lord when he was down and in pain for healing: Psa. 6:1-4, NKJV – *O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger, Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure.
Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am weak; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are troubled.
My soul also is greatly troubled; But You, O LORD--how long? Return, O LORD, deliver me! Oh, save me for Your mercies' sake!*

c) when you are near to the end of your days on the earth and you are certain that soon you will meet your God will you be able to say like David of old? Psalm 23:1-6

 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

 *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

 *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

 *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*

1. when finally, your body is laid to rest and your spirit and soul return to your Creator?

 Job was able to say when he was suffering in anticipation of that day when everything would end and He would see God:

 *For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth;*

 *And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God,*

 *Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!* Job 19:25-27, NKJV

 When that day dawns, will you still be able to sing: *I’ll praise Him all the time?*

 Because He dwells in you and you in Him, where He is on that day, there you will be also. Halleluiah, Praise him. **REFLECT**

**2.** Knowing that you are the Temple of God and that *the Spirit of God dwelleth in you*

 (I Cor. 3:16) and that *your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you* (6:18),

 how would you consider as you live out this present life…

a) where you go,

b) what you see,

c) what you do this week?

 *For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit,*

 *which are God's.* I Cor. 6:20 **REFLECT**

**POINTS TO PONDER:**

*Because He is in me, I need to be what He wants me to be;*

*Because I am in Him, I need not fear what can befall me*