

Key Scripture for this Series:

Ephesians 5:15-17

15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.

Text for Today:

Psalms 29:1-11

1 Give unto the Lord, O you mighty ones, give unto the Lord glory and strength. 2 Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. 3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is over many waters. 4 The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars, yes, the Lord splinters the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox. 7 The voice of the Lord divides the flames of fire. 8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth, and strips the forests bare; and in His temple everyone says, “Glory!” 10 The Lord sat enthroned at the Flood, and the Lord sits as King forever. 11 The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.

Supporting Scripture:

Isaiah 55:8-9

8 “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. 9 “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

James 1:2-3

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Romans 5:1-5 (summarized)

Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ—through Him we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand—where we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. We also glory in tribulations which produces perseverance which produces character which strengthens our confident hope of salvation. This hope is everything, because the love of God has been poured in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

2 Chronicles 7:14

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Psalm 28:1-2

I pray to you, O LORD, my rock. Do not turn a deaf ear to me. For if you are silent, I might as well give up and die. 2 Listen to my prayer for mercy as I cry out to you for help, as I lift my hands toward your holy sanctuary.

God is speaking to us to:

1. **Break** the **Hardness** from our heart.

Psalm 29:5

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars, yes, the Lord splinters the cedars of Lebanon.

Proverbs 28:14

Blessed is the one who always trembles before God, but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble.

2. **Burn** the **dross** away that **clutters** our heart.

Psalm 29:7

The voice of the Lord divides the flames of fire.

Psalm 139:23-24

23 Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

3. **Shake** the **wilderness** out of our life.

Psalm 29:8

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh.

2 Corinthians 4:8-10, 16-18 (Summary paraphrase)

We are pressed by this trouble but not crushed, perplexed but not depressed, not abandoned by God as He is with us and we will not be destroyed. This is why we don't give up. Our bodies may suffer but our spirit is renewed. What we see is temporary, so we fix our outlook on the eternal.

The results of God speaking to us:

1. It will bring us to the rightful place of **Praise**

Psalm 29:1-2

1 Give unto the Lord, O you mighty ones, give unto the Lord glory and strength. 2 Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Psalm 29:10

The Lord sat enthroned at the Flood, and the Lord sits as King forever.

2. The LORD will give **strength** to His people. ~ Psalm 29:11a

Isaiah 41:10

Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

3. The LORD will bless His people with **peace** ~ **Psalm 29:11b**

The truth:

Nature's activities can evoke in man a sense of weakness and worry; but because God is still in control, His people enjoy a sense of strength and peace.

Philippians 4:6

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.