

# Psalm 1:1-3

Sunday 9/17/2023

## 1. Review.

We have been talking about our walk with God out of Amos 3:3 To walk with God requires us to be in agreement with God on some things. Last week I just listed 7 of the major ones (we can find more) based on what the bible tells us.

1. Right bible
2. Right doctrine
3. Right music
4. Right associations with people
5. Right attitude toward the world and things of world
6. Right worship
7. Right church

The Church Triumphant, which is defined in the book of Ephesians and the Church Militant is defined for us in the book of Acts. God's program today will only run through a local New Testament church. Your allegiance, your ministry, should all run through a local New Testament church. It is the key to God's blessing in whatever you are going to do.

The bible is God's written contract for us. It lists the agreement that God wants us to have with him. So that at the judgement seat of Christ there will be no issue with us saying I didn't understand. He will just pull out the agreement which we are supposed to study, read, pray over and love and say what part of this agreement did you not understand. It is easy for us to look back and see that when we got saved, we had to make an agreement with God for salvation. We had to see that we were a sinner, and that we could not get to heaven on our own. For whatever reason, God's people after they get saved never follow any agreement with God. But there is an agreement after you get saved.

We are doing outlines of the book of Psalms, and they will be available in the bookstore and online. You can put them in your notebook to go back and review so you can understand the heartbeat of God. I think to have a walk with God we have to get God's heartbeat.

I really want for us as a church, to focus on the thing that will carry us through and that will be to get and understand the heart of God.

If you have questions about anything on Psalms, now is the time to ask them on Thursday night Bible Study to help you understand it. We need to work and learn together in this. All of us walking as a church together hand in hand as we walk with God as individuals but yet at the same time we walk with God as a church.

a.) Luke 2:46 Key word – Supposing

The story in Luke 2:46 where Jesus and his parents were on a journey coming back from Jerusalem. They had been walking a whole day, when they found out that Jesus was not with

them. Nobody knows where Jesus is, so they retrace their steps and find him on the third day. What a great picture and illustration that is in the bible and that is where Christianity is today. The key word in that story is “supposing”. They were supposing he had been with them. Unfortunately, a lot of people in Christianity think they have a walk with God. They’re supposing they have a walk with God. But if you really pinned them down and opened the bible, they would not have a clue on what they should be in agreement on with God. They are lost on the road to Jerusalem.

#### b.) Fact Checking

For a Christian, the key is to fact check everything! Somebody tells you something, including me, fact check them. Don’t just believe what they tell you is the truth. Fact check everything. The bible verse for this is in 1 Thessalonians 5:21 “*Prove all things, hold fast that which is good*”. The word of God for you and for me is the process of fact checking. To see if something is really of God or if it is not. It is one of the greatest tools to protect yourself from losing your walk with God. But people won’t do it.

## II Defining a Cult

Do you know what the definition of a cult is? We have lost the definitions of a lot of words today. People will look at this church and say, it’s a cult. If you are a bible believer today, you’re a cult. And people never understand what a cult truly is. Take for example the word racist. If you don’t want Kamala to be president, you are a racist. If parents don’t want their child at four or five years to choose their gender, you are a racist. Nobody understands what the word racist is, just as they don’t understand the word cult. The definition of the bonified word racist is God the Father. He is the ultimate racist. God sets the standard for what a racist is because he chose one nation, the nation of Israel. He gave them spiritual blessings that he never gave any other nation. He gave them physical blessings that he never gave any other nation. He told them the gifts and calling of God to Israel are without repentance. He chose one nation and put them over every other nation in the history of mankind. That’s racist! When he divided up the earth to send the nations out in Acts and Deuteronomy, he did it by the twelve tribes of the nation of Israel. He is a racist when it comes to picking one nation and setting them over all the other nations.

Do you know what a cult really is? A cult is any church, group, organization, any bible study or any person that will dismiss the truth and the facts that are well established in history and the bible. To put together a false belief system that has nothing to do with the word of God or history. Look at the American cults. Let’s look at the Jehovah Witnesses, the Mormons, 7<sup>th</sup> day guys, the Charismatics, that whole group. Do you understand how they got started? Almost without exception, every man that started those cults came out of a Baptist bible believing church. How did that happen? Nobody was fact checking!

They got disgruntled with the Baptist and the bible. They were so prideful they were unteachable, and they thought that the answers to everything was in them. They pulled a lot of the people out of those churches and started their own group. They came up with a non-biblical

hold on people that had nothing to do with anything in the bible. Nobody held them accountable. Nobody fact checked them.

The greatest tool we have is the fact check. It works in history, it works today. There are a lot of things out there that people will try to tell you and men will try to get you to believe. A real cult is somebody that will dismiss the truth and facts that are undeniable in history and right there in the bible. People get caught up in that because they do not use the tool God gave you to check the facts.

### III. Deeper look at Enoch and Noah.

Enoch in Genesis 5 is a perfect picture of your life and mine. We saw it last week in Heb 11:7. Jude 14 tells us before the flood that Enoch is preaching to a lost world about the second coming of Christ. (Jude 14 “*And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints*”). Why would God do that? Because he is a picture of you and me. Enoch walked with God and was not for God took him. He gets raptured out just like you and I do, a picture of the church. That should be the message we have for the world. God’s coming judgment! Methuselah means when he is gone judgment will come. Enoch’s whole family was a living testimony to the world of the coming judgement of God.

We looked at Noah in Genesis 6 and we see a broader picture of how he got through it all. The bible says that Noah stood alone for 120 years preaching God’s judgment. Hebrews 11:7 it says that he condemned the world. (*Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.*) It in 2 Peter 2:5 the bible says that Noah was a preacher of God’s righteousness (*2Pe 2:5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth [person], a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly*). The bible says that he moved to build an ark for the saving of his household. That tells me I need to be building an ark to preserve my family for what is coming.

You can now see all the keys to having the blessings of God in our lives through a walk with God, as you are in agreement with God. And what keeps us accountable for you and me is fact checking!

### IV. Two Attacks of the Devil.

There are two attacks of the Devil.

1. Keep people from getting saved.
2. Keep Christians from growing in the word of God

The Devil will do his best to keep men and women from ever finding out the truth of God and finding God’s salvation. He loses that battle many times and enters into the second battle which is to keep you from growing. If he can keep you from growing in the word of God, then he will keep you from walking with God. And you may go to heaven but there will be scores of people

in your life that you could have influenced for Christ, won to Christ, disciplined, helped them to grow to continue on from generation to generation. If the devil can't get you in hell, he will get you to not walk with God.

The bible says in Matthew 7:13-14 a walk with God will be a straight and narrow path. Yet today that straight and narrow path has been turned into a superhighway. We have gotten off the narrow path, the old paths Jeremiah 6:16, and now we are on a superhighway in Christianity where anything goes. With many turns and side roads that will all take your walk with God from you. Like in Luke 2:46, God's people today supposed they were walking when they are not.

## V. How You Can Lose Your Walk

Psalms 1:1 says, Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. The attack to today if you are saved will be to take your walk with God from you.

### a.) Following the Wrong Men

Remember the **key verse in Psalms is Psalms 118:8**. *It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.* Yet we are told in I Corinthians 11:1 Paul tells Timothy and his followers, *“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ”*. You begin to realize God uses men, but you got to follow the right ones. The way you do that is to be a fact checker. First thing I look at is how dynamic they are toward the word of God, or do they pick and choose out of the bible what they want to believe. When I first got right with God, I wanted the truth, and I didn't care where it was. I studied what the Catholics believed, the Jehovah Witnesses, all of those guys. You know why I never got caught up in all that? Because I was a fact checker. I just didn't listen to what they said, I just pulled the facts out. I knew God gave me a book that I could check the facts so that I would never get caught up in something that was not right.

### b.) The Danger of Success

We talk about the dangers of the world for Christians, but there are dangers of success. You never hear a message preached on it. But when you get successful on the ministry and God is doing a lot of great things it is easy to become complacent. You can become apathetic and let your guard down. In the mist of great things God is doing you can lose your edge. Families can have this happen also. They have raised three or four kids and the first two or three turned out good and the fourth one comes along, and they let their guard down. You know what happens? They get a flier. That is where when shooting a gun, the gun shoots and hits the bulls eye 3-4 times and the 5<sup>th</sup> one goes off, you get a flier. In life don't get satisfied because the devil can throw you a flier. The flier was different that all the other kids and in your success, there was danger. The price of freedom is eternal vigilance. You can't ever in Christianity and your walk with God, take a day off. You know when David got into trouble? The bible says there was a day when the kings went to war and David stayed home. You can't get out of this battle. We are in a war! It's a shooting war spiritually and we can never (on this side of heaven) afford to take our finger off the trigger. The key is to always have a good balance.

### c.) Lack of Balance in Our Lives

Balance in our lives keeps our perspective. We can't ever lose our perspective because we are in a war. In combat when you let your guard down, and think nobody is looking, you get a bullet right between the eyes.

We keep our walk with God through a balance of three things:

1. Be careful where you walk.
2. Be careful where you stand.
3. Be careful where you sit.

For the fact checking Christian when it comes to these three areas, my walk should be in Christ Colossians 2:6 and my standing in the power of his might, Ephesians 6:10, and I should be seated in heavenly places Ephesians 2:6.

### d.) Lose your Crown.

The Bible says in Revelation 3:11 let no man take your crown. Hold fast to what you have, because when you lose your walk, you lose your crown.

### e.) Mixed Multitude

The reality of Christianity and churches is that you will always have people who develop a bad attitude towards anything that God does. That principal was taught all the way back with the nation of Israel back in Numbers where you had the mixed multitude. The nation of Israel wanted to get as close to the ark of the covenant as they could. You had the three families and the twelve tribes. The mixed multitude got as far away as they could, yet they wanted to be part of the nation of Israel.

It's the parent's job to help little babies spiritually begin to walk. It's the church's job to help the parents help the kids. The goal for everyone of you in my ministry is for parents to have a walk with God and then be able to translate that down to your kids. That you build an ark in the preparing of the saving of your household.

### f.) Pride

Sometimes pride gets in the way and people become unteachable. Some will be Satanic implants. Their whole life has been on self-destruct mode and they'll be used to hurt any work of God. You saw it in the New Testament in Judas and in the Old Testament in Saul. In each case they will develop an attitude of the mixed multitude. They end up forsaking the seven things God loves and wrap their life around the seven things God hates.

When you lose your walk, an automatic process takes place of a reversal of God in your life. You will always be saved, but when you lose your walk, you lose some things. Can two walk together except they be agreed? You get out of the agreement with God and that will be the definition of you being out of fellowship. Balance, be careful where you walk!

## g.) Having the Wrong Counsel

### Two types of Counsel

- 1.) Council—a body of men who meet together to determine a course of action like a city council.
- 2.) Counsel—the giving of advice or opinions on something to someone.

In any church you will find negative people who will be used to tear down what God is doing by getting good people to walk with them instead of walking with God and they begin to give them bad advice.

A Model for this in the Bible is:

2 Samuel 15 Absalom. Absalom wanted to take the kingdom from David, his father. He sat at the gate and would say if only I were king, I could solve your problems. The bible says he stole the hearts of God's people. Absalom never did anything except develop a bad attitude. Through deceit, through corruption, through lies, he takes the people from David. Fact Check – **Stay away from the Absalom's in life.**

**When you walk with God you will get the right counsel.**

*Psalms 73:24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me [to] glory.*

*Proverbs 8:14 Counsel [is] mine, and sound wisdom: I [am] understanding; I have strength.*

*Proverbs 12:15 The way of a fool [is] right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel [is] wise.*

The greatest tool you have as a Christian is the fact check system God gave you. Use it and be careful where and with whom you walk.

## h.) Walking with the Ungodly and Standing with Sinners

The next step in losing your walk is walking with the ungodly and standing in the way of sinners. Not only must you be careful where you walk, but where you stand. Now you are standing with them instead of standing against them. Now instead of standing for the things of God something begins to change in your life. Your walk has changed and your stand for God has changed.

The Jim Jones kind of cult mentality is always an isolationist, because he took his people out of the city and isolated them so nobody could fact check him.

And once you start walking with them and now you are standing with them, they are pouring the Kool-Aid. The bible says standing in the way of sinners, that is your key as you are not going in the way of God anymore you are going their way. You are walking with the ungodly. And as in Proverbs 12:15, you are right in your own eyes because you don't fact check them.

Revelation 18:2 says basically in the story the adage that birds of a feather flock together. My mom used to tell me that misery loves company. The counsel you get from ungodly disgruntled out of fellowship people, the mixed multitude, won't follow the bible in fixing the issue. In the

word of God here is a way to fix whatever problem we have. But we choose not to because we are not just walking with them now, we are standing with them.

The bible says in Romans 16:17 mark those that cause division among you. Look at what comes out of their mouth. For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. Look at what they do in their church, if they even have a church. What do they build and what do they invest in their life destroying. Be careful where you stand. Do they exercise the four godly characteristics of Christ we should have? Do they exercise grace? Forgiveness? Longsuffering and patience? All the things that God gave to us that they are not willing to give to anybody else. **Be careful where you stand.**

i.) Seated in the Seat of the Scornful

The final leg of your walking away from God the bible says, “you are seated in the seat of the scornful”. You’re not walking with them anymore, you are not standing with them anymore, now you are one of them. Yet their deception is so great they suppose they walk with God and blame their issues on everybody else. Don’t let any man take your walk because it will ultimately lead to losing your crown.

Last week when we came thru those seven things to be in agreement with God, the fifth one was to **watch your associations**. Be careful who you walk with, be careful where you stand and who you stand with and be careful where and with whom you sit. Let no man take your walk which will always lead to taking your crown.

## VI. Summary

Enoch walked with God for 300 years. Can you imagine? Enoch doesn’t represent just me as an individual, he represents Christianity, this church. None of us can walk 300 years, but if I can just get some of you to walk ten years, 20 years, 30 years, 40 years, the collective wisdom of this body here will exceed 300 years of walking with God with Enoch. It’s not about one person in this church. What God uses and God is blessing is the collective wisdom that is here. It will be about us the body, the church militant. Getting into the bible, learning the bible, fact checking everything to keep our walk where it needs to be. And allowing God within this church to take all of you and the collective wisdom will be well past three hundred years.

In all that God is doing in this church, we don’t want to get complacent. Nor do we want the negative side of it to take away what we know and see God is doing. You are here today to make a choice. To choose whether you are going to let God develop the right walk with you, keep the right walk you already have, or get to the place where you allow the collective wisdom of this body to give you what you need.