

**JOY IS ABOUT TO ARRIVE:  
GOD'S PROMISE THROUGH MARY MAGDALENE**

**God's Promise: "Weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning." Psalms 30:5**

**My Promise: I will seek God when I am sad.**

**OPENING**

The Psalmist warns us that weeping comes. However, so will joy. Darkness comes, but so does the morning. Sadness comes, but so does hope. Hurt can rule at night, but it cannot dominate our lives. This was true for Mary Magdalene.

Not long ago, we celebrated the death and crucifixion of Jesus. One of the people who was a direct witness of this was a faithful woman who loved and followed Jesus. Officially, Mary's world touched bottom. Her teacher had been assassinated. She did not understand the promise of Jesus. She had arrived to encounter a dead Jesus, not one who was alive. She at least came. Because she came to him, He came to her. Do what Mary did. Continue to come to Jesus. Even though the test is dark. Even though the sun seems to sleep. Even though the world keeps silent. Walk towards Jesus.

Bible Reading: Psalms 30:1-5

(Context – The story of Mary Magdalene)

**PREPARED FOR THE STORM - Psalms 30:1**

One of the things that the Bible presents to us repeatedly is the fact that our trust in God is expressed before, during, and after our storms. How are we going to trust God in the storm? Praising before the storm comes.

One of God's gifts, now that we are His children is that He allows us to understand what our position is before Him. In this case, the Psalmist David said that he gave God glory for having been "exalted".

This personal expression comes based on a favorable personal experience. The favor of the one that David was speaking of had to do with an occasion that God had favored or done something special for him. This trust teaches us that circumstances are not important. The experiences of God's favor towards us in the past will keep us prepared to experience the storms of tomorrow.

#### IN THE STORM, WE ONLY DO ONE THING – CALL OUT – Psalms 30:2

The people who study this Psalm tell us that David was healed of "something". We do not know specifically of what, but we do know that God heard him and healed him. As simple as that. Remember, our praise is like a vitamin. The vitamin or the vaccination is taken for when a virus or an infection comes to our body. A vitamin or a vaccination helps to strengthen the body. When the virus attacks, the body is prepared to resist it. We might get sick, but in the middle of the sickness, there are agents that are working in our favor to heal us.

That is the way God is. Our praise and spiritual preparation help us to call out with confidence because we know that He is going to hear and will act in our favor. David knew this because he was "vaccinated" and prepared to recuperate in the middle of the storm. If you are going through a storm and you have been "vaccinated" with a confidence in God, call to Him and He will answer you.

#### THE EXPERIENCE OF THE STORM IS REAL BUT GOD'S SALVATION IS FAITHFUL – Psalms 30:3

It is not comfortable to go through a sickness or an affliction, or something bad in your life. Jesus Himself said that we would have "afflictions." He also said told us not to worry because He had already won for us.

It is key to understand this. God will not allow for anything happen in your life outside of His will. David used the image of Sheol (the place of the dead) as a reference to his experience. Many of us do the same. We say things like, "I felt like I was going to die." In Christ, even at the brink of death, we can see how God who makes us to "rise" from this experience again to live. We will recuperate! The storm is going to pass by!

#### CELEBRATE THE MEMORY OF GOD'S HOLINESS – Psalms 30:4

When we speak of God's holiness, we are declaring that our God is "different". The word holiness means "separated." There is none other like God. That is why the Psalmist can celebrate the peculiarity of God. There is no one like Him. In the storm, we can declare with confidence that because God is unique, we can celebrate all of the times that He has done great and wonderful things in

favor of his children – before, during and after the storm.

TODAY CAN BE FRIDAY BUT REMEMBER THAT SUNDAY IS ON THE WAY – Psalm 30:5

The story of Mary Magdalene, when she went to visit the tomb of Jesus, is an impressive story. She thought that she would find a “storm” in the death of her beloved Lord. She did not know that “morning” had arrived.

If she had asked David, maybe he would have said to her, “Do not worry, in my experience, when I almost went down to my tomb, the power of God raised me!” In the same way, if the Lord has promised it, then the tomb or the darkness of the tomb will be able to detain the King of the Universe.

Today can be a dark Friday, but do not worry because the Christ of Glory declares a “Glorious Morning.” He is the shining sun that cannot be detained by the storm or by the night or by the tomb...Shout with joy!