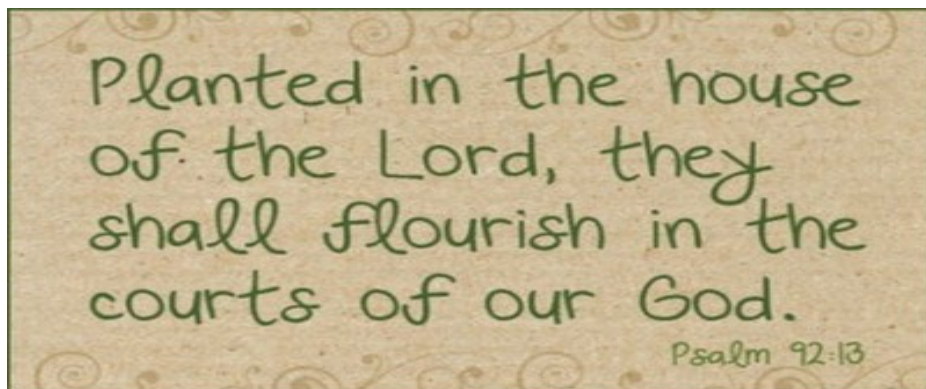


## A Song of Thanks for A Day of Worship

Psalm 92

Psalm 92 is ‘a song for the Sabbath day.’ Old Testament Israelites sang it in worship. It is a joyful song of thanks to God, declaring that He will defeat the wicked, and bless the righteous. This is a psalm for all times – with important reminders for Christians living in the ‘end times.’

- It is good to give thanks to the Lord! (1-4)
  - *for His unfailing love*
  - *for His faithfulness*
- The wicked will be destroyed and perish (5-9)
  - *The world is deluded by temporal success*
  - *The wicked don't comprehend what God is doing*
- The godly will gain strength and flourish (10-15)
  - *The godly look with the eyes of faith*
  - *They bear fruit for God to the end of life*



1. The biblical heading for Psalm 92 reads, “A psalm, a song for the Sabbath day.” While Christians do not observe the Sabbath (meet on the seventh day, Saturday), it is still significant. Read Exod. 20.8-11. What did the Sabbath day point back to? On the Sabbath, there was a complete stop to ordinary work (see Lev. 23.3). Read Isa.58.13-14. Did you notice the words “delight” and “joy”? Those words are in Ps. 92.1-4 as well. Obviously, the Sabbath was anything but boring!
2. This Sabbath joyful praise of God not only looked back: It looked to the present and the future as well! The Old Testament Israelites, like God’s people of every age, live in a world in which the wicked seem to flourish. How does the psalmist describe the ungodly (6)? What do they fail to comprehend (7-9)? When we sing for joy at the works of God’s hands (4b-5), we are declaring our confidence that He will ultimately overcome all evil. The Jews failed to trust God at times in their history, but each generation is called to enter this ‘Sabbath rest’ (read Ps. 95). For a New Testament call for Christians to “enter their rest,” read Hebrews 4.
3. We live in a day of increasing delusion; ideas diametrically opposed to both Scripture and natural law are being loudly proclaimed today. At the heart of these delusions is pride – the idea that we do not need God, that we can save ourselves. This is reflected in the foolishness of the ungodly in Ps. 92.5-9, who view themselves as indestructible. What examples of this delusion can you think of in history? How is this delusion evidenced in the world today?
4. The focus of this Sabbath psalm is on God: He will bring the wicked to nothing, and conversely will cause the righteous to flourish. How does the psalmist describe these blessings in vv10-14? What do the “horn” and “fresh oil” signify (10)? How will the righteous perceive their enemies (11)? What are the palm tree and the cedar known for (v12)? What does ‘planted in the house of the Lord’ (v13) indicate about the righteous? While we all grow old in this life, what do the godly experience in their old age (14)? For a similar affirmation, see Isaiah 40.31!