

Psalm

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Date: 21 December 1997

Preacher: Hyde, Leslie S B (1916-2001)

- [0 : 0 0] December 1997, Sir H. George Corner. Let us now continue by singing hymn number 302, hymn 302, Tune King's College, number 716.
- If unto Jesus thou art bound, a crowd about him will be found attending day and night, a worldly crowd to din thy ears, and crowds of unbelieving fears to hide him from thy sight, hymn number 302.
- He, the firm true tree, so thou art bound, the ground above him will be found.
- God's hand in big and high, for thy ear closer in thy ears, that grounds of unbelieving fears, take high, they find thy sight.
- Yea, O Lord, the man, the rising crowd, O Lord, the world, the sun is entering, O Lord, the sun is falling, czy the spring ofision.
- [2 : 1 4] It goes by the sea that Dios is shaking, and the sun is falling, All you have PATTING To the soul of Christ All you will join Now you are You reign CHOIR SINGS
- O ye have found you in your proud lès he becomes, In the nations that brought me there, and found me there, and found the world.
- May it's the glory of the Lord, but such a Savior from the race, and be the ground to share the peace.
- God, I am here, and found me still. The glory of the Lord, and found me still.
- The glory of the Lord, and found me still.
- [5 : 1 1] The glory of the Lord, and found me still.
- O Father, here in the world we stand, O Lord, and found me still.
- The glory of the Lord, and found me still. The glory of the Lord, and found me still.
- The glory of the Lord, and found me still.
- The glory of the Lord, and found me still.
- [6 : 3 2] As the Lord may help, I would raise your attention to Psalm 89 and verse 15.
- Psalm 89 and verse 15. Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound.
- They shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance. Sometimes situations force themselves upon us, which make it very, very clear that in this world of sorrow, whatever aspect, whatever view we may take of it, there is everything to distress, and little, if anything, to give joy at all.
- There are surely many things that people call joy in the world, yet that joy is tinged with sorrow.
- And as soon as the moment of apparent pleasure has passed, they sink perhaps into despair.
- [8 : 1 9] I believe it is true to say. I believe it is true to say that some of those people, sad people they are, who occupation is to make the people laugh on the stage if they were to be seen.

At other times, in the seclusion of their own home, we should see that they were very depressed and very sad.

And it is not true that this can be so. You can perhaps remember, perhaps in former days with some of you, how or what you considered to be a wonderful night out, yet it soon lost its joy.

And you soon returned to the sad place of wanting something which you could not obtain.

But amongst all these situations, there are a few people whom God has chosen to salvation, who may certainly know all such experiences and be under depressions and be cast down by reason of the way.

[9 : 40] Yet, by a very mysterious working of God, they discover that they know a joyful sound.

I suppose it may be said that even in respect to natural things, there are bells of joy which are rung out sometimes on particular occasions, and they are a joyful sound.

There are times when perhaps people have been saved in a shipwreck and so on, and there has been a joyful sound as the life-bearing men have returned.

But all these things are only for this time. And therefore, they pass away quickly.

But there is a joyful sound which are known to a people that are blessed. It does not say here, blessed are God's people that know the joyful sound.

[10 : 54] Because it may be that with some, they would be reticent to make the claim that they were God's people at all. But it does say, blessed are the people that know the joyful sound.

So that if in the house of God today, you may hear the joyful sound of the gospel, you haven't got to denominate the point as to whether you are a child of God, your name is risen in heaven.

Valuable are these things, but there is something that has responded to the joyful sound of the everlasting gospel.

And the word says here, blessed is the people that know the joyful sound. So we may come down to this point to say and ask you as to whether you can say, I do know the joyful sound.

Now it would be a wonderful thing if you were very distressed and uncertain on many points relative to your soul's salvation.

[12 : 20] But you could come in with the blind man who said, one thing I know. He said that he could see.

But you may say, one thing I know. I know the joyful sound. Well, what a truth has been conveyed to you.

Do you know the joyful sound? The sound of Jesus Christ being able to save sinners even unto the uttermost.

And so, the word of God says here, blessed is the people that know the joyful sound. How are they blessed?

They are blessed obviously with the life of God in their souls. They are blessed with all the benefits of the new birth.

[13 : 32] Because without this, they could not possibly know the joyful sound. So whatever our feelings may be this morning, whether we are cast down with some doubts and fears and anxieties, and as we read in the scriptures, we cannot see our signs.

We do not look for many signs always, but look for one sign. And that one sign is, do we rejoice when we hear the gospel, when we hear the joyful sound?

We can recognize it. And you can recognize it anywhere. If the gospel is preached in church or chapel, then the joyful sound, if it is there, well, what a blessing belongs to you, if you can recognize it.

And if you should be, as it were, in the street, and some meetings that are held by some people in the streets, you listened, there was a joyful sound.

There was a power of the gospel. You recognize it. And you rejoice because of it. And so, we have here this great truth.

[14 : 58] Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound. Now, may God help me this morning to look at some of the people that do know the joyful sound.

And to make it clear to you that if you do on these accounts, then you are a blessed person.

Not everybody is concerned about hearing the joyful sound. But we read our various characters in the scriptures who are troubled.

Troubled. Have come to the house of God. God, could be one of you, are in this particular situation this morning, where your sins lay heavy on your soul.

And you've looked at them so much and so hard, that's all you can see. And as you come to the house of God, you do not expect to see anything else.

[16 : 18] You came with your sin. You expect to go away with your sin. Because your sin seems to be irremovable. Well, isn't it a joyful sound?

It will be a wonderful occasion if God just speak by his power. And the joyful sound is always accompanied by God's power, where he may say to you that your sins are forgiven.

Now you see dear friends, until that is sealed upon our hearts. And we are given a good hope through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that our sins are put away.

And then, what a joyful sound that is, when it comes to us. This is a faithful saying, worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world.

To be just an associate person in the world? Just a person that might find it comfortable living in the world? No, he came unto his own, and his own received him not.

[17 : 39] But to as many as received him, in other words, as many as heard the joyful sound, then he may recall sons and daughters of the Most High.

So then, the people, distressed, cast down, blinded by their own sins, what a joyful sound it will be, if through the preaching of the Gospel, they may look up in hope, and they may say, who can tell?

But God will speak wonderful words to me, and tell me, that thine as I am, without one plea, accept this, that I need thy salvation.

And I venture to say, that if this is so with you, you'll be listening. You'll be listening.

Hanging upon every word that the preacher might speak, or the chapter that might be read, the hymns that might be sung, or the prayers that might have been presented in your hearing, to see whether there will be any joyful sound.

[19 : 06] It is an experience of God's children, particularly in the early stages of the new life, the life of God in the soul, which will make them anxious.

If sin be put away, I am secure. Now, perhaps some of you might feel insecure.

But you can never be comfortable living in insecurity. Even in natural things, we desire to have things as secure as we can.

But blessed is the people that know the joyful sound that makes them secure, that makes them feel that they are secure, that makes them feel that Christ has cast a look on them, that makes them feel that Christ has a favour at them.

It may well be that your soul at times, as you come to the house of God, might be breathed forth in such a term as this, Lord, do not pass me by.

[20 : 34] Do not pass me by. And in other words, what are you really looking for, except to hear the joyful sound?

You see, there are many, many that might have been, would have been in the crowds and multitudes that followed the Lord Jesus Christ when he was here upon the earth.

There were a few that were not interested in the joyful sound. They were more interested in the loaves and the fishes and seeing the miracles.

But there were some, oh, there were some, that heard the joyful sound. And surely, on the day of Pentecost, this was an occasion when there were many that heard the joyful sound.

And they were those that felt condemned. Do we feel condemned? Concerning our sins.

[21 : 44] Well, in hymn 808, not even the longest hymn in our hymn book, I'm sorry, 802, there is this word of all, this first of all the end.

Sins against the holy God, sins against his righteous laws, sins against his love, his blood, sins against his name and cause, sins immense as is the sea.

Hide me, O Gethsemane, here's my claim, and here alone none of Saviour more can need.

These of righteousness I've none, no, not one good work to plead, not a glimpse of hope for me, only in Gethsemane.

You've heard the name of Gethsemane a good many times, I expect. And perhaps you've thought about the agonies of the Lord in Gethsemane and had your, and put your mental idea upon it, which of course is far removed from the truth.

[23 : 01] But now, now, this Mr. Hart in this hymn, he points out that Gethsemane means much more than a political place.

A place which is named on the map. Yes, it is a place where hope springs up, where the poor sinner has nothing at all, absolutely bereft of everything, all hope that we should be saved, just disappeared.

And it is such an experience that people, the people of God have sometimes, and not always, and only in the early stages.

we can quickly be greatly depressed, and Satan may come in like a flood, and be the enemy that comes in like a flood, and fills us with such confusion, that we wonder where we are.

But they are, but Mr. Hart goes on, Saviour, all the stone removed, from my faintly frozen heart, thaw it with the beams of love, pierce it with the blood-dipped dart, wound the heart, wound the heart, that wounded thee, melted in Gethsemane.

[24 : 39] Then it becomes the last verse. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, my almighty God of love, heaven by all the heavenly host, in thy shining courts above, we poor sinners, gracious three, that is the Trinity, bless thee, for Gethsemane.

And from that, scene of sadness, and a Saviour that is suffering so much, in a strange way, it becomes a joyful sound, to sinners in distress.

Suddenly, their eyes by the Spirit of God are fixed, upon this matterous scene, of grace. It is Jesus, in a sinner's place.

Now, what does that, how does that affect you? Are you amongst the people, that know the joyful sound?

Have you been in distress? Have you been in distress? Unexpectedly perhaps? Do you recently? Might have been this morning.

[25 : 59] Or, with a sign, confused. And seem to be far removed, from everything that's good. And you'll come to the house of God, with this on your lips, in your heart, is there a joyful sound?

In all this misery that I seem to be, uh, uh, weltering in at the moment, is there a joyful sound? Now, some people, you know, uh, know what this is.

They've come, and they've heard a joyful sound. And the joyful sound must necessarily, point, as to the Lord Jesus Christ.

And to think upon, uh, the scene, at Calvary. The joyful sound. Are thy sins beyond recounting, like the, the, uh, sand the ocean leaves?

He of life is the fountain. He unto the utmost saves. So then, a joyful sound. A joyful sound, is something that, uh, is, uh, responsive to something else, but it comes suddenly.

[27 : 24] Suddenly. Do not think that the real things in religion are gradual build-up. It could be, that there's a building down, when you feel more deeply, and yet more deeply, your sin.

But when the sound comes, the joyful sound, which produces hope, which produces, uh, the exercise of faith, suddenly is speaking up in your hearts.

It's a joyful sound. It's a joyful sound. We might go to think of, uh, the shepherds, that, uh, were in the fields, when, uh, the Lord Jesus was born, uh, at Bethlehem.

And, uh, you see, uh, what an effect, it had upon them. Uh, an effect of worth, uh, following, uh, in, and desiring to be, uh, the matter, the same, in our own cases.

And there were, in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord, came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

[28 : 48] And the angel said unto them, fear not, for I bring you, good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

And it was a joyful sound. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you, ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

If we are amongst a situation, which seems to be best described, as being far removed from peace.

What a wonderful experience will be ours, if we hear this joyful sound.

[30 : 03] Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And this is one of the effects, that will prove that you have a quickened spirit, and that you know the joyful sound, because a quickened spirit will always be seeking after peace.

Peace. And it will be a wonderful joy, wonderful sound, if you hear peace, because the word of God says, there is no peace, saith my God to the wicked.

No peace. And if any of you might be deeply distressed, that you cannot find any peace, and you number yourselves down amongst the wicked, because the word of God says, there is no peace.

And if any of you might be deeply distressed, that you cannot find any peace, and you number yourselves down amongst the wicked, because the word of God says, they find no peace.

And therefore, perhaps you go so far as to look on the backside and say, well, that settles it. I am amongst the wicked. Now, what a joyful sound that will be to you, when you hear something that speaks to you of peace.

[31 : 21] And suddenly there was where the angel, a multitude of heavenly hosts, saying, peace, good will toward men.

Now, this had an effect upon these shepherds. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said, one to another, let us now go unto Bethlehem.

The joyful sound stirred them. And whatever other point you may consider, as so necessary if you are going to be numbered amongst the children of God, yet here is a point that stirred them.

They heard the joyful sound. And therefore they said, now, not tomorrow, but now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord made known unto us.

And it was a joyful sound. And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in the manger. Well, wonderful.

[32 : 41] If we should find even in this particular season of the year, the joyful sound. A joyful sound which sounds aloud from Calvary.

And if we go to the other end of the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, we shall find some of the things that escaped the ellipses of the Lord Jesus Christ, just before he gave up the ghost.

And the two of them are well worth our remembering. First of all, he said, Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.

Father, forgive them for they know not what they do. I have often thought that many of our sins are committed and we do not know what we are really doing.

We may have, be having or making a bad effect on another person. We may think it is a good word of encouragement.

[34 : 09] It could be a word of discouragement. We know, and that's just one example. They know not what they do.

Now, what great sinners we are. And we will recognize this joyful sound if we already come to the conclusion that we didn't know what we did.

We didn't know how we had no idea of sin or the consequences of sin, far reaching though they may be, be it the other people.

But God knew. And he looked down from the cross in his whilst he was in his agonist. He looked at the people as he looked at you and said, Father, forgive them, forgive them.

And what a joyful sound. Forgiveness. It is a joyful sound to malefactors doomed to die. So then it is a joyful sound.

[35 : 17] That here is one that understands. You know, one of the outstanding features that contrasts with everyone else is that he understands.

Jesus always understands. Do you hear that joyful sound? I understand. I understand. And I believe there are experiences with God's people where he seems to speak to them just in those words, or at least in the thoughts of them.

I understand. If we are in spiritual distress, who can understand? Who can get back and get beneath the surface?

You see, I have often thought myself, when people say, as they do sometimes, I know how you feel. Now that is not possible.

We may say so. But people have said that to me, and they have not known what I felt at all. And particularly, how can they feel the angers and distressing moments of our poor, angry bosom, troubled by reason of the things that are felt in their souls.

[36 : 49] Feel. They know not what they do. And sometimes, it is a matter of, oh, this consideration is so distressing.

You've done something. You've said something. You can't undo it. You can't say, well, I didn't do it. You can't say, I didn't say it.

Now, it would be a wonderful word. A joyful word, surely, if the Lord should say, as your intercessor, your savior, they know not what they do.

My father, forgive them. Their father, forgive them. Oh, they're so helpless. And so, unaware of the workings of sin in their members.

What a wonderful thing then. If distressed as you may be, standing by the cross at Calvary, you hear these words.

[37 : 58] By faith, conveyed by the power of the Spirit of God into your heart. Father, forgive them. For they know not what they do.

You're not likely to get that kind of sympathy from human beings, are you? They're more likely to criticize you and load you with feather kilts, if they could.

But no, here is a joyful sound. And is it so that any of you have been just in this spot this morning?

Of course, I cannot tell because I do not know. It is an individual experience. But do you know the joyful sound in a gracious experience?

But there's another word, to which I would direct your attention, and that is the final words. It is finished.

[39 : 07] Is it a joyful sound? What is finished? What is finished? All the ceremonial law.

That's finished. The bulls and the goats and the lambs, what was slain.

There was a remembrance of sin every year. They could not take away sin. But this man, after his suffer once, sat down at the right hand of God, there to intercede for his people still.

The people that know the joyful sound. But the word of God tells us that they are blessed. Satan can often distract us by saying, well, there are several things that you have got to decide first.

And he will say, are you an elect person? Because if you are not, there is no use saying you have heard the joyful sound because you haven't. Do you know anything about this experience or that experience?

[40 : 25] Because if you haven't, well, you are not one of the people of God clearly. But here is a point which Satan cannot cast out.

The joyful sound is affected my heart. It might as even maybe leap for joy. Leap for joy. Perhaps some of you have read John Warburton's Mercies.

And in that book he recounts his own personal experience. And I would judge that he was quite an emotional man. And on one occasion the Lord spoke to him.

And filled his heart with joy. And he was in the country at the time and he went into a field. And he danced up and down and sang to the Lord praises.

Praises for the blessing that he had enjoyed from God himself. Now, then, what is it that followed?

[41 : 35] Well, Satan came to him. And he said, I did that. I did that. Oh! Is Satan going to give you a joyful sound that will bring you hope of salvation?

John Warburton, in the wisdom that was given to him, he said, Right. If you did it, Satan, you do it again. And of course he couldn't.

And if you should be tempted by Satan himself that your joy was the result of the devil's work, you do it again.

Now, this spiritual joy, which is known to God's people and only to God's people, is something which cannot be counterfeited.

Many things are counterfeited in life. Many things. And of course, in this, the charismatic movements that we hear so much about from time to time, well, it's all joy.

[42 : 49] But it's the work of the devil. And if it's the work of the devil, then that part he can repeat. But the joy that brings salvation, the joy that brings peace.

And this is the point. The joy that brings peace. Peace, by his cross, hath Jesus made the church's everlasting head.

And this is something which I can only mention to you, but which you will know if God visits your soul with his salvation.

If he says peace. It will be peace. And you will remember the legacy that the Lord left and he refers to it in the 14th chapter of John.

When he says, Peace. My peace. My peace. My peace. My peace. My peace. I give unto you. My peace I give unto you.

[43 : 55] Not as the world giveth. Give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled. Neither let it be afraid.

Peace. God's peace. God's peace is a lasting peace. And even if the power of it seems to go from you, it will be a peace that is inscribed upon your heart.

It will be a joyful occasion. And real joyful occasions are those that are remembered. Now, are you the people?

Now, let us look at this word. Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound. It doesn't say anything else about they're blessed on this one point.

They know the joyful sound. There's no reference to their being the people of God. There's no reference to even their names being written in heaven.

[45 : 18] There's no reference to their being numbered amongst the elect. But there is this thing. That they know the joyful sound. And you see, the shepherds, when they heard the joyful sound, they said, Let us go now.

And see this great thing that has brought to us a joyful sound. A joyful sound. Jesus contracted to a span.

And yet, his shoulders all held up heaven and earth while Mary held up him. And to these shepherds, it was a joyful sound.

It was not a joyful sound only to their outward ears. But it was a joyful sound to their inward ears. And it affected their whole being.

Do we know anything about the joyful sound? If you do. And you may not be able to describe it.

[46 : 31] But if you do know, because you have felt that the Lord is your Saviour. Yes, you have felt it's been such a wonderful word.

This is a faithful sound. That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

It was a sermon preached from that text that compelled me to come and make application to be baptized.

It wasn't any relation to baptism at all. But it was because of a joyful sound. And then, it was a joyful sound.

If I might just mention another case in my own experience. It was a joyful sound when the servant of God gave out his text from the 35th of Isaiah.

[47 : 34] And these are the words. Say to them that I are a fearful heart, be strong. Behold, your God will come with vengeance.

Even God will recompense. He will come. And I can hear the force of it now. And save you. It was a joyful sound to me that night.

A joyful sound. I believe it was the first time I ever heard of God. I ever heard a joyful sound through the preaching of the gospel.

But it was a joyful sound. And though I could not at that time go into all the kind of supporting theories of what the people of God pass through.

And how they have the witness of the Lord in their own souls. And that they are chosen of God and so on. There was one thing that was a joyful sound to me.

[48 : 36] He will come and save you. Now I don't suppose a pastor at that time realized that he had put such an emphasis on this word you.

But it did to me. And God put that word of emphasis upon that word you. Oh what a joyful sound that was. Ah there was nothing.

I could say that well of course I am one of the children of God. No. This was at the very beginning. Blessed are the people that know the joyful sound.

He will come and save you. So there is hope. So there is hope. So there is hope. When that will be worked out. And the blessing of salvation will be sealed in your soul.

It is in God's hands. But God has said he will come and save you. And he will save you from your sins. Whatever they are. And what's more he will save you from yourself.

[49 : 41] And he will save you from trusting in yourself. My hope. My only hope is in thee. Oh God be merciful to me.

And why did the hymn writer say that? Surely it was a result of the person being blessed. And they heard the joyful sound.

We will go even to Bethlehem. Now where the people of Nineveh. You see it was a joyful sound. That was preached by Jonah.

We have the full sermon obviously. The fact that Jonah went through and said yet forty days in Nineveh shall be overthrown. Surely it wasn't a joyful sound at all.

But there must have been something else in Jonah's sermon. That gave them hope. And they said who can tell. Who can tell.

[50 : 46] That God will turn and be gracious unto us. And they were obviously affected because they put on sackcloth and ashes.

And they were also affected by the people of Nineveh. So the law so to speak went home. But the law condemns.

is there any possibility with that holy law and with that law which doesn't move it doesn't move and if I make one small slip whoso is guilty in one point is guilty of all there's no joyful sound here but there is if their eyes so to speak are removed from the terrors of the law to the sweetness and fullness of graspable truth though a sinner near despair nevertheless here is the great truth the joyful sound hope hope God is faithful hope the eternal God is thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms when you're sinking that in itself will be a joyful sound when I lower and lower

I every day fell he stretched forth his power and snatched me from hell are you blessed are you blessed are you blessed you may not say or fear to say I am amongst the children of God but are you blessed which you are if you've heard the joyful sound and if you've heard the joyful sound one of the results must be that you will hope in God hope in God hope in God keep on hoping in God looking for the time when that which has been spoken will be performed in your own soul we have those words you know in the prophecy of Habakkuk which are remarkable third chapter a prayer of Habakkuk the prophet and upon

Seigneur O Lord I have heard thy speech and was afraid O Lord revive thy work in the midst of the years in the midst of the years make known in wrath remember mercy mercy and as we read elsewhere in the previous verse I will stand upon my previous chapter I will stand upon my watch and set me upon the tower and will watch to see what he will say unto me notice what follows and what I shall answer when I am reproved and the Lord answered me and said write the vision and make it plain upon tables that he may run that readeth it for the vision is yet for an appointed time but at the end it shall speak and not lie though it tarry wait for it because it will surely come it will not tarry tarry is leisure then wait the appointed hour wait till the right room of your soul reveal his love with power blessed is the people that know the joyful sound and you may look forward to God's working

[54 : 59] God's appearing and God's blessing and in the end landing you safe above for a long eternity to spend in seeing God is love Amen Let us close by singing hymn number 788 hymn 788 in Syria number 520 Come ye humble sinner train souls for whom the lamb was slain cheerful let us raise our voice we have reason to rejoice let us sing with saints in heaven life restored and sin forgiven glory and eternal

Lord be to our incarnate God hymn number 788 come ye humble save us pray souls for whom that glory let us Mo■e■■■■ say painful let us pray our peace may our reason to rejoice let us in heaven Praise Jesus, Lord.

In Christ's heart Now look up with faith and sing And let them know you and me Siddeth on His glorious hand In Christ's healing for His hand Oh, that Jesus has to hear When they tell the Savior well

And let them know you and me Glory, selfless, God, and grace.

For the heaven that may be said, For we hope for troubles in As the way indeed is God May we keep the constant God Highly chorg ■ekal God within The Lord obeys his turn

[59 : 56] All of us who Gang doth Jesus Christ in you, he will bring us in his birth.

And now, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's love, the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit, be with us now and ever. Amen.