# There Are Some Requirements To





Warren W. Wiersbe, <u>Be Exultant</u>, 1st ed., "Be" Commentary Series (Colorado Springs, CO: Cook Communications Ministries, 2004), 19–21.

#### Psalm 92:12-15 NKJV

- 12 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- 13 Those who are planted in the house of the Lord Shall flourish in the courts of our God.
- 14 They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing,
- 15 To declare that the Lord is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.



### The inscription relates the psalm to the Sabbath Day worship at the sanctuary.



#### Sabbath

- The origin of the Hebrew sabbat is uncertain, but it seems to have derived from the verb sabat, meaning to stop, to cease, or to keep.
- It's theological meaning is rooted in God's rest following the six days of creation (Gen 2:2-3).
- The Greek noun sabbat [sabbaton] translates the Hebrew noun sabbat.
- The noun form is used primarily to denote the seventh day of the week, though it may occasionally refer to the Sabbath week (Lev 23:15-16) at the end of every seven Sabbaths or fifty days, or the Sabbath year (Lev 25:1-7) in which the land was to be at complete rest.



- The inscription relates the psalm to the Sabbath Day worship at the sanctuary.
- During the week, a lamb was sacrificed each morning and another in the evening, but on the Sabbath Day, those sacrifices were doubled (Ex. 29:38–46; Num. 28:1–10).
- Psalms 92 speaks of our God reigns supremely and always will, so we can be the people of God that He wants us to be.
- The psalm describes the characteristics of believers who trust a sovereign God.



 A part of Israel's covenant relationship with the Lord was their honoring through worship. The Sabbath was a unique sign between Israel and the Lord and reminded them that God had delivered them from Egypt.



#### Deuteronomy 5:12–15 (NKJV)

12 'Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you.

13 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 14 but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your ox, nor your donkey, nor any of your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you.



15 And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.



 The Sabbath also reminded them of God the Creator who made everything six days, and on the seventh He rested.

#### Genesis 2:1-3 (NKJV)

- 1 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.
- 2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.
- 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.



# If We Are Going To Stand, We Must Learn To Rest!



### Standing Requires A Worshiping People (vv. 1–5)

#### Psalm 92:1-5 (NKJV)

- 1 It is good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;
- 2 To <u>declare Your loving kindness</u> in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night,
- 3 On an instrument of ten strings, On the lute, And on the harp, With harmonious sound.
- 4 For You, LORD, have made me glad through Your work; I will triumph in the works of Your hands.
- 5 O LORD, how great are Your works! Your thoughts are very deep.



- Those are statements of a worshiper. Psalms 92 starts with giving thanks to the Lord.
- Thanks [yadah /yaw·daw/] v. to give thanks,, laud, praise. 1c2 to confess, confess (the name of God).

The psalmist begins on a note of joy; it is good (that is, either enjoyable or right) to praise Yahweh. Instead of the impersonal form of the declaration (It is good to give thanks), a personal form may be better: "It is good (or, right) for people (or, me) to give thanks...."

"... I give you thanks for the good things you have done."



- The psalmist says —it is "good to give thanks [praise] unto the Lord."
- Believers today can praise the Lord for His generous creation gifts, His salvation through the blood of the Lamb, and His gracious covenant with us because of what Jesus did on the cross.

#### Romans 6:17 (NKJV)

But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.



- Worship ought to be the natural outflow of a heart that loves the Lord and appreciates who He is and what he has done for His people.
- Whether we use voices alone or voices accompanied by instruments, we can express our praises to God and focus on His wonderful attributes.
- We can worship all day long, from morning to evening.



 We can begin the day assured of His love and end the day looking back on His faithfulness.

#### Lamentations 3:22-23 (NKJV)

22 Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

 We are a blessed people because God continues to do for us daily!



 We can look around and marvel at His works, including His providential care and leading in our own lives, and we can look into His Word and probe the depths of His great thoughts.



#### Romans 11:33–36 (NKJV)

33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! 34 "For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?"

35 "Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?"

36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

 Whether we are stirred by the creation around us or the Scriptures before us, we have every reason to worship and praise God, for He is reigning above us!



## Standing Requires An Overcoming People (vv. 6–11)

#### Psalm 92:6-11 (NKJV)

- 6 A <u>senseless man</u> does not know, Nor does a <u>fool</u> understand this.
- 7 When the wicked spring <u>up like grass</u>, And when all the workers of iniquity flourish, It is that they may be destroyed forever.
- 8 But You, LORD, are on high forevermore.



## Standing Requires An Overcoming People (vv. 6–11)

- 9 For behold, <u>Your enemies</u>, O LORD, For behold, Your enemies shall perish; All the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.
- 10 But my horn You have exalted like a wild ox; I have been anointed with fresh oil.
- 11 My eye also has seen my desire on my enemies; My ears hear my desire on the wicked Who rise up against me.



### The Lord's Enemies Are Our Enemies

- The psalmist shifts our attention to the enemies of the Lord who make life difficult for God's people.
- The word Senseless The Authorized Version calls them "brutish," which means "beastly, lacking values and discernment, savage, living only to satisfy the appetite."
- Other translations use "stupid, rude, and uncultivated."



# These People Are Like Grass; They Have No Deep Roots And Their Plush Life Growth Passes Quickly.

#### Psalm 90:5-6 (NKJV)

5 You carry them away like a flood; They are like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass which grows up:

6 In the morning it flourishes and grows up; In the evening it is cut down and withers.



• The "horn" is a symbol of power (v. 10), and God gives His people the ability to overcome their foes.

#### Psalm 89:16-18 (NKJV)

16 In Your name they rejoice all day long, And in Your righteousness they are exalted.

17 For You are the glory of their strength, And in Your favor our horn is exalted.

18 For our shield belongs to the LORD, And our king to the Holy One of Israel.

We need power to stand against the enemy!



#### "You Have Made Me Very Strong."

 As the context shows, here exalted my horn means "made me powerful."

#### **Isaiah 40:29** (NKJV)

He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.

 For wild ox as a figure of brute strength, "wild bull" may be more appropriate.



#### He Gives Us Fresh Oil

- Oil was used to anoint special people—kings, priests, and prophets—but the anonymous psalmist rejoiced because the Lord had anointed him with fresh oil.
- The figure of "anoint with fresh olive oil" is taken by tev to mean causing happiness, rejoicing.



#### He Gives Us Fresh Oil

#### **Psalm 45:7** (ESV)

you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

 It also indicates strengthening, and empowering, and a celebration of victory.



#### God Wants His People To Be Overcomers And This Comes When First We Are Worshipers.

#### **Romans 12:21** (NKJV)

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



#### 1 John 2:13–14 (NKJV)

13 I write to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, Because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, little children, Because you have known the Father.

14 I have written to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one.



#### Revelation 2:7 (NKJV)

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."



# Standing Requires A Flourishing People (vv. 12–15)

#### Psalm 92:12-15 (NKJV)

- 12 The righteous shall <u>flourish like a palm tree</u>, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- 13 Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God.
- 14 They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing,
- 15 To declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.



#### The Righteous Are Like Trees

#### **Psalm 52:8 (NKJV)**

But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever.

#### Proverbs 11:30 (NKJV)

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.



#### The Righteous Are Like Trees

#### Jeremiah 17:8 (NKJV)

For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit.

 God's faithful people are like palm trees and cedars (v. 12).



- The psalm closes with a confident statement about the prosperity and success of the righteous.
- They are compared to a palm tree, which is productive for many years; they are also compared to a cedar in Lebanon.
- They are planted ... they flourish. If you are planted in God you are expected to grow!
- The comparison continues in verse 14; righteous people are like trees that bring forth fruit, and so forth.



- (TEV "green and strong") can be rendered "fresh and green" (NIV), "
- vigorous and sturdy" (NAB), "strong and flourishing" (BJ).



- The palm and cedar were highly valued by people in the Near East, the palm for its fruit, and the cedar for its wood.
- Both were appreciated for their beauty, and both trees can survive for many years.
- Not all godly people live long. But generally speaking, those who obey God avoid a great deal of the danger and disease that can cause an early death.



 To stay "fresh and green" in old age and not spend one's life complaining and demanding is a mark of God's special blessing.

#### Psalm 91:15-16 (NKJV)

15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.

16 With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation."



# We Change As We Grow Older, But The Lord Never Changes.

 He is our Rock, and what He wills for us is perfect, so we will not complain.

#### Psalm 37:25 (NKJV)

I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.



# We Change As We Grow Older, But The Lord Never Changes.

#### Psalm 62:6-7 (NKJV)

6 He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved.

7 In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God.

God does not change!



## There Are Some Requirements To Stand

- Standing requires a worshiping people (vv. 1-5)
- Standing requires an overcoming People (vv. 6-11)
- Standing requires a flourishing people (vv. 12–15)

