

## "Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart"

Part III: [Psa 73:21-28](#)

**Psa 73:21** Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.

**Psa 73:22** So foolish *was* I, and ignorant: I was *as* a beast before thee.

**Psa 73:23** Nevertheless I *am* continually with thee: thou hast holden *me* by my right hand.

**Psa 73:24** Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory.

**Psa 73:25** Whom have I in heaven *but thee?* and *there is none* upon earth *that* I desire beside thee.

**Psa 73:26** My flesh and my heart faileth: *but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

**Psa 73:27** For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee.

**Psa 73:28** But *it is* good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works.

Truly God is good to the Israel of God ([Gal 6:16](#)), and part of that goodness of God as we have been learning is revealed in how He drags us to Christ and cleanses our hearts through a longsuffering process that is needful and necessary for the mind of Christ to be formed within us ([Joh 6:44](#) , [Rom 2:4](#)).

[Gal 6:16](#) And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

[Joh 6:44](#) No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

[Rom 2:4](#) Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

The gift of having our faith tried occurs when we are dragged to our Lord and it is through that dragging that we experience much tribulation that causes our taste for the things of this world to be replaced with a pure heart that comes to believe and know and trust God even through the evil experiences that humble us in this age ([Ecc 1:13](#) , [Psa 34:8-9](#)) .

[Ecc 1:13](#) I applied my heart to inquiring and exploring by wisdom concerning all that is done under the heavens: it is an experience of evil Elohim has given to the sons of humanity to humble them by it. (CLV)

[Psa 34:8](#) O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him.

[Psa 34:9](#) O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for *there is* no want to them that fear him.

Simply put because He grants us the faith to believe that all these experiences are working

together for the good for those who love him and who are called according to his purpose [God's elect, the Israel of God] ([Rom 8:28](#)) we come to believe that all things (within and without - is was and will be) are unfolding in this life according to the counsel of his own will because we are given to see that Christ truly is the Alpha and the Omega and everything in between and that we have been called and predestined unto this inheritance "That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ." ([Psa 34:8](#) , [Eph 1:11](#) , [Rev 22:13](#) , [Eph 1:12](#)).

[Rom 8:28](#) Now we are aware that God is working all together for the good of those who are loving God, who are called according to the purpose"

[Eph 1:11](#) in Him in Whom our lot was cast also, being designated beforehand according to the purpose of the One Who is operating all in accord with the counsel of His will,

[Rev 22:13](#) I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Origin and the Consummation."

[Eph 1:12](#) That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

Faith is given to God's elect through hearing the word ([Rom 10:17-18](#)), but along with that faith the ability to abide and continue in the word of faith ([Joh 8:31-32](#) , [Col 1:23](#)) as we go through the fiery trials that Christ is in the midst of working in us both to will and to do of God's good pleasure ([Dan 3:25](#) , [Php 2:13](#)). Without Christ in the mix so to speak, even though the word is heard and goes "into all the earth" as it will during the millennium ([Hab 2:14](#)), the heart of Israel without Christ within them ([Rom 8:9](#)) is revealed as the one that continues to be "disobedient and gainsaying"([Rom 10:21](#)).

[Rom 10:17](#) So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word<sup>G4487</sup> of God.

[Rom 10:18](#) But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

[Joh 8:31](#) Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

[Joh 8:32](#) **And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**

[Col 1:23](#) If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

[Dan 3:25](#) He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

[Php 2:13](#) For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

[Hab 2:14](#) For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

[Rom 10:21](#) But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.

Without the process of having our faith tried in the fire, our hearts will never be pure or clean ;and so it is the trial of our faith that is precious unto God, because it is with these trials that we cease from sinning ([1Pe 1:7](#) , [1Pe 4:1](#)), and come to understand deeply and intimately what it means to have a pure heart as God mercifully strengthens and settles and establishes us through this process ([1Pe 5:10](#))

[1Pe 1:7](#) that the testing of your faith, much more precious than gold which is perishing, yet, being tested by fire, may be found for applause and glory and honor at the unveiling of Jesus Christ,

[1Pe 4:1](#) Christ, then, having suffered for our sakes in flesh, you also arm yourselves with the same thought, for he who is suffering in flesh has ceased his sins,

[1Pe 5:10](#) Now the God of all grace, Who calls you into His eonian glory in Christ, while briefly suffering, He will be adjusting, establishing, firming, founding you."

[1Pe 5:10](#) But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

The verses we will look at tonight will hopefully bring out how God's plan and purpose has always been to deliver us from ourselves and to purify us through the narrow escape deliverance that he provides through Christ. That deliverance bonds us together as the body of Christ as we collectively come out her my people ([Rev 18:4](#)) and acknowledge and witness to one another that we are being saved by our merciful Father who is cleansing us with his word and giving us a new heart that is a "clean heart" in this age ([Psa 73:1](#))

[Rev 18:4](#) And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

[Psa 73:1](#) **A Psalm of Asaph.** Truly God *is* good to Israel, *even* to such as are of a clean heart.

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[Psa 73:21](#) **Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.**

[Psa 73:22](#) **So foolish *was* I, and ignorant: I was *as* a beast before thee.**

When we are being brought to our wits' end, we need to be mindful that such a brother or sister is going to have a heart that is "grieved" just as ours have been and will be. We will feel "pricked in my reins" because of the foolish and ignorant way that the Lord has allowed us to carry on before Him, even as a brute beast [for more insight on the "Behemoth" of Job 40 – see [http://www.iswasandwillbe.com/job\\_40\\_15\\_24/](http://www.iswasandwillbe.com/job_40_15_24/) ].

We truly do need to anoint each other through our walk and reassure each other when we do fall and come back with a repentant and contrite heart. If we don't afford this mercy to others God will not afford it to us ([Mat 5:7](#) , [Jas 2:13](#)).

Mat 5:7 **Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.**

Jas 2:13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

*any comments?*

Psa 73:23 Nevertheless **I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.**

Psa 73:24 **Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.**

Psa 73:25 **Whom have I in heaven but thee? and *there is* none upon earth *that* I desire beside thee.**

After God brings us back to our senses through judgement, we feel held up by God – or as the Psalmist says "thou hast holden *me* by my right hand". God's right hand produces the fruits brought out in 2Co 7:11.

2Co 7:11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, *what* clearing of yourselves, yea, *what* indignation, yea, *what* fear, yea, *what* vehement desire, yea, *what* zeal, yea, *what* revenge! In all *things* ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

We are reminded again of the importance of seeking wise counsel through the church, the body of Christ, as we go from glory to glory, being received unto that glory that God gives to those who he is making a clean heart in this generation.

Where will we go then the Psalmist says – you have the words of eternal life – or "Whom have I in heaven *but thee?* and *there is* none upon earth *that* I desire beside thee"

*any comments?*

Psa 73:26 My flesh and my heart faileth: ***but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.**

Psa 73:27 For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee.

Psa 73:28 **But *it is* good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works.**

My heart fails, and that is exactly the point of this whole study. Our hearts fail "***but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever**", and He is going to show the world how He can cleanse the bride of Christ and make her ready as He demonstrates to all of Israel [the world] how truly good He is to those who are of a clean heart (Rev 19:7 , Psa 73:1 , Luk 12:32).

Rev 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

Psa 73:1 **A Psalm of Asaph.** Truly God *is* good to Israel, *even* to such as are of a

clean heart.

Luk 12:32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

God has blessed us to see that He is destroying that part of us that "go a whoring from thee", and that when we draw near to Him and put our trust in "the Lord God", we will not only overcome and be able to resist the adversary (Jas 4:7) but also be more than conquerors through him [kings and priests in the making] because he who is in us is greater than him who is in the world (1Jn 4:4).

Jas 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1Jn 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

In time we will "declare all thy works" and the world will discern and understand "Truly God is good to Israel [the Israel of God], *even* to such as are of a clean heart" (Mal 3:18).

Mal 3:18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

*any comments?*