

Praying the gospel: Psalm 103v4

- ¹ Praise the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- ² Praise the Lord, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

v4: [who] crowns you with love and compassion,

In Christ we become the ultimate rags to riches story. You know those fairy tales where a prince leaves the castle and swaps places with a street urchin plucked from the gutter...

Well that my brothers and sisters is no fairy tale. In Christ it is the true story of our lives. And we need to preach this to our souls until we really believe it!

Jesus Christ, the prince of heaven, left his throne of glory and the unfathomable riches that were all his by divine right to come down to earth to swap places with you.

He found you in the gutter. He sought you out in the miserable pit of your sin, and he rescued you. On the cross he swapped his royal clothes and crown for your filthy rags.

You are now a prince (or princess) in the royal household. God the Father has signed all the papers. You are a co-heir with Christ of the unfathomable riches of heaven.

God's steadfast love for you is secure. He has proven it on the cross.

And God's love for you is compassionate. He sees your needs. He knows your frailties. He comes towards you today. He is always seeking your good.

Prayer:

Lord God, I praise you that in Christ you have brought me up from the pit and crowned me with your unfailing love and compassion. Help me today to know that you are always for me, to remember that whatever happens to me I am loved and precious to you because of your perfect son, my beautiful saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen

