

**=Story Behind the Psalm=
Psalms 118**

NOTE: *These lessons are designed simply as a guideline. As a Sunday School teacher part of your job is to study the lesson and develop it for the pupils in your class according to their age and spiritual development.*

Scripture Reference: Psalm 118

PSALM 118

AUTHOR: Unknown

The Story Behind the Psalm

This is an antiphonal Psalm, which means it was sung responsively by two groups of singers. It was used by a divided choir. It was sometimes used by a divided congregation, and at other times it was used as responsive singing between the congregation and the choir. It was written for this specific purpose.

The Way It Was Used by God's People

Obviously it was used mainly for public worship, though it could be used by a large family divided into two groups.

Lesson:

1. Notice the first and last verse.

In this psalm the first and last verse was probably the chorus but notice the words. "O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever." I just want to give a mention that a lot of the psalms and songs that they sung in the past were thanking God for who, what, and how God is.

2. The Lord is on my side.

WOW, what a statement, yes the Lord is on our side, especially if we're in the will of God. It's amazing that whenever we have a trial of any sort, we can always turn to God and ask for his help.

"I must tell Jesus, all of my trials; I cannot bear these burdens alone;

In my distress he kindly will help me; He ever loves and cares for His own

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!

I cannot bear my burdens alone;

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus! Jesus can help me, Jesus alone.

3. Dissect this psalm.

1. His mercy endureth forever verse 1-5

2. Put your trust in Him verse 6-9

3. enemies will compass you (surround) verse 10-14

4. The right hand of God Verse 15-18 (by the way, verse 18 was a prophecy of the coming Christ)

5. He our Gate. Verse 19-23

6. He is my God Verse 24-29

Memory Verse: *O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever.
Psalm 118:1*