

The Happy Man 03 Righteousness-Palm Tree

by James K. Boswell

The sermon explores Psalm 92, highlighting the characteristics of a happy, righteous man through the metaphor of a flourishing palm tree and the importance of thankfulness and spiritual growth.

Duration: 45:43

Scripture: Psalm 92:1-2, Psalm 92:4, Psalm 119:11

Topics: "Holy Spirit", "Righteous Living"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of having a harmonious relationship between our physical bodies and the indwelling Holy Spirit. When we yield ourselves to the Lord and allow the Holy Spirit to work through us, the life of Jesus Christ is manifested. The preacher also mentions the joy that comes from being filled with Christ and the beauty of seeking the lost to win them over. The sermon then shifts to discussing the greatness of God's works, both in creation and in the incarnation of Jesus. The contrast between the wicked and the righteous is highlighted, with the righteous being compared to a palm tree that grows from within and flourishes.

Transcript

Now please open your Bible to Psalm number 92, the 92nd Psalm. It's saying concerning the late Alexander Marshall, the author of God's Real Salvation booklet, that if his text had scarlet fever, the sermon would never catch the infection. They're all but so far apart.

I told you last night I was going to speak on Psalm 1. It's a woman's privilege to change her mind. That's why it's always so clean, by the way. Even I changed my mind tonight, I believe the Spirit's changed it for me.

And we're going to speak tonight on Psalm number 92, still dealing with what does a happy man look like. So Psalm 92, verse number 1. It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name almost high. That sure falls thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night.

Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery. For thou, Lord, hath made me glad through thy work. I will try.

O Lord, how great is thy work, and thy thoughts are very deep. A brutish man knew it not, near to the fool understand it. When the wicked springeth the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish, it is

that they shall be destroyed forever.

For thou, Lord, art most high forevermore. For lo, thine enemies, O Lord, for lo, thine enemies shall perish. All the workers of iniquity shall be scattered, but my horn shall thou exalt with fresh oil.

And mine ear shall hear my desire of the wicked. The righteous shall flourish, he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who be planted in the heart of the Lord, they shall still bring forth fruit.

They shall be fat and flourishing. They shall know the Lord is upright. He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

The Lord reigneth. He hath clothed with majesty, the Lord is clothed with strength. The Lord hath his blessing to that short reading from his word to enhance the night.

This is a psalm which is sung at the offering of St. Celise. And notice how it starts. It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises in thy name, O most high.

Where you have a thankful heart, there is also with it a praiseful disposition. And a thankful heart is one of... And I repeat, where you have a thankful heart, there will also be with it the praiseful disposition. And notice verse number two says, That shall fall thy lovingkindness, thy steadfast love in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night.

Praise God this evening on for the fact his steadfast love is ever like his mercies new every morning. Always fresh, always up to date. And now we come down to the slot here where it says, Thy faithfulness every night.

Now it speaks about the instrument of ten strings. I love to suggest this to you that our body is an instrument of ten members. We've got two eyes, two ears, two lips, two hands, and two feet.

And when these are synchronizing and in harmonious relationship, and our bodies are yielded to the indwelling Holy Spirit, and now through these bodies there shall be a manifestation, and we shall see a hand filled with real joy. For Christ himself is joy personified, and when he the unspeakable gives. That's a secret.

Oh may his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win, and may we forget the channel seeing only him. Go down to verse four. This isn't verse four, and I like this too.

For the Lord hath made me blind through thy works. Is this not true in your mind? His triumph is our triumph. Thanks be unto God who always gives us the victory, and the catcher in the row.

I love these words. I will triumph. Oh Lord how great are thy works.

We look around us and we see God's greatness. We meditate upon his creation. We think of the work and the incarnation.

We think of his works here among men as he contacted. No disease was counted incurable. He was the master over disease.

We think of his work upon the cross. And we think of this one who is the prince of peace. We think of that holy one.

His hands and feet kneel through to that Roman gibbet. You hear the cry of the Lord. Then you hear the note of triumph.

It is finished. The great word of salvation. Yes we stand back.

Yes we lift our eyes. Jesus holds us. Never again will we see another.

He's just a daughter. Amen. Hallelujah.

What a Lord and Savior is ours. For then one day every knee will bow. Yes what a miracle that's due to be.

Yes when he shall come to be glorified. Friend has this work reached your heart? Has the spirit of God done this in you? In Christ alone. We go back now.

In the works of thy hands. In your beautiful country of the United States. I've never seen at all.

I want to. But then you see those men. One second quarter I began to get into the idea.

So he stopped there. You didn't play in that game. That team never represented.

So he went back all over again. Victory. So he looked at me.

Haven't you? And he went back. Are you still trying to die? And said. Die daily.

Do you feel a bit more dead today than you? And Paul said. You are dead. You have died.

And Paul said. I died daily. He didn't mean to put the old man on the cross day by day.

And just as Bush didn't play in that game. Yet he shared the victory. Because the team represented.

Reigning with Christ in life. Here and now. How may I know victory than any Christ? Commit thyself to Calvary.

In the measure which I reckon by faith. Reverend 611 comes in here. Reckon ye yourselves.

I said last night. That was all introductory to my message. I've got five minutes extra tonight.

I noticed a contrast between. And I want to draw one or two very practical lessons from the tree. First of all.

The palm is the only tree that has got its growth. It grows from within. And develops and matures.

I was in Pittsburgh. Pennsylvania. At a conference a few weeks ago.

And I was sitting with a family. And I looked out through my bedroom window one day. And I noticed he had a tree.

The bark removed about two feet deep. I said to him. Ray.

I want to kill it. And because I want that tree killed. I remove that bark.

You can't do that with a palm tree. Oh no. My friend.

You may tear the bark off. You may chip the bark. But.

What a lesson for us. Ezekiel 36 says. A new heart will I give them.

Isn't it lovely? I'm so glad of this nice friend tonight. It's not your old life. It's a new life given.

Keep thy heart. Jesus Christ. And I want you to get that tonight my friend.

It says in Ephesians chapter 3 verse number 7. He must have the preeminent praise. He must be lord over all. He is a thousand times ten thousand.

He alone is the worthy one to reign lord supreme. Then again. Our heart must be enlarged for his word.

It's not enough my friend to say. I appreciate the word of God. And we went down to this breakfast about.

Revival. And when there's real revival there shall be a. Only God give us. And our heart must be enlarged for his word.

The joy of love life. Being. Being filled.

Did we not finish last night with these words? Filled with thy spirit. Living in me. So you get those four points.

A God. A head spirit. Now.

The doctor says. When you get an enlarged. The enlarged.

Become spiritual athletes. Secondly. A tree.

Other trees are around. A palm. We got a new.

Let's pull in his. He loved me and I knew him. He drew me with a cord of love.

And forever. Amen. Inger father.

Now. I'm just giving you the outline here. Nearly all the go healthy and clustered.

Palm trees. You receive this new life. With the light from above.

You're in born to the family of God. All believe. And you're recognized as a. You see.

You see. You see. You see.

Are you a deacon? An elder in your church? Are you functioning as such? And fulfilling the work of the elder or the deacon? This is important. Or do you just leave it to others? Straight up and down in my whole life. Straight up and down in my business life.

Straight up and down in my church life. Dr. Jones, a medical doctor, had a twin brother, also a bachelor, who was a doctor of divinity. They lived together in the same apartment on Harvard Street in London.

One night a man went to call the doctor of medicine. So he rang the bell and there was a speaking tube for night callers. So the doctor went to the top of the stairs and called, who's there? And he called him and said, Yes, I'm Dr. Jones.

He said, Are you the doctor that preaches? Are you the doctor that practices? Straight up and down in her home life, you see. So may I go, little father, now? Did you notice that? You look at them. A palm tree, a healthy palm.

All the nutrition, all the life goes to everything that we seek to draw away from spirit. We were in the West Indies some time ago. We've been away for five months.

Everything would draw away from spiritual development. Will you reckon that dead? Spiritual life. No side shoots.

This is very important. Again, the palm tree always looks bad from above. Always looks bad from above.

I like flying over groves upon groves of palm. I'm looking down, but we always like to make... You know? The density of fruit was between seven and eight years old. It bears fruit for all ages, even old age.

They shall still bring forth fruit. There's no retirement in this beloved, you know. No retirement.

They shall still bring forth fruit in old age. Fruit until holy... I used to, when I was a young... But you know, I've experienced, I've gleaned a lot. I've gleaned a lot.

I know that many of them are just like you, dear people here. Are growing old gracefully. And they're maturing.

Not women. Do you know that? The devil has no happy old men or women. Now, look here tonight.

I see a yes, a radiantly happy believer. Come to him in old age. Isn't that just lovely now? So, may I repeat this? There's a legend for us.

Begins to bear fruit with the tree. The travelers pass. What a legend.

There's more of the tree out of sight than can be seen. And the hidden life of the believer is so important. It's just so... It's shady and not kept in touch and clear before himself.

Then my outward conduct will reveal this, you know. It's to recognize the... I was giving a series of lectures down at the Arizona Bible College some time ago. And Dr. Oldfogate, who was said to pronounce his name Oldfogate.

But his name was really Oldfogate. He's with the Lord now. But he said, Mr. Marble, you're stressing the importance here of the quiet time.

I said, yes. He said to me, How do you pronounce the fourth book of the Bible? Do you pronounce it Deuteronomy or Deuteronomy? I said, Deuteronomy, doctor. How do you? He said, numbers.

It's the fourth book, isn't it? That's right. What I'm going to say is this. In Arizona, University of Arizona.

And if I give a talk... And I looked around that very fine group this night. We're talking about the importance of quiet time. They're still using the term quiet time.

I abbreviate it by saying QT. QT is the quiet time. So every time I came to expression QT, to my utter amazement, I noticed a lot of my male students smiling.

Every time I said, nothing in my life I've got, I knew exactly what they were smiling about. So I said, look fellows, I'm not talking about QT. I'm talking about QT.

So QT may keep you from QT, but she must not. You must not let any QT or anything come in between you and that quiet time. You've got to recognize the importance and the value of all that is Bible, the hidden life at the door, which is in secret.

May I ask you very gently and very tenderly, as I close, have you a quiet time? Have you a time and a place, day by day, where you meet with God face to face? If not, then please don't think I'm unkind. If not, then tonight you are in a backstreet. I don't care how busy you are in Christian service.

No amount of Christian service will compensate for your neglect of that quiet time. The Lord wants you, and not your service. And your service will only be effective in the measure in which He's got you and got me.

And a little note. If you don't come apart, you'll fall apart. I heard the palm tree then, and the root, and then bears fruit on the top.

I love that. Take root downward, bears fruit upward. The fruit of the palm is always on the top.

It's a place of refreshment. We were in Barbados a few months ago. There in Barbados we saw the palm.

When a weary traveller goes along, foot sore and weary, there he sees that palm. Oh, what encouragement. There in the cells, there are little cells.

We should be a place of refreshment to all of us. Day by day. My wife was in Portugal as a medical missionary.

Mr. Arthur Ingleby asked her to go and spend her life with him in Portugal, just when we started going together. I'm glad she didn't mind you. But he married a nurse who went out of her place.

May I help you right here? But he had a sister-in-law, a brother-in-law, in Swindon, in Wiltshire, in England. I was ministering there. I was talking to young people and saying, sometimes you've got a project from the Lord.

It's so real, so precious to you. And you suggest it to some of your elders and say, Oh no, they just throw a wet blanket. Just throw a wet blanket over what you're thinking about.

And sometimes you can kind of get disheartened and discouraged, you see. So this brother-in-law, Mr. Arthur Ingleby came up to me and he said, Brother Bartle, our love for the Lord should be so quite hot that when the floor wets blanket at us, it dries immediately. Isn't that lovely? That when the floor wets blanket at us, our love for the Lord is so warm and so white hot, it dries.

I would love to go along those lines, you know. There are over 360 uses for a palm. Over 360 uses for a palm.

You may not be a Bible teacher, that may not be your gift, but don't worry about it. You may not be a gospel preacher or an evangelist, that may not be your gift, but there's something the Lord has for you to do. Now find out what that something is and do it with a single I for P-A-L-M spells palm.

The palm is pleasing. The palm is attractive. The palm looks up.

And the palm is made use of. And the righteous shall flourish like a palm tree. And these days you've had in conference here over the weeks and months, and you've allowed the Spirit of God to operate in you and form Christ in you.

As you go back to your home and as you stay here in these beautiful surroundings, your life is going to be pleasing, it's going to be attractive, it's going to look up, and it's going to be made use of. His life being lived in you in the energy of an ungreed Holy Spirit. So I repeat with all my heart, let us all the righteous shall flourish like a palm tree.

I'm going to go back over that in detail, apart from the cross thing, because I want you to get this tonight. A palm is pleasing. A palm is attractive.

A palm looks up. And a palm is made use of. And as we're looking up the body, looking for Him, expecting to come back at any moment, we shall purify ourselves even if He is pure.

Number 382.

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/9/SID9631.mp3>

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