

Leaving A Legacy of Faith (How to Outlive Your Life)

"9 This is the covenant he made with Abraham and the oath he swore to Isaac. 10 He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, and to the people of Israel as a never-ending covenant..." Psalm 105:9-10 NLT



- How would you like to be remembered by your family generations after you are gone?

Like the other Psalms, Psalm 105 is a song of worship that was sung by Israel in their temple. The author is unknown.

Bible teacher, Warren Wiersbe, writes, "The psalm does not go beyond the conquest of Canaan (v.44) or mention the Davidic Dynasty, which suggests that it may have been written after the Babylonian exile, possibly by one of the Levites who returned to Judah with Jewish remnant. The psalmist saw the hand of God in the events of Jewish history, and this was the kind of encouragement the struggling remnant needed."

Legacy is pictured in 105:9-10 where God made a covenant with **Abraham**. He trusted and obeyed God. As a result, God blessed him which was passed on to his son **Isaac**. Isaac, like his father Abraham, trusted and obeyed God, and was also blessed by God. Next, the legacy was passed on to **Jacob**, who like his father and grandfather, trusted and obeyed God. Eventually, the legacy of covenant relationship and blessing was offered to **the nation of Israel**. Again, Warren Wiersbe comments, "In his sovereign grace, the Lord chose Abraham (vv. 6, 9, 42) and made his covenant with him (Gen 12:1-5; 15:9-21; Acts 7:1-8), a covenant that would apply to all of Abraham's physical descendants as well as to believers today as Abraham's spiritual children (Luke 1:68—79; Gal. 3:1-9, 29)."

Central Lesson:
Trusting and obeying God today is the first step to leaving a legacy of faith tomorrow.

1. The **WORSHIP** of God - the source of our strength (105:1-4).

"1 Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done. 2 Sing to him; yes, sing his praises. Tell everyone about his wonderful deeds. 3 Exult in his holy name; rejoice, you who worship the Lord. 4 Search for the Lord and for his strength; continually seek him."

The psalmist begins with an emphasis on worship. All the verbs are acts of worship—giving thanks, proclaiming God's greatness, singing praise to Him, telling everyone of His deeds, exulting His holy name, rejoicing, worshipping the Lord, and searching for the Lord. Worship changes the human heart. Worship strengthens us spiritually.

Being people who worship God enables us to leave an imprint on others around us. **Worshippers leave a legacy of faith.**

2. The **WORD** of God - the foundation of life (105:5-11).

"5 Remember the wonders he has performed, his miracles, and the rulings he has given, 6 you children of his servant Abraham, you descendants of Jacob, his chosen ones. 7 He is the Lord our God. His justice is seen throughout the land. 8 He always stands by his covenant—the commitment he made to a thousand generations. 9 This is the covenant he made with Abraham and the oath he swore to Isaac. 10 He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, and to the people of Israel as a never-ending covenant: 11 'I will give you the land of Canaan as your special possession.'"

When we read, study, discuss, etc., the Word of God, several spiritual dynamics take place in our hearts and lives. We remember God's goodness and past accomplishments (vs.5-6). We remember God's judgments and instructions (v.7). We are reminded of God's promises to all generations (vs.8-9). We are reminded of God's faithfulness (vs. 10-11).

When we make God's Word an essential part of our lives, we are changed, encouraged, and guided throughout life in a way that can leave an imprint on our children, grandchildren, and everyone we know. **Living by God's Word leaves a legacy of faith.**

3. **WINNING** - the battles of life by God's help (105:12-15, 16-45).

"12 He said this when they were few in number, a tiny group of strangers in Canaan. 13 They wandered from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another. 14 Yet he did not let anyone oppress them. He warned kings on their behalf: 15 'Do not touch my chosen people, and do not hurt my prophets.'"

In verses 16-45, the psalmist summarized three stories from Israel's past illustrating how God enables His people to win the battles of life when they trust Him, obey Him, and follow Him.

- (1) First, he summarized the story of **Joseph** and how God worked through his hardship to save multitudes and Joseph's own family from famine (vs.16-22).
- (2) Second, he also summarized the story of **Moses** being used by God to lead Israel out of Egypt by the plagues on Egypt (vs. 23-38).
- (3) Furthermore, he summarized the story of God's provision of **manna and quail** for Israel as they travel through the wilderness (vs. 39-41).

When we trust and obey God, He fights our battles for us. He enables us to win in life. Godly people win the battles of life and leave a legacy of faith to those who come after them. **Winners in the battles of life leave a legacy of faith.**

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Do you want to begin a legacy of faith that will influence and inspire others for generations to follow? Will you choose to trust and obey God today?

- ▶ Accept Christ as your Savior. ▶ As a Christian, dedicate your life to Christ.
- ▶ Invite someone to next Sunday's study. ▶ Attend a small group. ▶ Read the Bible this week & journal meaningful verses. ▶ Pray for friends that need Jesus.