

# God's Grace in the Psalms

## INTRODUCTION

The book of Psalms fully acknowledges the extent of man's sin in order to magnify the glory of God's grace. In this lecture, Dr. Lawson continues his study through the book of Psalms in order to showcase passages that teach the doctrines of grace and thus demonstrate why the Psalms are fundamentally a book of praise.

## LEARNING GOALS

When you have finished this lesson, you should be able to:

- Identify key features in the Psalms that particularly emphasize God's sovereignty
- Give examples of the language communicating the doctrines of grace in the Psalms
- Recognize the plain teaching of Scripture about assurance of salvation

## KEY IDEAS

- God rules over all of creation as our enthroned and sovereign Lord.
- The doctrines of grace in the Psalms detail precisely why we are to praise and love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength.
- The doctrine of the perseverance of the saints is taught so clearly in the Psalms that a denial of eternal security can only be the result of a severe misreading of the Bible.

## REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Before the Video

*What Do You Think?*

Take a moment to answer the following questions. They will prepare you for the lecture.

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- How would you describe the God's rule over creation? What does He rule over? How long has He ruled over it?
  - Do you believe that a Christian can lose his salvation? Why or why not? Are there any passages of the Bible that you find particularly challenging to your view?
  - Why do you pray?

### *Scripture Reading*

*As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.*

—Psalm 103:15–19

- What reason does this passage give you to trust God alone for salvation?

### During the Video

Answer the following questions while you watch the video. They will guide you through the lecture.

#### *Royal Psalms*

0:00–8:20

- What is the genre of psalms ranging from Psalm 93 to Psalm 99? What is a signature phrase in many of these psalms?
- What is significant about the tense of the signature phrase found in the various psalms ranging from Psalm 93 to Psalm 99?

#### *God's Enduring Love*

8:20–25:12

- What does Psalm 103 say about the nature of God's loving-kindness?

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- What type of expression is “The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in” (Ps. 121:8)? What is another scriptural example of this type of expression?
  - What is the key word that demonstrates the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints in Psalm 125?

#### After the Video

Answer the following questions after you have finished the lecture. They will help you identify and summarize the major points.

- Psalm 93:1 reads, “The LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.” What is important about the language of these lines?
- Psalm 112:9 reads that God’s “righteousness endures forever.” What is a significant implication of this relative to the gospel of Jesus Christ?
- Psalm 139 clearly shows that God sovereignty extends over every dimension of our lives, including the day we were born and the day we are to die. What then did Dr. Lawson give as a reason to pray?

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## PRAYER

Commit what you have learned from God's Word in this lesson to prayer.

- Praise God for His ability to carry out all that He pleases.
- Confess ways in which you sin as if God did not know or even exist.
- Thank God for giving you faith, unlike the fool who says, "There is no God."
- Ask God to continue to use prayer as a means of transforming you to be like Christ.