

The Purpose Of History

Psalm 78:1–4

Introduction

The purpose of history is to recount the past so coming generations may know the miraculous dealings of God and His mighty works. There are four historical psalms; psalms 78, 106, 107, and 136, in which the writer remembers God's miraculous dealings with His people.

Message

1. His story.

- a. God has spoken throughout history and is now speaking by His Son (Hebrews 1:1,2).
- b. The Greeks (Socrates, Plato, Aristotle) and mythology searched for knowledge, power, and immortality with the gods. We have it in Jesus.

2. Instruction.

- a. "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" (Romans 15:4).
- b. We learn from history.

3. Structure.

- a. Build your life on the Word of God (Matthew 7:24).
- b. Spare no cost in building your life (Luke 14:28). Finish your house. Complete your calling.
- c. Build a fireproof structure. One's life work will be tested by fire (1 Corinthians 3:13,14). A structure of gold, silver, and precious stones will be rewarded, and a house of hay, wood, and straw will be burned up.
- d. The overcomer will:
 - (1) eat of the tree of life (Revelation 2:7),
 - (2) not be hurt of the second death (Revelation 2:11),
 - (3) eat of the hidden manna and be given a white stone with their name engraved on it (Revelation 2:17),
 - (4) be clothed in white (Revelation 3:14),
 - (5) have power over the nations (Psalm 2:8; Revelation 2:4),
 - (6) be a pillar in the temple of God (1 Kings 6:7; Revelation 3:11). Not a sound of a hammer or axe was heard in building Solomon's temple. The stones were prepared beforehand. God is now shaping you to fit into His kingdom.
 - (7) reign with Jesus (Revelation 3:21).

4. Truth.

- a. John 14:6, "Jesus is Truth."
- b. Facts change. Truth never changes.

5. Order.

- a. Matthew 6:33, put first things first.

6. Relevance of prayer in the events of one's life (Romans 8:28).

- a. The prayer of Jabez is relevant.
 - (1) Bless me. The blessed man is: humble, contrite, meek, hungry and thirsty for God, and a merciful peacemaker who rejoices in the time of persecution.
 - (2) Enlarge my potential.
 - (3) Keep Your hand on me.
 - (4) Keep me from evil.
 - (5) Do not let life grieve me.
 - (6) God granted what he requested.
- b. Joseph's four coats are relevant.
 - (1) His coat of many colors was stripped from him, and he was thrown in a pit, but the Ishmaelite traders took him from the pit to his destiny: Egypt.
 - (2) Potiphar's wife took his second coat and sent an innocent man to prison.
 - (3) In his prison coat, he interpreted the dreams of the butler and baker.

(4) Later, he wore the coat of a pharaoh.

7. Yesterday.

- a. Don't get stuck in your yesterdays.
- b. Your future is as bright as the promises of God.
- c. Keep the fire burning: "Stir up the gift of God, which is in you" (2 Timothy 1:6).

Conclusion

The God of history is the God of today, and He will be the God of tomorrow, because He never changes.

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