• • TRANSCRIPT

• November 15th, 2026 "A Fitting Response To The Mercies From The Lord”

• Guest Speaker: Pastor Larry Swartz

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Good morning, brothers and sisters. I am happy to be back again. It's becoming habit-forming, and I'm sorry I only come when Baron's sick.

I wish I could come more often, but if Baron's sick, I will normally will be here, but be nice if he could sit for the sermon, amen? And I want to thank you for your benevolence. You have been a great help to me and my family. Each time we come, the church gives me a nice offering, so I really appreciate it.

It comes in hand for Peggy and I, and there's several of you in the congregation that give the Baptist Handshake, and we always appreciate that, too, so we just thank you for your love that you have shown to me and my family, and we're grateful, just very grateful to be here. We have a beautiful day, sun shining, God is good, he's always good, and if you turn your Bibles to 2 Samuel 7, I'm going to read once again a lengthy passage of scripture, and if you can, you can stand, because I know you won't stand for the preaching. 2 Samuel 7, and I'll wait until you find your place in the book, and this is a great, great passage of scripture that really shows God's goodness and David's thanksgiving and his gratefulness for it, so let's read.

It came to pass that when the king sat in his house, the Lord had given him rest from all of his enemies, that the king said unto Nathan, the prophet, see how I dwell in the house of Cedar, but the ark of God dwells within curtains, and Nathan said unto the king, go and do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with thee, and it came to pass that night that the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying, go and tell my servant David, thus saith the Lord, shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in, whereas have I not dwelt in only in any house since the time that I brought the children up out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked, and in a tent, and in a tabernacle, and in all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel, spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, why build ye not me a house of Cedar? Now therefore thou shalt say unto my servant David, thus saith the Lord of hosts, I took thee from the sheep coat, and from following after the sheep, to be a ruler over my people Israel, and it was with, I was with thee, with us whoever thou wentest, and have out of all thine enemies, and had cut off all thine enemies that were in thy sight, and have made thee a great, great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth. Moreover, I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and I will plant them, and they may dwell in that place of their own, and move no more, neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more as before time. And since that time I commanded the judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies, also the Lord telleth thee that he will make of thee a house, and in those in wherein thy days be fulfilled, thou shalt, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, and I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, he will be to me a son, and if he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, but with the stripes of the children of men. But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul when I put away before thee, whom I put away before thee.

And in thine house and in thy kingdom shall be established forever before thee, and the throne shall be established forever according to all these words, and according to all the vision, so that Nathan did speak unto David. And here's where I'm going to take my message from 18 through 22, but I want to read the rest of the chapter because it's so good. God is good, his word is unbelievable.

So here David, this is the greatest prayer of Thanksgiving in the whole Bible. Then David went in and he sat before the Lord and he said, Who am I, Lord God? And what is my house that you have brought me hitherto? And this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord God, but you have also spoken of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And is this the manner of man, O Lord God? And what can David say more unto thee? For thou, Lord God, knowest thy servant, for thy word's sake, according to thine own heart, hast thou done all of these great things to make thy servant to know them.

Wherefore thou art great, O Lord, for there is none other like thee, neither is there any God besides thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. And what nation in the earth is like thy people? Even Israel, whom God went to redeem a people for himself, and to make him a name, and to do for a great things and terrible for thy land before thy people, which thou redeemest from Egypt and from the nations and their gods. For thou has confirmed thyself, thy people, Israel, to be a people unto thee forever, and thou, Lord, art become their God.

And now, O Lord God, the word that thou has spoken concerning my servant shall, and concerning his house, establish it forever as thou has said. And let thy name be magnified forever, saying, The Lord of hosts is a God over Israel. And let the house of thy servant David be established before thee.

For thou, O Lord of hosts, God of Israel, has revealed to thy servant, saying, I will build thee a house. Therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee. And now, O Lord God, thou art that God, and thy words be true, that thou has promised this goodness unto thy servant.

Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant that it may continue forever before thee. For thou, O Lord, God, has spoken it. And with thy blessing, let the house of thy servant be blessed forever.

And God's people said, Amen. Father, thank you for the great word of Scripture, for the great history of a man that you called Lord, as Nathan told him from the sheep coat when he was a young man. When he was just a teenager, a young lad, you called him and anointed him then.

And then now we see some many years later, he's now 30 years old and he's anointed and God has done great victories for him. And he set him in a place where he has rest and he sent him in Israel. And he's promised these great blessings to him that through him, a house would be built and through his seed, which would be Christ.

All of these blessings would flow even to us this day in the church. So we ask for your blessings on this reading. And as we spend a few minutes this morning looking at David's prayer of Thanksgiving in Jesus name, Amen.

Once again, I want to just start by looking at verse number 20, verse number 18 again. And David went in and he sat before the Lord and he said, Who am I, Lord God? And what is my house that you have done brought me hitherto? So David comes to the Lord and he says, Who am I? And a good question would be, why me? Who am I, Lord? Why, why me? David understands his origin. He understands that

he was a shepherd boy.

He didn't have anything great to offer God but himself. He was not from, well, he happened to be from a kingly line. But at the time of his anointing, he was a shepherd and he was doing lowly work, if you would.

He was a shepherd of sheep. And so David says to the Lord while he sits before him and he says, Who am I? David was overwhelmed with the mercy of God and from Nathan's message. And it was just brought such praise to David's heart that he went in and he sat before the Lord.

And that's a good thing to do at times. We should just sit quietly before God and try to put the world out of our mind and try to center our focus on God and him alone and try to put all of the cares of this life aside because life's cares can injure our communion with the Lord. Amen.

Have you ever noticed often that when you go to pray, you've got all of these things running in your mind and it's just a it's a big fight always. So to sit quietly and to tell God, I am sitting here quietly for the express purpose that I may hear you. And we know that God speaks.

We know here Samuel, we remember he spoke to Samuel. He was just a little boy and he was sleeping and the Lord came to Samuel and and he spoke to him at night and Samuel said, Here am I. And he listened. And we have to put the things of the world aside if we're going to hear the voice of God.

We need to put the things of the world aside if we want to hear his voice through his word, because oftentimes and maybe you can testify to the fact with me when you pick up to read the word, something comes into your mind, something random, something different. It's like what is going on here? There's always a battle. It's a spiritual battle to stay focused these days.

And we're living in a day where focus is a hard thing. They came up with this thing some years back and they call it the the young kids have it all the time and they take pills for it. They give it to them.

Let's go attention deficit. Well, when I was a kid, it wasn't attention deficit. They spanked your butt.

That was what the problem was. You were rowdy. You were out of control.

You were, you know, just having at it and running around and you had no constraints. And when I was a kid, there was no such thing. I don't know what has happened.

We're not going to go into the science behind it. It may be some good explanations, but we too at times find ourselves just encumbered with too much thought and not enough of God. So David went in and he sat before the Lord.

Now, he had just heard a fantastic word from Nathan that God was going to bless him and not only was going to bless him, but he was going to bless his family after him for a great while to come. And so we two brothers and sisters, we have been given generous grace by God. God has been so good to us.

He's been so good that he deserves our praise and our gratitude and our thanksgiving every day. We should sit quietly before him and then begin to enumerate the things that he's done for us because he's been so good. God has been so good.

Abundantly good. David was overwhelmed and so should we when we think about what God has done for us. God has generously bestowed upon us the blessings which he speaks of in David.

Let's look at Acts chapter 2, 29. And we were in Acts 2 last week. Acts chapter 2 and 29.

And here Peter is speaking of David in this time frame of David's life. Acts 2, 29. Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, who's both dead and buried, but his sepulcher is with us unto this day.

Therefore, being a prophet and knowing that God has sworn with an oath to him that at the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to his throne. Seeing therefore that he spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus has God raised up, which we are all witnesses.

Brothers and sisters, the covenant to David we're enjoying. The covenant to David well over 2000 years ago, we enjoy today because part of that covenant was going to be he would establish this king to sit on David's throne forever. And it's still called David's throne.

It's amazing. And so we have the blessings that are written in this book. There are some land covenants in the Old Testament that don't belong to us, but we're not worried about land.

We're like Abraham. We're looking for a city whose builder and maker is God. Amen.

That's what we are looking for. And God has showing it to us. So Peter mentioned that the joy that promised or that promoted David's worship was a spiritual one because he knew that Jesus would come from him.

And today we have an everlasting kingdom will be set up through his family line. We also joy in the fact that we are blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places. One more place.

And this may be the last time we turn. Maybe not Ephesians chapter one, but I wanted to read this. I didn't.

Well, I was lazy. I didn't want to write the whole thing out. Ephesians chapter one.

And we're going to look at verses one versus three. And we'll read a little bit. Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

Whether you know it or not, you're blessed beyond measure. All you have to do is start reading the word and believing the word. You are blessed beyond measure.

You are so blessed that you could just throw down and with who was it in the temple when he picked up Jesus and he said, now let me depart in peace. I have seen Israel's. Um, uh, what did he call them? The, what's the word he used? The priest that was in the temple when he picked up Jesus, when they began the circuit, when they brought him in for circumcision, my, thy servant has seen the consolation of Israel.

That's. And so he said, I'm ready to die. I've seen Jesus and brothers.

We, Jesus need do not one more thing for you. Amen. We are already blessed in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

And if you're in Christ Jesus, what can assail you in this life? What can overcome you in this life? If you're in Christ Jesus, you're the scripture says we're more than conquerors through him who loved us more than a conqueror. A conqueror is pretty cool, but more than a conqueror through Jesus Christ, through him who loved us. And so here he says, blessed be the God and father of the Lord, Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ, according as he has chosen us before him, before the foundation of the world, brothers and sisters, if you're here and you're in Christ, he chose you before the foundation of the world.

Woo. God, someone should wake up. Someone should say thank you before he created anything.

He chose you. That's what it says. Before the foundation of the world, we were chosen in him.

Amen. And if he chose you before the foundation of the world, he's not going to set you out now after the foundation, after he has created. And so he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.

You know, understanding what God has done for you by grace should promote holiness. It should just promote holiness. It should promote our separation.

And that's what holiness means. It means to be separated from the world and from sin and from evil and from wickedness, separated unto God. That's what he's looking for.

And we should be, this should prompt us to holiness. It should prompt us to thanksgiving. It says, look, we should be holy and blameless and without blame before him in love.

Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, we have been adopted into God's family. How cool is that? Adopted in. We're joint heirs with Jesus, the Bible tells us.

Come on, guys, wake up. There's got to be life in here. There's got to be some life in this church.

I'm sure there must be. Are you not allowed to say amen? Are you not allowed to say hallelujah? Are you not allowed to shout and say praise the Lord? Because that's what I was doing when I was reading this at home all week. I was saying, oh, God, you're so good.

You're so good. You're so good. I don't deserve this.

Who am I? Why me? On the way here, that was my prayer. Lord, why me? Who am I that I get this great opportunity to open your word and try to preach before this community here in Bellingham? Why me? Who am I, Lord? And who's my family that you have spoken about me and my house for a great while to come? By the way, if you're saved, you're eternally his. That's a great while to come.

Amen. And he who began a good work in you, Philippians chapter one, verse five, he will perform it. That's a promise.

If you gave your life to Jesus, he will bring what he promised to do in you to fruition. Amen. One day he's going to do it.

And meanwhile, get involved in the process, be involved in the process, be reading the word, be in community as we talked about last week, be in prayer, be in corporate prayer together because God is worth it. Amen. He's worth so much more.

I was reading something by Charles, who's the writer? Man, my mind is really gone. Chuck Swindoll. And it's a book called Come Before Winter, and it was very interesting.

And he was talking about being in circulation, being a saint in circulation. In other words, don't just come to church on Sunday and get polished up and then go home and do whatever. No, be a saint in circulation when you're out.

You get it? Be in circulation. And so there was a time in England and there was this great commander, Oliver Cromwell. I don't know if you know anything about him, but amazing guy.

He at one point, they were missing the treasury. They didn't have enough silver to mint some coins. So he went into some of the churches and he found these silver statues in the corner and he ordered to take them and melt them down and put them in circulation.

That's what God's got to do to some of us. Amen. Light a fire under us and put us out in circulation so that we can be used of him, so that we can be useful.

We don't come to church to be part of a service. We come to be service. Amen.

You don't come to a service. You should come to say, Lord, I'm here. I want to be used.

What do you want from me today? How can I bless my community? How can I bless this church that I'm a part of? We want to be a service to people. And that's the blessing that we have. So let's read.

I'm not going to finish there in Ephesians, I guess. The reason why, because I turned my page back to Samuel. That's how easy we run.

We just, God's in control. Anyways, God is so good and we ought to just, look, let's not be silver saints. Let's not just be saints in a corner.

Let's let God melt us down, light a fire under us so we can be put into circulation. I love that. I have a, I found a Bible from him.

It was a Bible that he gave to his men. And it was just a several, it was a compilation of all scriptures that he found for fighting men. It's very cool.

I bought one, actually bought two. I wanted to give one to someone and I keep it with me and I read it about being a soldier of God. And he claimed, I read some things about Oliver Cromwell.

He claimed that when he taught his men the scriptures and the word, and they prayed before God, every time they went into any type of conflict, they always prevailed.

I thought that's very cool. That is very, very cool. And so it was the Oliver Cromwell pocket Bible that he gave to his men in England.

And he was a great, great promoter of free speech and the things that we enjoy in our constitution before the pilgrims and just an amazing, amazing man. Well, let's look at David's expression again of humility in chapter seven and verse number 18. He says, who am I Lord? And what is my house that you have brought me hither to? Who am I? Why me? What about my house that you've brought me this far in this life? And I tell anyone who's struggling, if God has brought you this far, he's not gonna leave you on.

He'll never leave you nor forsake you. If he's brought you hither to, if he's brought you here to this day now, he's never going to give up on you. You have a promise.

And David is humbled by it. And he's before the Lord and he says, who am I Lord? Why me and my house that you have brought me this far, hither to means this far. And he says, and this was no small thing in thy sight, O Lord, you have spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come.

It was nothing for God to do this. It was nothing because God can do anything for anyone. He can lift up anybody.

Amen. And you may be able to testify, who are you that God would love you? No, we have no claim, do we? The only claim we have is grace and grace alone. God's grace is such that he calls sinners like us to be a part of his family.

He pardons us. He forgives us. He allows us to become part of the family.

And God is amazingly good. Who are we? Why me? Ask yourself that. Why me? And then you'll find out it only must be grace because I sure haven't got anything.

Amen. Well, I tell you, when God found me, I was in a heap. I was in bad shape when God found me some 30 something years ago.

And I don't know if you can testify, but you didn't have anything to offer either. We were chosen in him according to his love. And God didn't, in Deuteronomy chapter seven and verse number seven, God didn't choose Israel because they were any great people or any great in number.

He put his love on them because he chose them and he loved them. Not because of anything. And that's repeated oftentimes in the scriptures.

He didn't choose them because they were great, because they were wonderful. By the way, they were a rebellious lot. They were hard headed.

They were stiff necked. They were uncircumcised in hearts and ears. They were in bad shape.

They were the ones who the prophets would sent to and they killed them. Those are the ones who had the word of God and they put it aside. Those are the ones who God brought out of Egypt.

And after being there just a few days, they said, oh, wood to God, we were back in Egypt. At least we had a better fare. What's this manna that we have? Well, you know, God took care of them for 40 years

in the desert.

By the way, their clothes didn't rot. They didn't stop and set up camp and start sewing for themselves. God fed them with manna.

There was no water. What did he do? He told Moses to take a staff and smite a rock and water gushed out. God provided.

His name is Jehovah Jireh. Do you know him? He's a provider. He provides.

Has he not provided for you thus far? He will never stop. He's a great provider and we have to give thanks to him. So David is just so excited.

He said, this is a small thing. Oh Lord God, but you've also spoken of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And so David, after hearing Nathan speaking God's word right to David, we read it.

And so how do we have inspiration? There it is in our text. God told Nathan to tell David something and we have it recorded. That's inspiration.

Holy men of God's faith as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. That's what we have. That's how we have this book.

This book is like no other book that you'll ever put your hand on. This book has sold more copies than any other book in the history of the world. This book has changed nations and peoples and kings and it has knocked down nations and peoples and kings and it has prophesied of the Babylonian fall, the Roman fall, the Egyptian fall, the Greeks falling, the Syrophoenician fall, every kingdom that rose up.

You wanna read about it? Get Daniel and read about that great, great picture that God showed him of that great, great giant. And it had all the kingdoms of the earth. David, thousands before those kingdoms came to earth, God told him this would happen.

That would happen. Nebuchadnezzar, you're the head, but you're gonna be cut down. And then Rome's gonna come and Assyria is gonna come and they're gonna be cut down.

And finally, Jesus is the one at defeat and he's the one that's gonna crush the serpent's head. He's gonna put down all authority one day. And by the way, he's coming back, amen? He's coming back and David's excited about it.

David spoke of the resurrection. Peter said, Peter said that, we just read it in Acts chapter two. He spoke of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

David believed. He believed that through his family, there would come the Messiah who not only would come to Israel, but he would die for Israel and for the world. And he would be put in a grave and he wouldn't stay in a grave because it was not able to hold him, that he would be resurrected.

And indeed he was resurrected three days after, praise the Lord. And we can enjoy him today because he's given us of his spirit. When he left, he told his brothers there on earth, he said, look, I'm going away, but I'm gonna send another one of me is what it means.

I'm gonna send another one. Don't worry. Don't let your hearts be troubled.

You believe in God, believe also in me. I go away to prepare a place for you. And if it weren't so, I would have told you.

My father's house in many mansions. And so Jesus told the disciples when he was going away, he'd send him another brothers and sisters. If you're born again, you have the other.

And I don't mean to belittle the Holy Spirit. He's as much God as Jesus and the father, but we've received the promise of the blessing of God of the Holy Spirit upon us. God is so good.

David here, you've done all of this for me, but you've spoken of my house for a great while to come. And then he says in verse number 19, and I don't know why I do this. I write all of these notes.

I'm not even looking at them. Because I'm so silly, but it's just for, it's to keep it ingrained. If you read something and say something and write something, it'll be triply put in your mind.

And that's how we memorize scripture, by the way. Write it out, say it out loud and keep doing it. And you will have it memorized.

And some people say, well, I can't memorize. I guarantee you, you can memorize the Bible because God wants you to. That word, have I hidden my heart that what? Okay, some of you memorize the scripture, very good.

And it's good for you because when something comes up, you have a scripture. Look, brothers, we're living in a day when truth is at an all time attack. Truth is waning.

It's really having a tough time right now. And we're just bombarded with lies and lies and lies. And I'm gonna coin a phrase, the fake news.

It's fake. I'm telling you, it's fake. And there's lies out there.

And the only way to cut through lies is to know the truth. And the truth of God will show you the difference about what's going on. Truth is under attack.

Truth is under attack because truth exposes. Truth brings light. And the people would rather dwell in darkness than in light.

That's why there's such a big fight. That's why there's a big fight in our country today. There's a fight of socialism trying to get in.

You know why? Because they want God out. They want God out. That's what they want.

And be careful, brothers and sisters. Be careful to make sure you check out what you're doing when you go to the polls. Understand what's happening here.

They want God out of the country. They wanna bring in the state. That's what, you know what socialism, you know what the next thing is? Nazism, communism.

Do you know they fall one after another? They all have the same root. And that root is know God. Don't fall for the lie.

Don't fall for it. Understand the truth. God's in control.

God will take care of us. And we need to rise up and start praying like we never prayed before for this country. We have enjoyed a great time, haven't we? We've enjoyed a great time.

Not if socialists get control. And this isn't political speech. This is Bible speak.

Socialism is from hell. Communism is from hell. Marxism is from hell.

Leninism is from hell. Nazism is from hell. And they're bringing that back up.

And they're putting it in your face. This is a sad thing. There's someone who ran on one of the tickets for the Congress wearing a Nazi, he has a tattoo.

He has a swastika. Yes, one of the people that ran for Congress, you know. Yeah, so open your eyes and see what's going on.

There is some wicked things happening in the world today. And we need to understand what's going on. And the only way to get to the bottom of it is to get here and find out what God did.

So look, we live in a republic. And if you'll look in the book of Deuteronomy, you'll find where God sent Moses' father-in-law to him and say, here, here's how you set up the government. You're one man too small to rule over all of this people.

Put up one man over 50s, one man over hundreds, one man over thousands. You know what that is? You know what it looks like? Representative government, doesn't it? Yeah, that's it. That's where we got the idea from.

That's where we got the whole idea from. Our forefathers took it right from the book of Moses, the five books. That's where they got, that's where it was built on.

But the world doesn't want that because they don't want God to be your ruler. They want their own God because if God is God, then they are answerable to him. If he is God and he set some unalterable laws, then we are answered, we have to answer to him.

And in our constitution, in the Bill of Rights, what does it say? We've been endowed with inalienable rights. They didn't come from men. They meant they came from God.

The rights that we've enjoyed in this country came from God, that's why they lasted so long. They're under attack right now. They're under big attack right now.

But we can thank God every day. He's gonna prevail. Let me prophesy.

It ain't going the way they think it's going. And that's I'm not gonna go any further. Keep your eyes open.

It ain't going the way they think it's gonna go. Don't be afraid. Don't start worrying.

Pray and thank God that he has a plan. Amen? He's got a plan. It's not gonna go the way they think it's gonna go.

Verse number 19. And he said, this is a small thing in your sight. Let's go to the end of the verse.

And is this the manner of man, oh Lord? David is saying, is this the way men deal with men? No. If Steve wants to bless me, it's because he likes me. God's different.

God blesses because he's a blesser. Amen? God just plain blesses people because he's a blesser. God loves people because he is love.

God is gracious to us because he's a God of grace. He's merciful to us, not because we deserve mercy or did anything. And David says, is this the matter of man? The manner of a man, oh Lord God? And he's really, he's answering his own question.

No, this is not how we were. You do nice to me. I do nice to you.

No, that's the way the world works. David is saying, is this the manner of man? And he's answering his own question. No, God, you're different.

You're all of grace. You are all of grace. Who am I? Look at verse number 20.

And David said, Lord, or David, what more can David say unto thee? For you know your servant. And he's saying, he's kind of now dumbfounded by the grace and the mercy that he's received from God. He says, what more can I say? You know who I am.

Who am I? You know who I am. Amen. He's dumbfounded because David knew he was a sinner.

And David knew after this at some time, he would get involved in his big mess up with Bathsheba and kill Uriah, do all of those kinds of things. He knew who he was. And he says, you know me, but God doesn't bless because you're good.

Understand it. He blesses because he's good. Get it out of your mind.

This is not a merit system with God. It's all of grace. It is not of works less any man should boast.

It's all of grace. It's all of grace. If you stand before God, you'll be like that one Pharisee who looked up to God and he said, Lord, you know me.

I give tithes of all I possess. And I go to the temple twice a week. And I do all these wonderful things.

You know who I am. And Jesus said, he prayed thus with himself. You get it? Yeah, the prayer ain't going no further than this.

It's staying down here. And he even said to the self-righteous Pharisees, verily they have their reward. Brothers, I'm not looking for a reward down here.

Later, amen. We labor for the later reward because that's when we will be rewarded. If you're trying to get rewards now and accolades now will knock yourself out.

You'll get them now, but you may not get too much later because the Pharisees were people pleasers. And David says, is this the manner of man? What can I say? What more can I say, Lord? For you know me. You know who I am.

You know my actions. Psalm 139, you love it. He says, you knew me before I was knit in the womb.

You knew all about me. When I was put together in the inside, all my members were fashioned together. You did it, Lord.

You knew me. God has intimate knowledge of you, brothers and sisters. He knows everything about you.

He knows what you think. It even says of Jesus, he knew what was in a man. He knows everything.

In spite of that, thank God he'll bless you. Amen. So you don't have to say, oh God, if he ever found out who I, he knows who you are.

David said, who am I? Why me? Why would you do this to me? You know who I am. God is love. Don't ever think you can work your way into love from God because he loves you just because he's love.

By the way, he loves you just because. Okay? Just because there's no, oh, because she looks good or she does a nice work or she brings it on. No, no, no, no, no.

No, none of those things. God is just so good. David, what more can I say? You knoweth me.

Notice, for thy word's sake and according to thine own heart, you have done all of these great things. The word of God, David's saying. You know, God said, I'm gonna do this.

And when God says, I'm gonna do it, what does he do? He do it. If he says, I'm gonna do something, he's going to do it. Amen? His word will never come back void.

Whatever he has said is gonna come to pass. If he had promised through David a seed that would bless, if he promised through Abraham that even David would rise up and sit on the throne, well, bless God, that's what was gonna happen. And we see it.

We have the record of it. We have the history of what God said was gonna happen. Do you know how many prophecies have been fulfilled already, brothers and sisters? The record is phenomenal.

There's not one good word of God that will ever fail. Never. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never fail.

You can trust this. You can bet your life on this. Amen? You can bet your life on this book because it's the word of God and God cannot lie.

God will not lie. It's against his nature. His nature is love.

His nature is good. David, for your word's sake and according to your own heart, the heart of God is a heart of love. You have done all of these great things to make thy servant know them.

I am so glad we have this book because I've learned so much about God. I am so blessed to have this book because I learned how good and great God is and how much he's done for me and how much he's gonna continue to do for me. I am so glad.

Notice he says, for your word's sake and according to your own heart, you have done all of these great things to make your servant know them. Look at verse number 28 or 27. For O Lord, O Lord of hosts, God of Israel, you have revealed to thy servant saying, I will build thee a house.

Therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee. And now O Lord God, 28, you are that God and thy words be true. And thou has promised this goodness unto thy servant.

Thank God for the word of God. And you are to dig into it as if you're mining treasure because it's treasure. It's better than gold.

Gold will corrupt and fade one day, but this will never. This is solid truth to stand on. Amen? It's solid truth to stand on.

When you're hurting, you can get a word from God. When you've been defamed, you can get a word from God. When you're sick, you can get a word from God.

When you are in need of finances, you can get a word from God. If there's anything going on in your life, the Bible will give an answer to you. It will help you.

It will show you that God is gracious and he is good. For your word's sake. Verse number 22, wherefore you are great O Lord for there's none like you.

There's no God besides these according to all that we have heard with our ears. David says, you are great and there ain't no other God like you. We've heard about these gods and we've heard of Zeus and we've heard of Jupiter and we've heard of Ashtoreth and we've heard of Baal and we've heard of all of these liars.

And what did God say about them? They were little gods. They were made of stone and wood. They can't speak.

They can't hear. They can't do anything. And if you wanna read a great story about them, look at Elijah when he went and he called 400 prophets of Baal and he said, go ahead and call to your God and see what he can do.

And they called all morning. They set up an altar and they called and they cried and they started to cut themselves to bleed and it was a crazy scene. And then Elijah just said, okay, God, show them who you are and God came down.

By the way, remember the story? Elijah set up an altar. He said, pour water on the sacrifice. Fill the outside of the altar with water.

I mean, get it all soaked and wet that it'll never burn. Get it all wet. And then he stood back and he called God, okay, show these people who you are.

And God sent fire down and it licked up the offering and it licked up the water out of the altar and then Elijah in good sport went after them and he killed them all, 400 of them because they were lying. They were prophets of Baal. They were ruining the lives of people.

And so God is amazing, amen? God is amazing. Read these stories and that's the same God today. We sang a song yesterday in forever.

It came from Hebrews somewhere, chapter eight somewhere. And it said, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. He hasn't changed brothers and sisters.

He will not change and one more. And I could go on until the cows come home because there's so much here. There's so much, there's so much more.

Verse by verse, there's so much. 23, and what nation in the earth is like unto thy people? Even like unto Israel, whom God went to redeem for his people, a people for himself, to make him a name and to do great things and terrible things for thy land and before thy people, which thou hast redeemed to thee from Egypt, from the nations and from their gods. You know, when Israel went into Egypt for 430 years, God promised he'd send him out, he'd get him out.

He sent Moses in there and sooner or later, they got him out. And do you know how he got him out? He opened the Red Sea and they walked on dry land. That's how he got him out.

And you know what he did after he got him out? He closed the Red Sea on Pharaoh's army, on all of them, on all of them. And do you know, archeology has recorded they have found the spoke wheels of some of those chariots because only Egypt had so many spokes. The Romans had different ones.

And they found some. Isn't that amazing? Well, it's only 2,000 years ago. It shouldn't, well, let's say you have to add some, some hundreds.

Maybe 3,000 years ago, when they were delivered, you have to add some, maybe 3,500, but we've found things that are old. And they find these things, and they, they found. God didn't do that so you would say, oh, I believe now.

No, we believe because of faith. We have faith that God is true. He's proven himself, has he not? He's proven himself over and over and over in our lives.

He's proven it. So, and look, what nation on earth is like unto thy people? I mentioned this. Israel is one, 0.1% of the population of the world.

You get how small? There have been 965 Nobel Prizes awarded to the population of the world. How many are there, 8 billion or 9 billion now? I don't know. Somewhere right around 8 or 9 billion.

It's up, way up there. Israel is 0.1% of that 9 billion. So 965 Nobel Prizes.

You know how many Israel has? 220. What? That's a crazy stat. That doesn't make sense, does it? Well, it does if you remember Exodus chapter 12, where God told Abraham, I'll bless you, and I'll curse those

who curse you, and out from you, all the nations of the world will be blessed.

Who's Abraham? He's the father of Israel. And God promised that through Abraham's seed, Jesus, and the people of Israel, the earth would be blessed. Is that amazing? Is that amazing? Look, what nation on earth is like your people? Israel has blessed this earth.

Jewish people have blessed this earth more than you can imagine. With science, with art, with literature, with technology. The computer sciences are all, the highest tech is in Israel.

They're tiny people. They're smaller than New Jersey, their land size. They're a tiny people, but they have blessed the world.

It's amazing, is it not? Because God chose them. And God promised that he would bless the world through them. And so, is it any wonder why there's so much anti-Semitism in the world? Because they hate Israel's God, that's why.

And by the way, Christian persecution is on the rise. Along with anti-Semitism goes Christian persecution. And it all comes from the communists, and the socialists, and the Marxists.

Because they don't want God, they want the state to be God. But notice, what nation on earth is like thy people? You know, God has blessed the United States too. He's blessed us abundantly.

Do you know when the pilgrims came here, they felt that this was another Israel. They knew it wasn't theologically, but they felt that the United States was gonna be like an Israel, God's people. And God blessed them.

And they set up the government according to God's dictates. And God blessed us more than any. We've been the longest running republic on the history of the earth, 250 years.

No one's ever lasted that long. Some of these empires only lasted 40, 50, 60 years. They never lasted, some less.

We've lasted 250 or more, and if we keep praying, we'll last another 250. And if we keep blessing God and being thankful, and let's not be silver saints, let's get out in circulation, amen? God is good, isn't he? He's so good, go home today and say, Lord, who am I? And then put that aside and say, okay, thank you. You've done it, I believe it.

Now I'm gonna go tell somebody else. Let's stand to our feet and we'll pray. Lord Jesus, we're grateful for your goodness.

We thank you for the prayer of David. We thank you for the covenant, as theologians call it, the Davidic Covenant. That's where they get it from.

You told Nathan to tell David these things. And David, in just awe and reverence and holy excitement, went before you and sat before you. And he said, who am I and what is my house that you have done all of these great things for me? And Lord, who are we that you've done so much for us to give us Jesus, to give us freedom from sin, to give us a part in your economy on this earth, to give us an opportunity to serve alongside of you, Lord, as you build your church.

And you did say you'd build your church and the gates of hell would not prevail. So Lord, I pray that you would help us to be a grateful people today, to be grateful recipients of your mercy, and your grace, and your love, and your forgiveness, so grateful that it would just exude from us. And we couldn't help but telling others.

So we ask for your blessings as we depart this day in Jesus' name, amen.