

PSALM 146-150 – IT IS GOOD TO PRAISE GOD

Introduction

- 1) **Psalm 147:1** – *“Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful”*
- 2) We must never forget how important it is to praise our God **continually**
- 3) **Psalms 146-150** – group of five Hallel psalms that conclude the book of Psalms
 - a) **Hallel** – Hebrew word for “praise”
 - b) **Hallelujah** = “praise the LORD” “praise Yahweh [Jehovah]” (23x in Psalms)
 - c) Psalms 111-118 are also praise psalms
- 4) In these psalms we learn why it is good, pleasant, and beautiful to praise God daily (146:1-2; 147:1)
 - a) Our praise must be for His mighty acts and according to His excellent greatness (150:2)

I) It is Good to Praise God for His Creation and Providence

- A) God made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them (146:6; 148:5-6; 19:1; 33:6-9)
- B) God’s providence controls the weather that provides for man’s needs (147:7-9, 14-18)
- C) God’s creation is a witness to His mighty power along with His infinite understanding and goodness (147:4-5; Rom. 1:20; Acts 14:17; Matt. 5:45)
- D) God is worthy of constant praise from mankind and all creation (148:1-4, 7-12; 150:6; Lk. 2:14)
 - 1) “Praise Him” – imperative command of continual action (Psa. 34:1; Rev. 4:9-11; 1 Pet. 2:9)

II) It is Good to Praise God for His Exalted Authority and Revelation

- A) The Lord dwells in His sanctuary of heaven (150:1; 1 Kgs. 8:30; Acts 17:24)
 - 1) His name is exalted and His glory is above the heaven and earth (148:13)
 - 2) God reigns over all at all times (146:10)
- B) He reveals His word to man (147:19-20)
 - 1) We need to put our trust in God and not man (146:3-5)

III) It is Good to Praise God for His Care of the Helpless and Desire for the Faithful

- A) The Lord helps those in need (146:6-9; 147:2-6, 12-14)
- B) God especially take pleasure in and exalts His faithful people (147:10-14; 148:14; 149:4)
 - 1) God’s people must have loving care for the helpless and brethren (Gal. 6:10; 1 Jn. 3:17)

IV) It is Good to Praise God as His Joyful Children in Zion

- A) Praising God will help us get rid of wrath, bitterness, envy, and other evils that infect our heart (147:1)
- B) Praising God for His spiritual and physical blessings promotes expressions of joy and gladness in the heart, and a zeal for upholding the judgments of the word of God (149:1-9; 150:3-5)
 - 1) The preaching and application of the word of the gospel of Christ expresses the judgments of God today concerning truth vs. error (2 Cor. 10:3-6)
 - 2) Musical instruments and dance were common ways of expressing joy in OT Israel (Ex. 15:20; 2 Sam. 6:5; 2 Chron. 29:25), along with worshiping with incense, animal sacrifices, Sabbath observances, etc., which have now passed away with the old covenant (Col. 2:14-17)
 - 3) Now in the NT church we speak with our lips and sing praises with joy and melody in our heart (Heb. 2:12; 13:15; Col. 3:14-17); how we praise God must be according to His will

Conclusion

We should desire that which is good, and **praising God** is a good, pleasant, and beautiful thing. It binds together in unity all those who love and follow God. Do you humbly fear God and hope in His mercy? Let Him beautify you with salvation and be your praise for eternity! (Psa. 50:23)