

b. Brief outline of the Psalm.

--declaration, vss 1-3

(history will be related so that the children of Israel may profit by the example of the fathers).

--the cycles of disbelief, vss 9-38.

(we mark key verses that show God's goodness and Israel's defection. These help us show the following sketchy pattern).

\*\*defection, vss 9-11

\*\*works of deliverance, vss 12-16

\*\*defection, vss 17-20

\*\*judgment (vs 21) against a background of blessing to vs. 31.

\*\*defection and judgment, vss 32-34a

\*\*repentance /restoration, vss 34b-35

\*\*defection, vss 36-37

\*\*blessing, 38-39

\*\*defection, 40-51

\*\*historic blessing, vss. 52-55

\*\*defection, vss. 56-68

\*\*judgment, vss 59-64

\*\*deliverance, vss 65-72.

One may look at it critical and think it not much of a commentary on a people to be "holy unto the Lord) but if you are not careful, it may become the story of your life.

c. Significant features of the Psalm: There is an abundance of content and grammatical features and we can mention only a few at this point:

- (1) vss 29-31, how God yields to the demands of His own which, when fulfilled, are hard on them.
- (2) vss 57-58, demonstrate the sovereignty of His Divine choice.
- (3) vss 60 ff, illustrate how God in the perfection of His character will not be limited by the work of wicked men.
- (4) vss 5-3 give the purpose of the Psalm and tell the purpose of a lot of other Scripture. It is a striking commentary on Deuteronomy 6-7.

2. Our Messages:

- a. Remember the Work of the Lord
- b. Resist the temptation to complain.
- c. Rely on His grace to sustain
- d. Rehearse His purposes.

3. Some Observations: