

Wednesday Word Meditation Material #21-08 (February 24, 2021)

OrderPrayer → Praise → Scripture → Understanding Scripture → Meditation on Grace → Prayer → Lord's Prayer

- ❖ **Prayer** – One of the family members or Individual
- ❖ **Praise** – If possible, Hymns 391 & 384 are to be sung. If not, please sing any good Christian song
- ❖ **Scripture Reading** – Psalm 108:1~13
- ❖ **Understanding Scripture** (*Seam of Difficult and Restoration*)
 1. Plot is a summary of contents in literature such as novel, essay, and drama. Movies or plays based on these kinds of literature are produced on their plots. But, the most of plots are composed of gladness and sadness. Maybe because the life and humanity are composed of gladness and sadness. Thus, if we summarize the plots of all lives, then one part may be gladness (success, victory, restoration, etc.) and another part may be sadness (failure, defeat, difficult, etc.).
 2. **This is Davidic psalm, and interestingly, David seamed two different confessions of faith already did into one.** This gladness and sadness, or restoration and difficult, are embedded in this psalm and his faithful praise to God is embedded, too. The seam in this psalm comprises verses 1~5 and verse 6~13. The former comes from Psalm 57:7~11 and the latter comes from Psalm 60:5~12. Maybe English translation might be different from the original language, Hebrew. But, these matching parts are exactly same. This whole psalm is song(praise) so we may want to find the meaning of the seamed parts.
 3. This begins with the question why David did seam the two previous confessions into one. In order to know that, we should know the circumstantial background of the two psalms, 57 and 60. Frist of all, psalm 57 shows that David, the 2nd king of Israel, was in a cave (Adullam (1 Sam 22:1) or EnGedi (1Sam 24:1)) for hiding himself from Saul, the 1st king, who threatened him with killing. Psalm 60 shows that David, through his general, Joab, won victory over Edom (2Sam 8; 1Chron 18). Then, the two psalms have two different characteristics. The former has the faithful confession during the difficult time. The latter has the faithful confession during the victorious moment over the difficulties.
 4. **What is shown during this seaming process is the fact that the difficult and restoration are very closely connected. Also, it shows that even though the difficult may be longer, the restoration is inevitably realized. So, David tells us the paradoxical truth that with the faith on the inevitable restoration, in whatever situation, we can be thankful for God and sing a praise to Him.**
 5. Jesus Christ, through the cross and the resurrection, solved the most tremendous problem of God's children, sin and everlasting death, allowing us, the people of God, to have the eternal life. The ultimacy of seemed-endless difficult, "sin and death," which are met in the long life journey, are resolved in Jesus Christ. Now we already have the eternal restoration (salvation, life) in Christ, which will be done in the last day.
- ❖ **Meditation on Grace**
 1. Do you agree with the confession of David, in this psalm, so-called, "We should give thanks to God and praise Him for everything"?
 2. In our continual difficulties, with believing and expecting the restoration at Jesus' second coming, do you live with praising God for the experiences of restoration, which are given from time to time?
 3. By re-relying on Jesus who completed the restoration in difficult, with prayer to God for our victorious life, let us steps ahead for our gracious Christian life!
- ❖ **Prayer** – Praying with the meditation and finishing with the Lord's Prayer.