

**Psalm 33**, By James Moriello, Firm Foundation Christian Church, Woonsocket RI, 2017

1. Introduction
  - a. No title or authorship ascribed to it, it is surely of divine origin
  - b. Note similarities to Psalm 19, possibly of David
  - c. Thompson’s entitles it: “The Sovereignty of the Lord in Creation and History”
2. 33:1-3
  - a. Let us do on earth as is done in heaven, and experience heaven on earth!
  - b. Praise is only beautiful “from the upright”
    - i. Not from pretenders, hypocrites, and men-pleasers
    - ii. First be upright, then praise (1 John 1:9; Matthew 5:23-24)
    - iii. Divine disgust with those who play worship (cf. Isaiah Chapter One)
  - c. Use of musical instruments good, use of the human voice better (Cf. Psalms 149-150)
  - d. “a new song,” fresh worship, not monotonous and unfeeling
  - e. Not necessarily new in terms of contemporary (Ephesians 5:19), but always new in the way they bear on our lives
    - i. “Psalms,” the very words of God
    - ii. “Hymns,” deep theological songs
    - iii. “Spiritual Songs,” songs of biblical application, exhortation, and encouragement
  - f. 33:3, end of verse, the only instrument fashioned by God is the human voice, therefore it excels all other man made instruments
  - g. Conclusion: music ministry should consist of content driven congregational singing, with musical accompaniment
3. 33:4-5
  - a. God’s Word the standard of right and wrong (Cf. Psalm 119)
  - b. God’s work always done consistent with His Word
  - c. Apply: We judge whether something is truly a work of God by the Word of God (John 7:24).
  - d. Attributes of God, in which Christians rejoice (righteousness, justice, goodness)
    - i. Goodness, Cf. Psalm 19:1, scientists uniquely blessed to see specially through their fields of study
4. 33:6-9
  - a. Cf. Genesis 1:1-3; John 1:1-3
  - b. “breath,” or wind, or Spirit (Cf. Genesis 1:2), Triune God in creation
  - c. Creation controlled by and natural laws ordained by God
5. 33:10-11
  - a. God’s immutable counsel and will
  - b. God’s sovereignty over all things
  - c. God’s providence, election, and predestination (Romans 9)
    - i. Of nations, Daniel 4:17,34-35

- ii. Of individuals, Romans 8:29-30
  - d. Open theology is false theology, because it denies God’s omniscience, immutable counsel, and providence
- 6. 33:12
  - a. For Israel, but applies to USA as a client nation, “God Bless America” (Deut. 28:1-2,15)
  - b. Constitution and Jurisprudence informed by Bible Law and Scripture
  - c. “He has chosen,” again, the sovereign will (Exodus 19:5-6; 1 Peter 2:9-10)
  - d. “His own inheritance,” believers as God’s delight, involves a death (Hebrews 9:11-17)
- 7. 33:13-15
  - a. God’s omnipresence, cannot put one over on the Searcher of men
  - b. “He fashions their hearts”
    - i. Prayer—God, fashion my heart, godliness always in vogue for the Christian, but always out of style and trend in the world, Ezekiel 36:25-26
    - ii. We like God’s righteousness and justice well enough until it comes to them being applied to us! (To understand this is Christian maturity.)
    - iii. God deals with all, but also with each of us individually
    - iv. Sin is a spiritual (treatable by Christ) polyp, leading to (spiritual)cancer, leading to (spiritual) death (if left untreated), Romans 6:23, Isaiah 59:4-5
- 8. 33:16-17
  - a. Hoping in vain, human power impotent when it is a foe to God
  - b. Judges 7:2-8, the lesson taught
- 9. 33:18-22
  - a. Hoping in God
  - b. “eye of the Lord” on us for our good and safety, believers objects of His love
    - i. Apple of God’s eye, Deuteronomy 32:10; Psalm 17:8; Zechariah 2:8
  - c. Divine preservation of those who trust in God, waiting for God
  - d. Eternal perspective enjoined, understanding that God’s timetable is best
    - i. Illustrated by a puzzle, in which God sees the puzzle completed , all 1000 pieces together (the box cover), but we do not have the box (but only loose pieces in a bag), let us not force the pieces or accuse the manufacturer of defective puzzle
- 10. Concluding Applications to Prayer
  - a. 33:1-3, the approach to God
  - b. 33:4-5, consistent with God’s revealed will, ergo the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6
  - c. 33:6-15, with a view to divine sovereignty, purpose, and plan
  - d. 33:16-22, and with unconditional trust, which comes from being sure of God’s love for you, and the security of your salvation