



MISSION MINDED

SESSION 4
Psalms & Prophets



Mission Minded #4: Psalms & Prophets

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WATCH

Click play above or on the link below

<https://youtu.be/CPqSc1racdQ>

THINK

What are some of your favourite psalms, hymns or worship songs? Why?

As we read through the Psalms, we learn how to worship God and how to express our emotions before Him. As the nations, or peoples, are often mentioned, a strong link between worship and the world is formed.

Read the following passages. Reflect on how the nations are mentioned. What do we learn about God's heart for the nations and the role of His people in reaching them?

i) Psalm 2

The Lord laughs as the nations gather and plot against Him. He will make them the heritage of His Son but desires that they serve Himself with fear.

ii) Psalm 22:25-31

The Lord rules over the nations, all the ends of the earth will turn to Him. All will bow before Him.

iii) Psalm 57:7-11

The Psalmist declares that he will sing praises to the Lord among the nations. Those who love the Lord should see Him glorified in the nations.

iv) Psalm 66:1-8

The earth is called to shout for joy to God. His eyes keep watch on the nations.

v) Psalm 96:1-13

The Psalmist calls us to declare God's glory among the nations and His marvellous works among all peoples.

Time and time again we are reminded that the nations are firmly in the Lord's sights and we are called to make God known among them as we worship Him.

While often overlooked, the prophets that make up much of the latter half of the Old Testament also have a great deal to say in relation to the nations. Prophecies are regularly made against Israel's enemies but still the Lord's heart for the nations shines through.

Read the following passages. What do each say about the nations?

i) Isaiah 19:18-25

Nations such as Egypt and Assyria will come to fear the Lord and worship Him through His judgement upon them

ii) Isaiah 42:6-9

God will give a light for the nations, opening the eyes of the blind and bringing prisoners out of dungeons.

iii) Jeremiah 16:19-21

The Lord will make the nations come to Him and know Him.

iv) Ezekiel 36:16-23

The Lord punished Israel by scattering them into exile. The nations looked on and derided the name of the Lord as a result. To protect His name, and make Himself known, God will bring Israel together again and return them to their land.

v) Micah 4:1-5

The nations will come to the mountain of the Lord and no longer fight each other.

vi) Malachi 1:11

From the rising to the setting of the sun, God's name will be great among the nations.

REFLECT

In what ways can our worship lead to others, including the nations, coming to know the Lord?

REFLECT

We've seen throughout the Old Testament an unmistakable desire of God to make His name known among the nations.

Despite being blessed, Israel often did not play the part in this that they were supposed to.

Why do you think this was?

What does it look like to bless the nations today?

Are you playing your part in God's plan for the nations? If not, why not?



ASIA FOCUS

Each session of Mission Minded focuses on an area of ministry in Asia supported by our parent organisation, AsiaLink. Please take this opportunity to expand your knowledge and practise prayer for Gospel ministry in Asia.

PROVIDING RELIEF

We live in a fallen world. With sickness, poverty and warfare rife in many parts of Asia, there is a huge need for believers to display the love of God practically by providing crucial relief to those in desperate need of it.

When disaster strikes, AsiaLink partners are able to respond quickly. When fighting broke out in the Philippine city of Marawi, partners offered essentials to help families. When the coronavirus pandemic caused multiple countries to go into lockdown, millions lost their jobs. Again, AsiaLink partners were on the frontline with food parcels and protective equipment.

Relief can open doors into places otherwise completely shut off. In one nation with severely restricted access, hundreds of thousands of children with cleft lips and palates are not offered medical surgeries to address their ailment. Officials claim that there is neither funding nor expertise to perform these simple procedures. One AsiaLink partner has been able to come alongside officials and medical staff to arrange free surgeries to enable these small children to smile again.

Only eternity will reveal the impact of this kind of ministry but we remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

HOW TO PRAY

Pray for millions across our world who suffer in ways we cannot imagine. May the Lord bring comfort to them.

Pray for AsiaLink partners as they respond to various crisis as they occur so that the Lord would be glorified.

Pray for children in need of smile-restoring surgery in this restricted-access nation. Pray that surgeries will continue to be arranged for them.

