

PSALM 148 – Pure Praise! Praise to the LORD from Creation!

2/12/22 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

TO GOD BE THE GLORY – Graham Choir – (2:26)

1 To God be the glory, great things He has done; So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, Who yielded His life an atonement for sin, And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

2 Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; But purer, and higher, and greater will be Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

The Psalms are devoted in a great part to praising the Lord. They are songs of praise. The Psalms of course were the Hebrew hymnal. These were written to be sung. These are the lyrics of the songs. We do not know the melodies. But they were written to be sung. A great part of them are devoted to praising God. Many of them are devoted to exhorting people to praise God. It is quite fitting that the last of the Psalms, **beginning with 146, all begin and end with the Hebrew word, hallelujah, which means, “Praise the Lord”**. These are Psalms in which we are exhorted to man’s highest capacity and that is that capacity to praise the Lord. Man comes to the ultimate of his life experiences when he devotes himself to praise unto God. Thus, the exhortations here at the end of the Psalms. **These last Psalms are really devoted to the exhorting of the people to praise the Lord.**

PSALM 148 – Pure Praise - Praise to the LORD from Creation

Verses 1-6 – descending; 7 ascending

Psa 148:1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights!

Psa 148:2 Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts!

- The beginning with a hallelujah. Then, *Praise the LORD from the heavens*. The Psalmist, first of all, is going to call, really, pretty much the whole universe into praise. He begins with the highest order of created beings, the angels. Those in the heavens.
- *Praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels’ Praise Him, all His hosts!* These are the heavenly hosts. Now just who they are and what they are, will remain for us a mystery until we are there. But just the various of hosts of heaven that God has created. We know that angels are in various orders or ranks. There are the cherubim. There are the seraphim. There are the great and mighty angels. They are divided into ranks of principalities of powers and might and thrones and dominions. No doubt, it is a reference to the various orders. Thus, the exhortation for the hosts of heaven to praise God.

Psa 148:3 Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all you stars of light!

- Still dealing with the heavens, the sun, the moon, all the stars of light, praise the Lord!

Psa 148:4 Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, And you waters above the heavens!

- This is probably a reference to the universe as such. The Bible speaks of three heavens. There is **that heaven**, which is the atmosphere around the earth. As God created the birds that fly through the heavens, the atmosphere around the earth. The **second heaven** is your celestial heaven, the stars, the moon, the planets and so forth—in the heavens. We look up into the heavens at night. The **third heaven** is the place of God's dwelling, wherever that may be.
- Paul the apostle, in writing to the Corinthians, said, **(2Co 12:2-4) I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. [3] And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— [4] how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.** Maybe I had an out of the body experience, but I was caught up into the third heaven. And there I heard things that we so amazing, so remarkable, that it would be a crime to try and describe them in human language—the glory, the

wonder, the awe, of the dwelling place of God! It is so awesome that man hasn't language that can communicate these truths. There are not words that can describe them, so there is no way to communicate.

- The hosts of heavens are called upon to praise the Lord. Then the heaven of heaven, the very dwelling place of God.
- *And you waters above the heavens!* This probably is a reference to the heaven, the atmosphere around the earth, referring probably to the clouds that are carrying the water.

Psa 148:5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, For He commanded and they were created.

- They exist at the Word of God. God said, let there be light and there was light! God commanded and they were brought into existence by what they call the divine fiat, or by the divine word of God. He spoke the universe into existence.

Psa 148:6 He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away.

- Now, having called on the heavens, he turns now to the earth and calls upon the earth and those that dwell upon the earth to praise the Lord. Starting basically with inanimate objects and then working to animate objects and ultimately unto man.

Psa 148:7 Praise the LORD from the earth, You great sea creatures and all the depths;

- So, *Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures, (sea monsters) and all the depths:* All of those creatures that dwell in the depths of the sea.

Psa 148:8 Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy wind, fulfilling His word;

Psa 148:9 Mountains and all hills; Fruitful trees and all cedars;

Psa 148:10 Beasts and all cattle; Creeping things and flying fowl;

- He is calling on them to praise the Lord!

Psa 148:11 Kings of the earth and all peoples; Princes and all judges of the earth;

Psa 148:12 Both young men and maidens; Old men and children

- He does not leave anybody out!

Psa 148:13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, For His name alone is exalted; His glory is above the earth and heaven.

- We are to praise the name of the Lord. That name, Yahweh, or Jehovah, whatever the pronunciation maybe, probably Yahweh.
- All through the Bible there is great reverence given to the name of God. Now God is not His name and do not get confused. The Bible speaks of many gods. The gods of the heathen are many, but the Bible speaks of the true and the living God. It speaks of Him by name.
- Now, there were names for the gods. There was Mammon. There was Molech. There was Ashtoreth. There was Apollo. There was Zeus. There was Jupiter. They had all of these gods. Gods named after the planets. Gods named after the constellations.
- But there was one true and living God. His name was Yahweh. His name was held in extremely high reverence. So much so that they would not write the name of God in text. First, they would just put the consonants so that you could not pronounce it. Then they even ceased doing that. They would just leave it blank. And even today in the Hebrew papers, they will not even write God. But they will write G--, so you will know what they are talking about. But the reverence that they held for the name of God. Here, let them praise the name of Yahweh! For His name alone is exalted! His glory is above the earth in the heavens!

Psa 148:14 And He has exalted the horn (power) of His people, The praise of all His saints—Of the children of Israel, A people near to Him. Praise the LORD!

- Again, the exhortations. Now Psalm 149 was probably written during the time of Nehemiah. After they had returned from the Babylonian captivity, and they were going through those difficult times of rebuilding the wall and rebuilding Jerusalem and rebuilding the temple. You remember as they were rebuilding the wall, there were these fellows—Sanballat and these others who had set themselves

against them. And they were ambushing those that were working on the walls so that they had to work with a trowel in one hand and a sword in the other. One fellow would do the work and the other fellow would stand guard. They rebuilt the wall under very difficult circumstances. And this Psalm was probably written at that time—an exhortation to praise the Lord again.

SUMMARY

- Praise Him, everybody and everything that has been created!
- Praise ye the LORD!

WE PRAISE YOU Matt Redman (4:47) <https://youtu.be/hDSoMLnUwJA> ***

Let praise be a weapon that silences the enemy Let praise be a weapon that conquers all anxiety
Let it rise, let praise arise We sing Your name in the dark and it changes everything
We sing with all we are and we claim Your victory Let it rise, let praise arise

[Chorus]

We'll see You break down every wall We'll watch the giants fall
Fear cannot survive when we praise You The God of breakthrough's on our side
Forever lift Him high With all creation cry, 'God, we praise You' Oh, we praise You Oh

Let faith be the song that overcomes the raging sea Let faith be the song that calms the storm inside of me
Let it rise, let faith arise *Let it rise, come on*

We'll see You break down every wall We'll watch the giants fall
Fear cannot survive when we praise You The God of breakthrough's on our side
Forever lift Him high With all creation cry, 'God, we praise You'
You say Oh, we praise You Oh, we praise You
Oh, (Lord), we praise You Oh, we praise You (We praise You)

This is what living looks like This is what freedom feels like This is what heaven sounds like
We praise You, we praise You

This is what living looks like This is what freedom feels like This is what heaven sounds like
We praise You, we praise You *Come on*

This is what living looks like This is what freedom feels like This is what heaven sounds like
We praise You, we praise You This is what living looks like

This is what freedom feels like This is what heaven sounds like We praise You, we praise
[Chorus]

We'll see You break down every wall We'll watch the giants fall
Fear cannot survive when we praise You The God of breakthrough's on our side
Forever lift Him high With all creation cry, 'God, we praise You'
Oh, we praise You (The people of God will praise)
Oh, we praise You Oh, we praise You Oh, give Him all your praise!

FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: -

Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including: Xi Jinping – China; Narendra Modi- India; Joe Biden – USA; Joko Widodo - Indonesia; Jair Bolsonaro - Brazil; Arif Alvi - Pakistan; Muhammadu Buhari - Nigeria; Hasina Wazed - Bangladesh; Vladimir Putin- Russia; Lopez Obrador – Mexico; Naftali Bennett – Israel; Olaf Scholtz – Germany; Boris Johnson – U.K.; Kim Jong-un – North Korea; Kim Boo-kyum – South Korea.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL: