

ABUNDANT

A man once went out to stand in the rain. There he looked up and told it to stop. He built dams and canals to control the deluge when it didn't. He toiled and worked in a slicker suit under an awning and umbrella, yet he was still soaked to the bone. The water seeped into his home and filled his yard. He installed gutters and dug ditches to divert the water away. He prayed fervently that the rain would stop. But, despite protest, the rain continued.

Rain from the heavens is a most peculiar thing. It might not pour for days, weeks, or years. Yet, when it comes, man is powerless to stop it. Moreover, he is also unable to truly manage it. In vast quantities, that rain destroys obstacles. Likewise, its power can carve and transform the earth and move the most obstinate gigantic boulder. Or, it can slowly drip for years, changing the identity of a simple stone.

Psalm 5:7

But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love,
will enter your house.
I will bow down toward your holy temple
in the fear of you

God's hesed (steadfast love) is no different. It can be ignored and opposed (Psalm 49:6, 52:7, 106:7). Attempts can be made to manage it. Yet, hesed's flow and power cannot be controlled. Scripture speaks of it repeatedly. Story after story reminds humanity of how the Lord showers and pours his love. Despite the darkness's attempts to stop its arrival, he was powerless to hold back the floodgates of heaven. Jesus said: *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly* (John 10:10).

The reality of God's abundant love is the foundation of our worship. Recognizing and immersing ourselves in it becomes the accelerant for our praise of the Lord.

Psalm 145:1-7

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.
One generation shall commend your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.
They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

Have you allowed the abundance of God's steadfast love to transform your life? If so, worship today. Worship every day!

Peace,
Ryan