



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NINILCHIK

WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING

Mid-Week Devotional

SERIES:

“Christ in the Psalms”

December 7th, 2022

**“Song of Magnified Praise”
Psalm 135**

PSALM 135

GENERAL REMARKS. —This Psalm has no title. It is mainly made up of selections from other Scriptures. It has been called a mosaic, and compared to a tessellated pavement. At the outset, its first two verses are taken from Ps. cxxxiv.; while the latter part of verse 2 and the commencement of verse 3 put us in mind of Ps. cxvi.19; and verse 4 suggests Deut. vii.6. Does not verse 5 remind us of Ps. xcv.3? As for verse 7, it is almost identical with Jer. x.13, which may have been taken from it. The passage contained in verse 13 is to be found in Ex. iii.15, and verse 14 in Deut. xxxii.36. The closing verses, 8 to 12, are in Ps. cxxxvi. From verse 15 to the end of the strain is a repetition of Ps. cxv. This process of tracing the expressions to other sources might be pushed further without straining the quotations; the whole psalm is a compound of many choice extracts, and yet it has all the continuity and freshness of an original poem. The Holy Spirit occasionally repeats himself; not because he has any lack of thoughts or words, but because it is expedient for us that we hear the same things in the same form. Yet, when our great Teacher uses repetition, it is usually with instructive variations, which deserve our careful attention.

DIVISION. The first fourteen verses contain an exhortation to praise Jehovah for his goodness (verse 3), for his electing love (verse 4), his greatness (5-7), his judgments (8-12), his unchanging character (13), and his love towards his people. This is followed by a denunciation of idols (verses 15 to 18), and a further exhortation to bless the name of the Lord. It is a song full of life, vigour, variety, and devotion.

The Treasury of David

by Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892)
VOLUME VII, PASSMORE & ALABASTER EDITION
(emphasis in original)

Devotional Thoughts from Psalm 135

REFLECTION. *Praise the LORD!* (v1) is the Hebrew words הללו יה (*hal-LOO YAH*). It is where get our English expression “hallelujah.” יהי (*yah*) is the contracted form of the name of God revealed to Moses at the burning bush (Ex 3:14), יהוה (*ye-HŌ-vah*). הללו (*hal-LOO*) means “praise” or literally, “to lift up.” It comes from the Hebrew root הלל (*ha-LAL*), which means to “boast in” or “brag about.” It means to celebrate the virtue of something or the character of someone; to rave of someone’s renown so lavishly that what you look like to others is not a thought or consideration in your mind. Reflect upon David’s dancing before YHVH God when the ark entered Jerusalem properly, on the shoulders of the Levites, and David’s wife, Michal, was offended by his behavior (2 Sam 6:11-21).

REASONS TO PRAISE THE LORD:

- v1. God commands it.
- v2. God created the heavens (His house) & the earth (His court of judgment), & every creature stands on earth before Him.
- v3. God is good, & to sing His praises pleases Him while it is also a pleasure to our souls.
- v4. God is gracious to choose a rascal like Jacob, & sinners like you and me, as His own possession.
- v5. God is great & there is no God like His Christ, “*our Lord.*”
- v6. God is sovereign & does all things everywhere for His will & good pleasure.
- v7. God controls the weather for His purposes.
- v8. God prophetically foreshadowed the death of Christ Jesus, the Firstborn, in the destruction of idols in Egypt.
- v9. God sends signs & wonders to encourage His people, while at the same time these signs & wonders bring judgment to rebellious men.
- vv10-11. God is mightier than the mightiest kings of the earth.
- v12. God provides an inheritance for all those whom He has saved.
- v13. God is eternal, with a name that endures forever.
- v14. God is a God of justice and compassion.
- v15. God is Self-existent, not the creation of human minds or imagination.
- v16. God speaks through the prophets, His Word, & most gloriously through His Son; and He sees men’s deeds & the thoughts & intents of the heart.
- v17. God hears the prayers of His people.
- v18. God conforms those who trust in Him to the image of His Son.
- vv19-21. God blesses His people with the honor of serving Him to bless Him.

Devotional Challenge from Psalm 135

RESPOND to this challenge by meditating upon all of Psalm 135 this week and reflect upon the reasons this psalm gives us for praising the Lord. Which reason given comes to mind most for you when you are praising the Lord? Why do you think this is so? Which reason gives you the most trouble? Why are you troubled by it? Or which reason comes to your mind less frequently? Why do you suppose that is so? Prepare to discuss Psalm 135 next week.



Tessellated is an adjective used to describe patterns of shapes that fit together perfectly, without any gaps. Tessellated patterns are a kind of mosaic. They’re often seen on surfaces that have been covered in tiles. That’s because floor and wall tiles are often designed so that they can tessellate— fit together perfectly, without any overlap or gaps.



Considering Psalm 135:

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