

Message for Sunday, April 29, 2018

PRAISE HIM, PRAISE HIM

Psalm 150 The Message (MSG)

150 ¹⁻⁶ Hallelujah!

**Praise God in His holy house of worship,
praise Him under the open skies;**

**Praise Him for His acts of power,
praise Him for His magnificent greatness;**

**Praise with a blast on the trumpet,
praise by strumming soft strings;**

**Praise Him with castanets and dance,
praise Him with banjo and flute;**

**Praise Him with cymbals and a big bass drum,
praise Him with fiddles and mandolin.**

**Let every living, breathing creature praise GOD!
Hallelujah!**

**A Wall Street Journal article quotes an Internet guru who plugged the word
“God” into one of the popular search engines.**

**He received over 600,000 hits. Yahoo lists 17,000 sites devoted to religion and
spirituality.**

**We’re only a click away from countless links that attempt to define God,
recast Him into our own image.**

**With all these options available to you, it’s really important to offer praise to
the true God and His Son, Jesus Christ.**

A lack of praise for God reveals a lack of gratitude in our own hearts.

We praise God for Jesus Christ who died for us that we might have life eternal.

The book of Psalms is the largest book in the Bible, 150 psalms we just read the last one, number 150.

Now look how Psalm 150, the last Psalm, the last verse, ends:

Psalm 150:6 GOD'S WORD Translation (GW)

**⁶Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!
Hallelujah!**

It's an exhortation for everyone to praise God. And then to add emphasis, the Psalmist says... HALLELUJAH! It works like an explanation mark.

The word hallel in Hebrew means a joyous praise in song, to boast in God.

It is to "rave" about God. It's sitting in "awe" of God or singing songs of great "joy".

Praising God has to do with celebration of our creator.

Praise is the created praising the Creator, the finite giving glory to the infinite.

Praising God is so important that if people don't praise Him, creation itself will praise Him.

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to His name.

"Johann Sebastian Bach ended each of his over 1,100 compositions with these words: *Soli Deo Gloria*—'To God alone be the glory.'

Praise shows a reverence for God.

Praise gives glory to God and deepens our relationship with Him.

When we praise God we get our minds off of our problems and on the problem solver. Because our fretting and worrying doesn't help.

There are times to intercede on behalf of others; there are times to pray for the sick, for finances. And then there are times to simply stop asking and start praising. To seek His Face as well as His Hand.

One day Jesus' disciples approached Him with a request: Lord, teach us to pray. Jesus gave them a model prayer. (A template if you will).

Of course we know it today as the Lord's Prayer, and it gives us a great outline for connecting with God through prayer.

Jesus said, when you pray, begin like this: "Our Father in heaven" He's talking about being in relationship with the Father.

He continues: May Your holy name be honored" Jesus is talking about praise. You begin connecting with God by praising Him.

John Henry Newman

"Life passes, riches fly away, popularity is fickle, the senses decay, the world changes. One alone is true to us; One alone can be all things to us; One alone can supply our need." — And so, we praise Him

One day everyone will praise Him.

The Apostle Paul writes in Philippians:

Philippians 2:10 New Living Translation (NLT)

**¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,**

This is not restricted to those who love Him—it says everyone will bow.

Let me share one final thought on the importance of praising God.

In Genesis chapter 2 we read that God breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living being.

This is the moment that man took his first breath, only possible by God the Creator who shared His own breath with the man.

God literally taught man how to breath.

**No wonder the Psalmist exhorts everyone and everything that has breath to...
PRAISE THE LORD!**

Remember who you are and to who you belong.

AMEN