

## Praise the Lord

### Scripture

“Praise ye Jehovah; For it is good to sing praises unto our God; For it is pleasant, [and] praise is comely. Jehovah doth build up Jerusalem; He gathereth together the outcasts of Israel. He healeth the broken in heart, And bindeth up their wounds. He counteth the number of the stars; He calleth them all by [their] names. Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite. Jehovah upholdeth the meek: He bringeth the wicked down to the ground. Sing unto Jehovah with thanksgiving; Sing praises upon the harp unto our God, Who covereth the heavens with clouds, Who prepareth rain for the earth, Who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains. He giveth to the beast his food, [And] to the young ravens which cry. He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: He taketh no pleasure in the legs of a man. Jehovah taketh pleasure in them that fear him, In those that hope in his lovingkindness.” (Psalms 147:1-11 ASV)

### Devotion

It is fitting for God’s children to praise the Lord. Every believer realizes the miracle of regeneration is a grace that only God could give. While not every person acted out their depravity to the extent of another, all of God’s children realize how narrowly they escaped hell. Like a blind man walking a tightrope it is only a matter of time until he falls into eternal habitations.

Knowing this causes one to wonder about those who claim to know Christ, but refuse to admit their depravity. So many people say they believe, but never confess their sin. Of course those same people have an hundred excuses why they never attend church. Like, “I worship God in my own way,” and “The church is full of hypocrites.” While the church may have many hypocrites, believers are not to forsake the assembling of themselves together (Heb. 10:25). True conversion is accompanied by sincere thankfulness.

Therefore, praise comes naturally to the lips of the forgiven. God has healed the broken hearted. He cast down the wicked who are unrepentant. He upholds the meek, those willing to admit their need for a Savior.

God is not impressed with your talents or stature in the community. He takes pleasure in those who fear Him and hope in His mercy. What condition does God find your heart in this day? Are you one who recognizes how unbelievably blessed you are, or is this all nonsense to you?

As it is written, “. . . fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” (Matthew 10:28 AV) If you cannot praise the Lord for His grace, then look carefully to your soul. Amen.