God is Worthy of Our Praise

Psalm 145: 1-10

This morning we have read from David's Psalm of praise. Some theologians consider this to be his favorite Psalm of praise. There are many others that lift praise to God, but this one seems to come from the depths of his heart, David's crown jewel of praise.

After all, he was a man with much to praise God for. He had been hand-picked, delivered from his enemies, forgiven of his sin, and given a place of prominence among God's people. Come to think of it, we have received much the same. There is no doubt we are a blessed people. Surely if anyone ought to have reason to praise the Lord, we should; if anyone ought to possess a compelling desire to praise Him, it should be the church, the redeemed of God!

Now if we were to take a survey regarding worship, I am sure our answers would be varied. Worship involves many different aspects, and cannot be summed up with a brief description. A worship service should include adoration and praise, thanksgiving and confession, prayer and proclamation, commitment and surrender to God's will. Anything that does not contribute to these has no place in such a service. For unless our spirits experience the presence and power of God's Spirit; unless we are strengthened, challenged, and motivated in God's will; unless we depart better people than when we came—we cannot be said truly to have worshiped.¹

Let's take a few moments to consider the details concerning worship as we are reminded: God is Worthy of our Praise.

<u>I. The Nature of Our Praise</u> – This precious Psalm speaks to our hearts about how we are to praise God. The offering of praise is pleasing to the Lord. He inhabits the praise of His people. A heart of praise guarantees closeness to God. Our praise ought to be:

<u>A. Personal Praise</u> (1-2) – I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever. [2] Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever. Notice the four "I wills" in these verses. David was mindful of his obligation to praise God. He had received so much.

Has God not been good to us all? Has He not blessed us beyond measure? Surely each of us has reason to praise God for what He has already done! We must not depend on others to praise the Lord for us. I don't want to be guilty of a lack of praise. I have been blessed beyond measure. I have been lifted out of the miry clay. I have been redeemed. I have been given hope eternal. I have received the very best heaven has to offer. I am obligated to praise Him! **<u>B. Persistent Praise</u>** (1b-2) – I will bless thy name for ever and ever. [2] Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever. David must've woke that day with praise on his heart. He must've been pondering all that he had been given. He couldn't remember a day that he hadn't been blessed. There were days that were almost too hard to bear, but even then God was good.

• He couldn't imagine life without praise. Each day brought a new sunrise, a new opportunity, and a renewed hope for the future. Regardless of what the day might bring, he felt obligated to praise the Lord.

I can never remember a day when God wasn't there. Could we possibly make it without Him? He has never failed to meet my needs. Why would today be any different? All that I have is a result of God's blessing. Each day I live is a day to praise the Lord. We could never praise Him enough for our salvation, much less the added benefits! I want to keep in practice for the eternity that I'll spend worshipping the King!

<u>C. Passionate Praise</u> (3) – Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is

unsearchable. Can you sense the passion and devotion in what David is saying? **Great** is the LORD, and **greatly** to be praised. David wasn't serving a God who was far off, but One near to him. He deserved much more than just praise from the lips. David offered praise from the heart.

• Surely a great God whose greatness in unsearchable is worthy of our praise. If we will only consider who He is, we will be compelled to offer passionate praise. Jesus showed His love with much more than mere words; He showed it as He hung upon the cross.

• I'm thankful that the Bible tells me that I am loved, but I'm more thankful that I'm shown that love. We need to be stirred in our souls about who He is and what we have through the Lord. If our Lord doesn't stir passion in our souls, I don't know what will! How can those who've received so much not be passionate about Christ?

D. Perpetual Praise (4) – One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. David couldn't imagine the God of eternity not being praised. The generations would continue in their praise to God. There has never been a generation that was failed by God. He has blessed men from the beginning of time.

• We were not privileged to have the Lord here with us in the flesh, but His goodness remains. All generations have felt the need to praise the Lord. The words and songs of praise have been handed down through the generations. I had a godly grandmother who lived for the Lord. She was faithful to praise the Lord; that was how she was raised. She is now praising in glory, but I must carry on in my praise.

Many of the saints have gone on, but we still remain. Jesus came some 2,000 years ago, and yet we're still praising Him. We must share the joy of praising the Lord with our children. Men will praise Him as long as the earth stands. I want my children to be among those who praise Him! Let's place emphasis on praise so that our children will as well. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so in our day.

I. The Nature of Our Praise

II. The Necessity of Our Praise – David's praise wasn't a burden. He didn't have to be coerced or pressured into praise. He had experienced the wonder and majesty of God. Praise came natural; it was in his heart.

• Listen, if someone as big as God lives within your heart, He'll show from time to time. I've never seen God as Moses did, but I have experienced His presence and power in my life. I can't help but praise Him; it has to come out at times! Let's see what it is about God that compels us to praise Him.

<u>A. God's Glory</u> (5) - I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works. David was reminded of the glory of God. He is God; there is none other.

• At times I'm amazed that the Lord would love mankind. He is holy and pure, perfect in every way, with a glory that outshines the sun, and yet He desires to fellowship with lowly men. His glory demands our praise.

• I have been privileged to experience a little of His glory, through His presence, and it brought praise from my soul. The splendor of heaven will not even compare to the glory we'll behold as we look upon the One who redeemed us. I assure you we'll praise the Lord when we see His full glory.

B. God's Greatness (6) – And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness. David thought of the greatness of God. He had certainly experienced God's mighty hand as he stood against Goliath and when he was pursued by Saul and Absalom. In times of weakness, the great God had sustained him. We serve a great God; His greatness cannot be measured or even compared, Ps.95:1-6.

• God's greatness brings awe to those who consider Him. He stood on nothing and created the heavens and the sea. He formed the dry land and all that dwell therein. He is control of every detail of our lives. He never sleeps nor slumbers. He is the LORD, the God above all others. There are none that can compare to His greatness.

• Our God is greater than life itself. He is the giver of life, as well as the sustainer. He knows the beginning and the end, and all that lies between. It is God who is at the helm of this small vessel of mine as I travel this sea of life. Consider God's greatness as it relates to you. Surely that will put a song of praise within your heart.

<u>C. God's Goodness</u> (7) – They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness. David has seen the goodness of the Lord. God had always been there to supply his need. I'm sure there were times that David my not have deserved God's favor, but He remained faithful.

 Has God not been good? I am blessed because of what the Lord has done for me. The joys and blessings I enjoyed yesterday, they came from God. The same is true for today, and if I live tomorrow, even then God will show forth His goodness.

Much of life we take for granted our health, families, homes, jobs, friends, etc... All that life is comes from the goodness of God. Where would we be tonight without God's goodness? Jam.1:17- Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever; He changes not. I can count on the Lord being there tomorrow with more good gifts. I do not deserve them, but He continually supplies. Praise His name!

D. God's Grace (8-9) – The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. [9] The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works. David realized that God had withheld what men truly deserve. There is no righteousness in us, no merit of our own. We could never earn or deserve what we have received. Our blessings are the result of God's grace. He loves us and has extended abundant mercy and grace.

• I am amazed at all God has done for me. There are many times that I come short and fail. He always forgives my sin and restores my fellowship. He doesn't have to do any of the things He does for us; it is all God's grace. He has offered what we could not deserve and withheld what we did deserve. If grace doesn't bring praise, I really don't know what will. By His grace we are saved: cleansed, pardoned, restored, and reconciled to Him! The God of heaven loves you and me. He didn't have to send His Son; He doesn't have to love and care for us, but He does because of grace.

Conclusion: [10] All thy works shall praise thee, O Lord; and thy saints shall bless thee. We all have reason to praise the Lord for His abundant goodness and mercy. He has blessed us all beyond measure. Each of us could've already been in hell, eternally separated from a loving God, but we are here. We have come short on praising the King. He is truly worthy of our praise.

Have you trusted Christ as your Savior and Lord? It is hard to praise someone you don't really know. The goodness and grace we've discussed is available to you if you will look to the Lord by faith. He earnestly desires you to be saved, so that you too can enjoy His abundance!

ⁱ Hobbs, Herschel H. *My Favorite Illustrations*.