PRAYING PSALM 106

"Seek the Lord and His strength; Seek His face evermore" (Psalm 196:4)!

Psalm 106 and Psalm 105 are a pair. One tells how God treated Israel; one tells how Israel treated God. One reveals God's faithfulness; one reveals Israel's unfaithfulness. One shows divine favor; one shows human failure. 1. INTRODUCTORY PRAYER. Blessing of God's mercy (1). Blessing of God's acts (2). Blessing of God's judgments (3). Blessing of salvation (4). Blessing of gladness (5). Tragedy of sin (6). 2. FOUR HISTORICAL DIVISIONS. In Egypt (7-12). In the Wilderness (13-33). In the Land (34-36). In the time of Judges (37-48). 3. LAMENTATION OVER ISRAEL'S SINS. Unbelief (7-12). Discontent (13-15). Envy (16-18). Idolatry (19-22). Rebellion (23-25). Lust (26-29). Murmuring (30-33). Disobedience (34-39). Provocation (40-48). 4. APPLICATION. Six of these charges of sin were in the wilderness. Egypt is a type of the world under the rule of Satan. The Passover and the Red Sea speak of redemption by blood and power. Wilderness wanderings represent the state of people who are delivered but walk in the flesh, not in the Spirit. The land experience is a recognition that in Christ's death, we died, and in His resurrection we were raised to newness of life (read 3-36).

The New Testament speaks of these experiences as natural, carnal, and spiritual (I Corinthians 3:1-3). So far as Christians are concerned: Sin dominates in the wilderness wanderings, i.e., the carnal state. But God says, "Sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace (Romans 6:14). You can either trust in God's strength when you pray or tout your own when you don't pray. You can either celebrate Divine favor in prayer or bemoan your own human failure when you fail to pray. The way to move from the carnal to the spiritual is to pray and obey. Prayer acknowledges God's blessings and rejoices in the Spirit. Failure to pray leads to carnality and laments the power of the flesh. Psalm 106 and 105 offer you choices. You decide which it will be.