

The Mighty God in Our Midst

Zephaniah 3:14-30

January 29, 2023

Sermon Sketch: Our Almighty Father, our King is in our midst to deliver us from our enemies and restore our fortunes according to His great mercies. We need to live accordingly...

- 1) How have you been able to put your hope in Jesus in the past week? (Where Shall We Place Our Hope? 1/22/23)
- 2) How regularly aware are you of God's very presence in your life? Has there ever been a time in your life when you were especially aware of how very close He was? Has He ever seemed far away?
- 3) God is worthy of our worship solely based upon His person. However, when we add to the worthiness of His person, His amazing deeds (Taken away judgments (15) and cleared away all enemies, No longer suffer reproach (18), Deal with oppressors (19), Save the lame, Gather outcast, Make renowned (20), Restore fortunes) create a compelling force to praise Him that is irresistible. Do you worship God mainly for who He is, or for what He has done or both?
- 4) How does the variety in this partial list of praise encourage you to be free to express your love to God?
 - a) **שָׁחָה** - *shahah* The most common word translated worship (97 times) means to bend down or prostrate oneself. Pss. 5:7 and 29:2 - "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

- b) **בָּרַךְ** - *barak* To kneel, bow, or bend the knee. Ps. 95:6 - "Come... let us kneel before the LORD our maker."
 - c) **עָמַד** - *'amad* To stand, stand still or stand fast. Pss. 134:1 and 135:2 - "you that stand in the house of the LORD."
 - d) **גִּיל** - *gil* To spring about, rejoice, be joyful. Often translated rejoice (29 times), indicates a type of circle dancing. Pss. 53:6 and 118:24 - "This is the day that the LORD has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it."
 - e) **רָוַע** - *rua'* To raise a shout. Ps. 47:1 - "Shout unto God with a voice of triumph."
 - f) **תָּקַע** - *taqa'* To strike (the hands) together. Ps. 47:1 - "Clap your hands all you people."
 - g) **רָפָה** - *raphah* To cause to fall, to let go. Ps. 46:10 - "Be still and know that I am God."
 - h) **תְּהַלָּה** - *tehillah* To be silent, cease, stand still. Ps. 65:1 - "Praise awaits you O God, in Zion."
 - i) **נָשָׂא** - *nasa* To lift up, bear, carry away. Used of the eyes, the hands or the soul being lifted up to the LORD. Pss. 123:1, 134:2, 143:8 - "Show me the way to go, for to You I lift up my soul."
 - j) **רָנַן** - *ranan* To jubilate, cry for joy. Ps. 33:1 "Sing joyfully to the LORD you righteous."
 - k) **רוֹמְמָה** - *romemah* To extol or exalt the LORD. Ps. 149:6 "Let the high praises of God be in their mouth."
- 5) In the week ahead, how will you seek to worship the Lord in thought? In word? And in deed?
 - 6) How will you seek to live boldly in your Mighty Lord's presence in the week ahead?