

Rejoicing In The Lord | Psalm 9

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- [0 : 00] Well, take your Bible and let's go to Psalm chapter 9. This morning after I finished preaching, I was approached and said, did Jonah really preach 40 days to Nineveh? Let me just amend that and say Jonah's message was a 40 day of judgment. So how many days he preached is not the important key there. It is that it was a judgment. So if you watch this morning, now you know something else about that passage. I would normally be preaching out of Jeremiah, but I kind of think all the judgment passages might not be that easy to preach to an empty congregation or an empty room. Some of you are real good speakers and wouldn't mind if you spoke to a million people or to an empty room, but I tend to like to preach to people. So I just would like to take us through Psalms. That's what my intentions will be from now till the time we get back together. And so we will be in Psalm chapter 10, Lord willing, this Thursday night. Read with me if you would, Psalm chapter 9 and verse 1.
- [1 : 01] We're going to jump through it. We're not going to read it all because I just want to get the point across. If you take notes, write this down. Rejoicing in the Lord. That's what this is about. I got a very good message for where we are and what we're living right now. It's pretty hard to rejoice in all the fellowship. It's pretty hard to rejoice in all the money necessarily. It's pretty hard to rejoice in the economic goodness or welfare of our country, but we can rejoice in the Lord. Psalm chapter 9 and verse 1 says, I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart. I will show forth all thy marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in thee. I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most high. Now, I'm going to go through the passage of scripture with you, but if you have your Bible, it'd be good, I think, to underline, I will, I will, I will, and I will in those two chapters. It is, I have made a decision. I've made a commitment. It doesn't say, I feel like I want to praise you. It just says, I will praise you. I will show forth your marvelous works.
- [2 : 10] I will be glad. I will sing praise, and I want you to notice who you praise. I will praise thee, O Lord. I will praise thee, O Lord. I will praise you with all of my heart. It will be genuine. It will be sincere. It will be from the middle of who I am. I will praise you. I'll tell everybody about how good you are, all your marvelous works. I will rejoice in thee. Would you want to align that? I will rejoice. I will be glad, but it says, and rejoice in thee. I'll rejoice in the God of my salvation. I'll rejoice in you. I will sing praise to your name. I think that's an allusion back to the song we sang in Psalm chapter 8. I think we praise his name. He is the most high. Psalm chapter 9 and verse 10. And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee. Isn't that beautiful? If they know you, and if they know anything about you, they'll trust you. Those that really know who you are, they'll trust you.
- [3 : 10] Why? Because you, Lord, have not forsaken them that seek you. Because God, anybody that comes looking for you, you will not leave them. Verse 11. Sing praises to the Lord which dwelleth in Zion.

Declare among the people his doings. Boy, we ought to be excited about declaring among the people. We ought to be excited about telling people about how good God is.

We ought to be spreading the word about how good God is. Verse 1 said, I will show forth your marvelous works. Verse 11 says, I will declare among the people his doings.

Verse 14. That I may show forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion. I want to go down to Jerusalem. And I just want to tell that whole city what a great and wonderful God you are.

I will rejoice in your salvation. I will find joy in the way you rescue me. I will find joy in the way you deliver me. I will magnify you because as a wonderful God as you are, you've done all this in my life.

[4 : 14] Let's pray for a word of prayer. And then we will work our way through these verses. Father in heaven, I love you. And I thank you for the opportunity to speak to your people. I thank you for Andrew being willing to do all the work it takes to get all of these messages out.

And I pray, dear God, that you would bless our people as they are in their homes. As they are enduring almost being on house arrest.

And I pray, God, that you would bless them and strengthen them. But God, if anything, Holy Spirit, call us to rejoice in the God of our salvation. Touch our hearts to rejoice in you.

Help us to focus on who you are and think about you. And I'll give you praise. In Jesus' name, amen. Psalm chapter 9 and verse 1. First thing I want us to write down somewhere is this.

Our rejoicing is in the Lord. It's the person of God. It's his character. It's him that we praise. Look, if you would, at Psalm chapter 9 and verse 1.

[5 : 14] I will praise thee. Now, I think you probably ought to put a circle around the word thee. And then I think you ought to just stop right here just for a minute and say, you know what? I need to think about that. I will praise thee.

You know, if I want to be praising my wife and telling her how pretty she is or what her character is, I need to stop and I need to think about her so I can focus on that and say, boy, I like this about you and I like this about you and this is beautiful about you.

I need to think about her. And so if you're going to praise him, you need to stop and take a moment and say, who is my God? Let me think about it. I'll praise him because you know what? He's given me his word.

I'll praise him. He has given me his Holy Spirit. I'll praise him because he saved me. I'll praise him because he answered my prayer. I'll praise him because he keeps his word. I'll praise thee, O Lord.

So it is a fact that we will praise the Lord. It is his character. It is his person. Look, if you would, in Psalm 9, 1. But not only will I praise him, O Lord.

[6 : 12] And by the way, it's not I praise thee, and you don't know who he's talking about, which a lot of songs today might kind of leave out who they're talking about. David's song, when he writes it, he says, man, I'm talking about you, God, and I'll praise you.

And then he says, I love this. We ought to underline it, with all my heart. With all my heart. With my whole heart. You know, when you really fall in love with somebody, you love them with your whole heart.

It ought to be that everything inside of me, my mind, my will, and my emotions, I love you. I don't just love you on Sunday morning. I just don't love you spiritually. I just don't love you emotionally, but I love you.

By the way, you can't really praise him with your whole heart unless your whole heart has been given to him. Verse 1 says, I will show forth all thy marvelous works.

We want people to see what God is doing. We want people to see what God has done. It ought to be that we as a people, and you know, this morning on Facebook, it was buffering, and you had a problem watching it, because so many people today are holding up Bibles all across the United States of America.

[7 : 20] And so many people are working to get their message out that it buffers on Facebook. You know why? Because we want people to know how great he is. We want his marvelous works to be known.

Verse 2. You know what we're going to say?

We're going to say, I know there's a coronavirus. I know that I may lose my job. I know that the economy is going to be down. But I just love Jesus, and I want to rejoice in him.

I want to sing praises to his name. Don't you think that any politician is going to get us out of this myth? Don't you believe that medical people are the answer to our problem? We need to lift our praise.

Sure, we praise the Lord for good people, but we need our praise to go to the Lord. We rejoice in him. My focus ought to be on the Lord and not on my circumstances.

[8 : 17] I ought to say, today for a few minutes, I just want to forget everything around me, and I want to bend my heart towards God. I want to look up, and I want to say, I magnify you.

I think about you. I love you, and you are wonderful. I challenge you in the middle of all this going on in your life, and you run around, and you're all upset, and you're all worried, and all this junk is happening.

Stop just for a minute and say, I'm going to rejoice in the God of my salvation. He is good to us. Go with me, if you would, to verse 3. Now we kind of change from the praise of the Lord and rejoicing in the Lord to David knowing that it is God who takes care of him in the middle of all of his troubles and his battles.

No matter what you're going through, no matter what you're going through, no matter what's happening, no matter what has happened in the past, if you're a born-again believer, it is God who has won the victory. David says in Psalm 3, when my enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish, and I need you to underline this, at thy presence.

David says, you know what? It won't be that my mighty army stands up. It won't be some war chant that we make. It won't be us beating our swords on our shields. It won't be us pulling out great weapons that they've never seen before.

[9 : 30] It'll be that our enemies are falling back, and they're perishing because they know you're here. If you know anything about the Bible, and I know you do, if you're a vision person, you've studied it, and you love it. You know what it says, don't you?

Every time they had a battle in the Old Testament, you know who won the battles, don't you? You remember, they'd say, well, we kill this many, but God killed that many. God sent down the hailstones from heaven. God did a work.

God did a work. It is God working miracles. It is the presence of the Lord that wins the victory in David's life. David realizes, we're not sure when this particular Psalm was written.

We know it has something to do with a son dying, but we're not sure which son. We're not sure when this happened. But here's what it says in the passage of Scripture. It says this, when my enemies are defeated, it's God.

When I get victory, it's God. When I win, it's God. David experiences victory, but it's the presence of the Lord. Satan attacks, and you need to realize that it's God that fights your battles.

[10 : 29] You are in a spiritual war, but if you trust God, you will have victory. Can I just remind you that everything is clouding your mind right now? Your heart is all confused, and everything seems to be going wrong, and it's like you get frustrated, and scared, and worried, and nervous, and anxious, and all of that.

And what he's saying is, focus on me, and focus on my presence, and there you will have victory. David said, God, I know you. Verse 4. I know that you know what is right, and I know you'll take care of me.

Psalms chapter 9 and verse 4. For God, thou, you, have maintained my right and my cause. You sat on the throne judging right.

See, David's under attack. Maybe it's Absalom, his son that will later die, or maybe it's Saul, or maybe it's Goliath. It really doesn't matter. In this song, what matters is this, knowing who's in charge.

David says, God has watched out for my interest. And I know that I can, in Christ, have that same kind of confidence. You know, when I used to read these psalms, they used to really bother me.

[11 : 39] I'd say, well, man, you maintain my right and my cause. And I used to think to myself, well, I know me well enough to know. I'm one of those kind of people that is constantly thinking I don't measure up. And I would say, God, I wish I could say you know my right.

But, you know, I can say that now because I've learned something. It's not my right. It's the right of the one I'm in. It is God will maintain the right of Christ. And I am in Christ. And Christ is in God.

I can claim great promises because I am in Christ. David is clear on the fact that his victories come from God working. I just want to remind you that it is God that works, David says.

Psalms chapter 9 and verse 5. Thou hast rebuked the heathen. Would you put a circle around thou? It's not David who's rebuked the heathen. It's not David's army that's rebuked the heathen.

David said, God, I recognize that you have rebuked the heathen. You have put them back. You have won the victory. Look at verse 5. You have destroyed the wicked. Would you underline that?

[12 : 40] Thou, you have destroyed the wicked. You have put out their name forever. God, it is you. It is you. It is you. That's what David says. David's like, yo, I can just see some husband tonight in his house.

And he's all alone with his wife. And they're talking about the issues. They're watching the news. And they're a little bit nervous. And he says, or calm down, baby. Don't worry about it. I got this under control. And now, baby, I've got all this money set aside.

And I got this set aside. I know exactly what we're going to do. And David would have said, I don't say that. David would have said, he'll take care of us, honey. He'll take care of us, honey. He has everything he needs. He'll never leave me.

He sits on the throne judging right. Our God. That's pretty good stuff. Our God will take care of us. Verse six. Oh, thou enemy. Destruction shall come to a perpetual end.

Thou hast destroyed cities. Our memorial is perished with them. Our enemy is the devil. It is Satan. He cannot and he will not win. God will stomp his head and take him out of the way completely.

[13 : 38] So that leads us to verse seven. In Psalm chapter nine and verse seven, David can trust God because he's forever. David can trust God because God is forever.

Look at Psalm chapter nine and verse seven. The Lord shall endure forever. I don't know if you understand that. I wish you'd underline this. Endure forever.

You know, God is the only infinite being in anywhere, anywhere. He has no beginning and he has no end. He was never created.

And David realizes this. I'm going to die. I see on the internet, you know, this plague is similar to other plagues and people have died and all this.

And, you know, but can I just remind you, that's a long past. We don't even hardly remember it. Somebody doesn't look it up. Here's what you can know. I don't know how long I'll live and I don't know how long you'll live, but I know this.

[14 : 36] He will endure forever. You can't trust me to be here tomorrow, but you can trust him to be here tomorrow. The Lord shall endure forever. The Lord shall endure forever.

And it's he that sits on a throne of judgment in verse seven. In verse eight, and he shall judge the world. Whoa. Stop, if you would, in verse eight and notice this.

He shall judge the world. Now he's going to judge it in righteousness and he'll minister judgment to the uprightness. But I need you to focus on this phrase. He shall judge the world.

Do you realize what that means? That means that the one who created us is going to come back to judge us. That means that you are not able to make the decisions. You ought not decide what you think is best.

You ought to realize there is a maker and a judge. There's someone who one day will hold all this world to account. Every one of us will be accountable before him. He created us and he will judge us.

[15 : 30] He will judge the entire world. I don't know that you catch this, but you know, in the Bible, we have like gradual revelation. See, in Genesis chapter one and verse one, you don't know a lot about God.

You just know he's a creator of God. And all the way through the Bible, you just get more and more and more and more and more. And you learn a little bit more about God. And finally, in the book of Revelation, it's like he pulls back the screen and says, watch this. Here's Jesus, the revelation of Jesus Christ.

But here's what I need you to understand. He's a judge of the world. You see, in the Old Testament, all these countries had little gods. And a Philistine would have said, well, we got to worry about our gods.

And you Hebrews got to worry about your gods. But David said, no, no, no. You understand, our God is the God. He's the only God. And he will judge the world, the entire world. And God is the only refuge for the coming trouble.

He is the only one who can get us through the judgment. And as you listen this afternoon, do you know Jesus? If you don't know him, he is the only one who is forever.

[16 : 30] He is the only one who will judge the world. You must know him. Are you ready to be judged? Do you know who holds your future? Do you have someone taking care of you in the middle of all the chaos in our lives?

Right now, our churches and our country and our families are being shaken. Things are waking us up. I've never lived through this in my life. I have preacher friends that say we've never seen times like this in our lifetime.

But here's what I can know. If I know the one who lives forever, and if I know the one who has tomorrow, and if I know the one that sits on the throne of judgment, and if I know that he always judges right, and if I know him, I'll be all right.

Look, if you would, it's Psalm chapter 9 and verse 10. Look what David knew about God. He started off praising God, and then he remembered how God had always been the one that answered his prayers and always met his needs.

And now he says, can I just reveal a little to you about the character of my God? In Psalm chapter 9 and verse 10, he said, They that know thy name will put their trust in thee. If you know God, you know you can trust him.

[17 : 36] Would you look at that verse? If you just know his name. Now, his name's very different, isn't it? Moses said, can I get your name, sir? And he said, well, I am.

What about your last name? I am that I am. I am. No other God can say that. You see, we can't even find all those statues those other people worshiped.

And you see that their gods might have changed from yesterday to tomorrow, but Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. And he said, if they know your name, if they know who you are, if they know you're the God of the universe, if they know that you are the I am, if they know that, they can trust you.

You know why? Because he never turns away from those that seek him. What a wonderful promise from God. Verse 10, for thou, Lord, has not forsaken them that seek you.

God, you know why they trust you? Because you always come through. You know why they can trust you? Because, Lord, you do not forsake them that seek you.

[18 : 39] You won't abandon them that seek you. You won't turn away from them that seek you. If you're out here and you don't know Jesus right now, there is no other God like him.

And right now, while maybe you're afraid and loved ones are in danger and health might be in danger, it might be just a time to realize there is a God you can trust. There is a God that you can look to.

There is a God that will hear and answer your prayers. And for you Christians and you believers, hey, in a time of struggle, in a time of trouble, when things are going wrong, put your eyes on Jesus. He's the one.

He's the one who lives forever. He's the one you can trust. He's the judge of all the universe. He's the one in chapter 8 that ordained the whole solar system. He's the one. And he is worthy of our praise.

Look, if you would, at verse 11. Sing praise to the Lord which dwells in Zion. I'm not talking about any Lord. I'm talking about the ones down there in Jerusalem. I'm talking about the God of heaven that has made Jerusalem his throne.

[19 : 39] And declare among the people his doings. We're to testify of our God among the people. I wish you don't lie on the people. You know what? It ought to be that your family knows how great God is because, Daddy, you're having some family devotions or when you're praying or when you come home, you tell your kids, boy, God did this.

Your children ought to grow up here and you say, I know God and God is answering our prayers and God's doing great things. And they ought to hear you magnify God in your family. That's people, isn't it? And then by the way where you work, people ought to realize, man, he trusts God.

And he talks about how great God is, even where he works. The people in our community ought to know that we know God. The people in our country ought to know that we know God. And the people in the world ought to hear the wonders of our God.

Declare among the people his doings. Chapter 9 and verse 12. We know God will not forget us. You know, every verse of every chapter is wonderful. But how about this?

When he makes inquisition for blood, he remembers them. I wish you'd underline that. He remembers them. He forgets not the cry of the humble.

[20 : 40] Thank God. He doesn't remember my sin. But he remembers me. Thank God that he remembers us. And when it's time to judge, he'll remember those who know him.

He'll remember those that in humility came before him. He'll remember those who bowed down before him and begged them for forgiveness. Have you cried out in humility? Do you know that he loves you and will hear you and will remember you and that he will work in your life?

Now we're down to Psalm chapter 9 and verse 13. And David is back to being in need. So he sang all these songs. And now he's back. And he's going to come to God. And he's going to lay out his petitions. And he's going to tell God what he needs.

In chapter 9 and verse 13, he says, Have mercy upon me, O Lord. Consider my trouble, which I suffer of them that hate me. Thou that liftest me up from the gates of death.

God, I need you. And right now, I'm scared. I don't have a job. And I don't have any income. And I don't know how I'm going to pay my bills. And the first day of the month is coming. And I've got to pay rent. And I've got to pay a house payment.

[21 : 42] And I've got to do things. And I don't know if I can. Then you cry out to God. Not to government, but to God. You cry out to God. Not other people. You ought to be on your face saying, Oh, God, I need you to move.

I love this. You remember Psalm 8? What is man that thou art mindful of him? And David has the nerve in verse 13 to say, God, I know I'm just a little bitty man on a big old planet and a big old universe.

And I know you're so big. You made it with your fingers. Would you think about my problems? That's wonderful. That the God of heaven would have David write it down and save it in scripture.

So we would know that God told David to say, Just ask me to think about you. That's pretty good. Our troubles are nothing. He'll endure us forever. We'll be dead tomorrow.

But our God says, I'll remember you and I'll think about you. There are people that are bothering me and hurting me. And our God humbles himself or looks down on us like Jesus did in Philippians chapter 2 when he left the glory of God and came down and thought about us.

[22 : 42] And he's the one that lifts us up from death. You do realize that if Jesus hadn't humbled himself and come down and died of the death of a cross, we would be in hell. But he lifts us up from the gates of death.

Verse 14. God, when you help me, I'm going to tell everybody that I may show forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion. He's going to say, You see, I'm going to ask God to help, and then I'm going to brag on Jesus.

We get back together. Maybe there ought to be some of you get a testimony together and be ready to share a word of testimony. Just say how God answered your prayers. Maybe it would be a good time for us to say, I want to, you know who he's doing it with in the gates of the daughter of Zion?

He was going to go down to the city hall of Jerusalem, and he was going to tell them, God is great. God hears prayer. God answers prayer. God rescued me. God did a great work in me.

Chapter 90, verse 14. I will rejoice in thy salvation. Man, God, I will praise you. Now, this salvation here is his delivering him. He was in trouble, and he knew he was in trouble.

[23 : 45] And by the way, our salvation, eternal salvation, obviously, but right now you're in trouble. And you can go to God, and you can say to God, I am here begging mercy, but I will praise you and magnify you, because when I get through this, I will not say, it was because I was smarter than everybody else.

It was because I had more contacts than everybody else. It was because the government bailed me out. I will tell people how you worked in my life. And then David says, you know, God's so good that everybody's trying to hurt me, gets hurt by what they're trying to hurt me with.

Verse 15, the heathen are sunk down in the pit they made. They thought they did this trap, this pit, and they'd catch me in it. They laid out a net to catch my feet, but their foot got taken.

You know why? Because God does right. Verse 16, the Lord is known by the judgment which he executes. God is known. We know him because he always does right, and the wicked don't get away with it.

I know what you're thinking. They're getting away with it today. See, they're not going to get away with it. Psalm chapter 9 and verse 17, through the rest of the chapter now, the world needs to know that he is God.

[24 : 55] Look at Psalm chapter 9 and verse 17, if you would. The wicked shall be turned into hell. Now, that's death and hell and later, the lake of fire.

Wicked, those are people that don't know Jesus. It's not like if you're good, you go to heaven, and if you're bad, you go to hell. When the Bible uses the word wicked, it's talking about an unbeliever.

It's talking about a person that believes in Baal or a person that believes in Buddha or a person that believes in Islamic things. A person who doesn't believe in the God of the Bible is still a wicked person.

And they'll go to hell. They need to know Jesus. In Psalm 9, 17, here's a mission saying, in all the nations that forget God, all these heathens, all these other countries, all these that aren't Jews, they will pay the price because they don't know God.

God will take care of those that recognize their need of him. The needy shall not be forgotten. If you'll recognize your need and if you'll turn to him, he'll save you.

[26 : 10] You've got to see yourself as a sinner. You've got to see yourself as weak and helpless. You've got to see yourself. But God committed his love toward us. And while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5, 8. Romans 5, 6, while we were still weak, while we were unable, he died for the ungodly. We need to trust him. David needs God to take care of his enemies and God will.

Go with me to verse 20, last verse. Everybody needs to know how great God is. And they need to know how little they are. I need to know how great God is. And I need to know how little God is.

In Psalm 9, verse 20, put them in fear, O Lord, that the nations may know themselves to be but men. I don't know what you see here, but fear is awe and respect of our God.

It is realizing, boy, he is big and I am little. He's in charge and I'm not in charge. He controls and I don't control. He makes the decision and I don't make the decision. He is big.

[27 : 11] Somehow, our society believes that we make up God. I know what the Bible teaches. The whole world needs to understand we're just men.

The smarter we get, the more technology we get, the more we understand things, the more we're able to deal with stuff, the more we begin to think we're something. Can I remind you, a virus is reminding our world we're just men.

We're not able to handle it and we're scared to death. I mean, the whole world is stopped because we know one thing, we're in trouble and we're fighting a war against an invisible enemy.

That's what they're saying on television. We're in a wartime status. Here's what the scripture is saying. None are able to stand in the presence of God. All must recognize their condition and all need to know there's one and only one who saves, one and only one who is God.

So as we end Psalm chapter 9 tonight, I just want you to consider this. I want you to bring this home in your life. I want you to understand this in your heart. There is only one God.

[28 : 16] There's only one way to be saved. We have all sinned against the Holy God and we are just men. We are weak. We are weak.

Psalm 8 said, what is man that you'd even think about him? Psalm 9 says, they need to know they're just men. Can I get you a look at that last word in there? Nations. That the nations may know.

What are nations? Gentiles. Others. Other ethnic groups. Other countries. And these Jews. David says in the Psalm, he said, everybody needs to know.

Everybody needs to know. Everybody needs to respect God. Everybody needs to know the truth. Everybody needs to realize they need God. Now what are we doing about getting the gospel message out? What are we doing about being missionaries and sending missionaries?

What are we doing about saying the nations must know that they are men? Oh, that other country. Say, we're fine. We have our own religion. We're fine. We have our own gods. We don't need what you got.

[29 : 12] And David would say, put them in the fear of the Lord. Let them know they're just men. Let them know they need God. Would you pray for our missionaries?

Would you pray for lost people? Would you imagine in China where they don't even believe that God exists and they believe they've really risen to the pinnacle? They are just men. Would you imagine India where they've got over 300 million gods?

Would you imagine with me that they may think all these high thoughts about themselves, but they are but men. Could I remind you that Wall Street and every other person in our country who has any money needs to remember this?

They are but men. People need the Lord. Father in heaven, I thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I pray God you'd be with our church this week. I pray that you'd help them as they look to you and trust you and serve you and I just pray that your name would be magnified in their midst.

I pray you'd be with all of our missionaries. I pray you'd be with those that have meetings today. I pray you'd be with Robert all the way up in Ohio preaching in a church today. I pray to your God that your name would be glorified and magnified.

[30 : 17] God help us to get the gospel to the world and we'll give you praise and thanksgiving for all that you do. In Jesus name, Amen. Well I'd like to thank you for being here with us this afternoon and I think you know that in just a few minutes the fellowship will start up at 6 o'clock with Trent and he'll have you on Zoom and if you don't know how to get there just give him a call and he can help you through it.

Lord willing, we'll be back here Thursday night in Psalm chapter 10. You can go ahead and study up on that. It is still time for you to consider what you're doing about the support of our church and our missionaries.

It is still time for you to, I hope you're hungry to go back to church. I hope you're hungry to get back together. The church was never meant to be online. The church, the very word church means assembly and so I'm praying that as soon as we assemble again we'll have the greatest crowd we've ever had.

I also pray that you're sharing your faith and talking to people about Jesus so that people are hearing about Jesus because in this time of uncertainty when people can't figure out what's going on you do know who holds the future and you do know who makes a difference and I challenge you to share that faith with others.

God bless you and I will see you on Thursday night. Thank you.