

THE WORD FROM THE WORKS

PSALM 105

Introduction:

We have a message for the world. The message is actually a series of historical facts which contain a message. God reveals Himself in history by the deeds that He does. God does not give explanatory propositions, but rather He performs deeds and the propositions of our faith are based on the historical deeds.

In one of the darker moments of the history of Israel the Psalmist recalls some historical facts and considers the things that are revealed about God in those historical facts. He begins his remembrance with the calling of Abraham and continues up to the settlement of Israel in the Promised Land. It is very likely that these words were either written during the exile, or just after the exile. In either case this remembrance of the “works” of the Lord in the past must have been encouraging as a “word” for the present.

These works that became words are still an encouragement to those of us who consider ourselves the people in covenant with God.

Interestingly the Psalmist divides his memory into seven sections—each providing another revealing “word” from a significant “work” on the part of God.

- I. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COVENANT WITH THE PATRIARCHS REVEALS THAT GOD MAKES COVENANTS WITH HIS PEOPLE. (V. 6-12)
- II. THE PROVIDENTIAL PROTECTION OF THE PATRIARCHS REVEALS THAT HE PRESERVES HIS PEOPLE. (V. 13-15)
- III. THE EXPERIENCE OF JOSEPH REVEALS THAT GOD PROVIDES FOR HIS PEOPLE. (V. 16-22)
- IV. THE MULTIPLICATION OF ISRAEL IN EGYPT REVEALS THAT GOD PROSPERS HIS PEOPLE IN ADVERSITY. (V. 23-25)
- V. THE PLAGUES IN EGYPT REVEAL THAT THE WORD OF GOD IS POWERFUL. (V. 26-36)
- VI. THE WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE OF ISRAEL REVEALS THAT GOD IS SUFFICIENT FOR HIS PEOPLE. (V. 37-41)
- VII. THE SETTLEMENT OF ISRAEL IN THE LAND REVEALS THAT GOD REMEMBERS HIS COVENANT WITH HIS PEOPLE. (V. 45)

So we ought to remember our side of the covenant and give to the Lord the faith and obedience of our lives.