

*Finding Yourself in the Psalms*  
*Psalm 118*  
*The Hosanna Psalm*

Favorite Psalm of Martin Luther

- I. Three Stages of Meaning
  - A. The Returning Captives
    - 1. Possibly a post-captivity Psalm (v 10-18)
    - 2. Joy in Returning to Jerusalem
    - 3. Became part of the Hallel (Ps 113-118)
      - a. Recited at Passover
      - b. Tabernacles
      - c. Pentecost
  - B. In the Days of Christ
    - 1. The TALMUD gives us insights into the liturgy of Israel at the time of Christ
    - 2. This Psalm was a central part of TABERNACLES, PASSOVER
    - 3. Gives meaning:
      - a. John 7. "Living Water,"
      - b. Psalm Sunday
      - c. Preparation for the Passover
  - C. Today: We celebrate Christ's Salvation
- II. Structure of Psalm 118.
  - A. Give Thanks!
    - 1. Opens (118:1)
    - 2. Closes (118:29)
  - B. Emphasis
    - 1. "Let Israel Say" (118:2)
    - 2. "The Lord is with me" (118:6-7)
    - 3. "It is better to take refuge in the LORD"
      - a. 118:8. (Isaiah 31:1) "*Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the Lord.*" (Isaiah 31:8) "*Assyria will fall by a sword that is not of man; a sword, not of mortals, will devour them. They will flee before the sword and their young men will be put to forced labor.*"
  - C. A Psalm of Corporate Worship
    - 1. Antiphonal

- a. 1, 1a
- b. 2, 2a
- c. 3, 3a
- d. 24, 24a
- e. 29, 29a

2. **Journey to the Presence of God**

- a. The Start. 118:1-4
- b. The Journey. 118:5-18
- c. The Arrival. 118:19-29

III. Messianic Psalm

A. 118:22

- 1. Jesus quotes this of himself. (Matthew 21:42) *"Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?" (Also Matk 12:10-11; Luke 20:17)*
- 2. Peter Quotes this of Jesus.
  - a. (Acts 4:11) *"He is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone." To the JEWISH RULERS!*
  - b. (1 Peter 2:4-7) *" As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,""*
- 3. Paul quotes this (Ephesians 2:20) *"built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone."*
- 4. It's one thing for a NOVICE to reject a stone. It's a HIGHER ACCOUNTABILITY when the BUILDERS reject a true stone!

B. 118:25-26

- 1. At TABERNACLES
  - a. John 7:1-14.
    - (1) 6 months before the last Passover
    - (2) The Jews were expecting him to reveal himself (7:11)
    - (3) Jesus enters THEIR HOUSE on THEIR DAY!
  - b. The LAST DAY of the Feast
    - (1) **READ Buksbazen, "The Feasts of Israel" 50-51**
    - (2) **Read John 7:32-52**

2. At the TRIUMPHANT ENTRY
  - a. (Matthew 21:9) *"The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!""*
  - b. Jewish children would wave their **Lulavs** during PENTECOST and **TABERNACLES** to signify God's blessing.
  - c. Psalm 118:25 was the MESSIANIC PSALM. "Save us now!"
  
3. At PASSOVER
  - a. The PREPARATION of the Lamb in the Temple Court  
Read Edersheim "Life and Times" vol 1, 487-8
  
  - b. Sung after The CUP of DELIVERANCE (Exodus 6:6-7)  
*"Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.'"*

IV. Conclusion. This is a Psalm about JESUS

- A. (1 Peter 2:4-7) *"As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,""*
  
- B. He is our CORNERSTONE
- C. He is our ROCK
  
- D. Psalm 118:22-29