v1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. v2 Let Israel say: "His love endures forever." v3 Let the house of Aaron say: "His love endures forever." v4 Let those who fear the LORD say: "His love endures forever." v5 In my anguish I cried to the LORD, and he answered by setting me free. v6 The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? v7 The LORD is with me; he is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies. v8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. v9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes. v10 All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the LORD I cut them off. v11 They surrounded me on every side, but in the name of the LORD I cut them off. v12 They swarmed around me like bees, but they died out as quickly as burning thorns; in the name of the LORD I cut them off. v13 I was pushed back and about to fall, but the LORD helped me. v14 The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. v15 Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: "The LORD's right hand has done mighty things! v16 The LORD's right hand is lifted high; the LORD's right hand has done mighty things!" v17 I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done. v18 The LORD has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death. v19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD. v20 This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter. v21 I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. v22 The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; v23 the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. v24 This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. v25 O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success. v26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. v27 The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine upon us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. v28 You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. v29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. **Psalm 118:1-29**

WHEN A PERSON IS SOLD OUT FOR JESUS!!!

Psalms 113-118 are known as the "*Hallel Psalms*". The word "*Hallel*" simply means "*To Praise*." This group of Psalms were sung throughout the year as part of the Jewish worship ritual. However, they took on special significance at Passover, since they reflected back to the Lord's deliverance of the children of Israel from bandage in Egypt. I think we can correctly assume that Jesus and His disciples sang these Psalms when they celebrated Passover just before Jesus went to the cross. Part of this Psalm appears in the book of Ezra, and so we know that it was an integral part of the songs of worship at the Temple.

WHEN A PERSON IS SOLD OUT FOR JESUS

1 **Then PRAISE is never far from their LIPS.** v1-5

v1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. v2 Let Israel say: "His love endures forever." v3 Let the house of Aaron say: "His love endures forever." v4 Let those who fear the LORD say: "His love endures forever." v5 In my anguish I cried to the LORD, and he answered by setting me free.

EVEN IN TIMES OF ANGUISH - The Heb word means "A tight place".

WHEN A PERSON IS SOLD OUT FOR JESUS 2 **Then PEACE is never far from their HEARTS.** v6-9

v6 The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? v7 The LORD is with me; he is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies. v8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. v9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

WHAT CAN MAN DO TO ME?

Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, **for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go**."

Jeremiah 1:8 **Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you**," declares the LORD.

WHEN A PERSON IS SOLD OUT FOR JESUS3Then TRUST is never far from their ATTITUDE. v10-16

v10 All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the LORD I cut them off. v11 They surrounded me on every side, but in the name of the LORD I cut them off. v12 They swarmed around me like bees, but they died out as quickly as burning thorns; in the name of the LORD I cut them off. v13 I was pushed back and about to fall, but the LORD helped me. v14 The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. v15 Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: "The LORD's right hand has done mighty things! v16 The LORD's right hand is lifted high; the LORD's right hand has done mighty things!"

"in the name of the LORD I cut them off" = **CIRCUMCISION** - He trusts God to turn his enemies into his friends.

"The LORD's right hand has done mighty things" = **JESUS** - Who sits at the "RIGHT HAND" of the Father interceding forus.

WHEN A PERSON IS SOLD OUT FOR JESUS 4 Then SURRENDER is never far from their ACTION. v17-18

v17 I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done. v18 The LORD has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death.

How many of us were angry with our parents when they punished us but are now grateful for the moral fibre they instilled in us as we grew up.

The same is true for the punishment and chastisement that God sends our way.

WHEN A PERSON IS SOLD OUT FOR JESUS

5 **Then DEPENDENCE is never far from their HUMILITY.** v19-21

v19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD. v20 This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter. v21 I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.

The true Christian always acknowledges that their salvations IS WHOLLY the work of GOD ALONE.

Romans 3:10-12 v10 As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; v11 there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. v12 All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Romans 7:18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

v21 you have become my salvation.

WHEN A PERSON IS SOLD OUT FOR JESUS6Then POINTING TO HIM is never far from their FINGERS. v22-27

v22 The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; v23 the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. v24 This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. v25 O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success.

Prophesy about Jesus is central to the TRUTH (veracity) about HIM:

Matthew 21:42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? Mark 12:10 Haven't you read this scripture: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;

Luke 20:17 esus looked directly at them and asked, "Then what is the meaning of that which is written: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone'?

Acts 4:11 He is " 'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.

1 Peter 2:7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,

v26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. v27 The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine upon us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar.

Matthew 21:9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!""Hosanna in the highest!" Matthew 23:39 For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.""

Mark 11:9 Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna! "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Luke 13:35 Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

John 12:13 They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!""Blessed is the King of Israel!"

WHEN A PERSON IS SOLD OUT FOR JESUS

7 Then IDENTIFYING WITH JESUS is never far from their CRY. v28-29

v28 You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. v29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

HOW MANY ARE HAPPY TO SAY?

You are my God

CONCLUSION

HOW EXCITED ABOUT JESUS ARE YOU? DO PEOPLE KNOW YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN?

Here is the TEST?

If you were to die today, would anybody know the difference?