

O Praise The Lord

I. Introduction: As we work on putting more Scriptural songs into our songbook...

A. David, an inspired man (**II Samuel 23:1-2**), rightly stated the Lord is worthy to be praised (**II Samuel 22:1-4** and **Psalms 18:1-3**).

1. We see such in Israel's history (**Ezra 3:10-11**).
2. We see such in faithful saints in Christ Jesus (**Acts 2:46-47**).
3. Even God's angels praise Him (**Luke 2:8-14**).

B. Praise, in various forms, is partly defined: "...to make a show..." (Strong's # H1984), "...song or hymn of praise..." (Strong's # H8416), "...to celebrate in song or music..." (Strong's # H2167), "to hymn, i.e. sing a religious ode; by implication, to celebrate God in song..." (Strong's # G5214), etc.

1. As we briefly study this subject, pay attention to the ties between praising God with rejoicing and being thankful (**I Thessalonians 5:16-18**).
2. You also cannot miss the tie between praising God and singing (**Judges 5:3**, **Jeremiah 20:13**, and **Hebrews 2:12**).

II. Body: **Psalms 117:1-2**

A. Praise Him for...

1. His mercy and kindness (**Titus 3:3-5**).
2. That which is directed toward us (**II Timothy 1:8-12**, **II Peter 1:3-4**, and **I John 5:11; 5:20**).
3. For the truth that endures forever (**Psalms 110:5** and **I Peter 1:22-25**).
4. And more... (**Psalms 28:7**, **Psalms 43:5**, **Psalms 150:2**, **Daniel 4:34**, **I Peter 2:9**, etc.).

B. What can we learn about praise from **Hebrews 13:12-15**?

1. Thanksgiving surrounds singing praises to God (**Colossians 3:15-17**).
2. Such praises ought to be a continual act in our lives (**Psalms 71:14**).
3. Plenty more to think of too... **Psalms 118:14-21**

C. Think about praise from **Romans 15:1-12**...

1. Why do we Gentiles have plenty of reason to praise God (**Acts 10:1-11:18** and **Ephesians 2:1-17**)?
2. Don't we have to have our minds focused to see what is worthy of praise (**Philippians 4:6-8**)?
3. How could we accomplish that if we set our hearts on despair (**Ecclesiastes 2:18-26**; cf. **James 5:13**)?

D. Think about Paul and Silas (**Acts 16:13-25**).

1. What would cause those suffering to praise God (**I Peter 1:3-9**)?
2. Doesn't it come down to perspective (**I Peter 4:12-14**)?

III. Conclusion: **Psalms 111:1-10** and **Psalms 148:1-14**