

# Praise Ye Yah !

Study One:

Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me

# What is praise?

- “(1 )The expression of approval or admiration for someone or something.
- (2 )the expression of respect and gratitude as an act of worship.”
- *Synonyms*: approval, admiration, laudation, extol, glorify, esteem, prize, honour, commendation, gratitude, applaud, acclaim, eulogise.

# Hebrew words for 'praise'

- *t<sup>e</sup>hillah* “praise”, a laudation or praise. The name for the book of Psalms, in Hebrew, is, *t<sup>e</sup>hillim*
- *yadah, todah* lit. “to lift the hands—praise, give thanks, confess” and has the idea of acknowledging
- *halal* lit. “to be clear (in sound or colour)—shine, flash, glory, honour, commend, boast, mad. It has the idea “to make a show, to celebrate”.

# Hebrew words for

- *shabach* lit. “to address in a loud voice, to shout—to laud, commend, praise”
- *barak* “bless”, but when used of God it means, to praise, to acknowledge (e.g. Jud. 5:2 )
- *zamar* “sing praise” (from “striking the fingers”)
- *kabad, kabod* lit. “weight, heavy, honour, glory”
- *hadar* “pay honour, adorn”
- *tiph‘arah* “glory, splendour, honour”



# Sennacherib's prism

Among the tribute paid by  
Hezekiah was  
“male and female singers”

# Judah's renown in music

“By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down,  
yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion. We  
hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst  
thereof. For there they that carried us away  
captive required of us a song; and they that  
wasted us required of us mirth, saying, Sing us  
one of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the  
LORD’S song in a strange land?”

Psalm 137:1–4

# Reasons to praise Yahweh

- for He is worthy (2 Chron. 20:21 ; 2 Sam. 22:4 )
- for His excellent greatness (Psa. 135:4; 145; 96:4 )
- for His works & mighty acts (Psalm 107: 8; 111:1–10; 150:2 )
- for His mercy and truth (Psa. 117:1; 138:2 )
- for His righteousness (Psa. 7:17 )
- for His righteous judgements (Psa. 119:164 )
- for Yahweh is good (Psa. 135:3; Ezek. 3:11 )

# Reasons to praise Yahweh

- for praise is good, pleasant & comely (Psa. 33:1; 54:6; 147:1; Psa. 135:3)
- for His great and terrible Name is holy (Psa. 99:3)
- for the beauty of His holiness (2 Chron. 20:21)
- for He hath chosen Jacob & Israel (Psa. 135:4)
- for His salvation (Psa. 40:16)



# Praise is the highest offering

“Let us open our minds to this great idea. It lies at the very root of the truth. It is the beginning of the gospel, the ground of our hope, the source of all true consolation. It is the end of salvation; for what do we find in all the delineations of the perfected state but *praise* as the foremost occupation—the highest delight of those who have part in it?”

Robert Roberts, *Word in Season*, p174–5

# Praise is the highest offering

“If there is one lesson we have to learn, it is that our calling in Christ is to ‘offer the sacrifice of praise to God’...Adoration of Him is the highest act of created intelligence.”

Robert Roberts

# Peace Offering

- Thanksgiving – must be eaten same day
  - Vow
  - Voluntary
- } – could be left until the second day

# Peace Offering

- Thanksgiving – response to God's work
  - Vow
  - Voluntary
- } – our work

# Psalm 107

Oh that men would praise Yahweh for His  
goodness, and His wonderful works to the  
children of men...

- **For He...**
- (v.9 )...satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.
- (v.16 )...hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder.

# Psalm 107

Oh that men would praise Yahweh for His goodness, and His wonderful works to the

- **And let them...**
- (v.22 )...sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.
- (v.32 )...exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise (halal)him in the assembly of the elders.

# Praise ye Yah !

Psalm 150

Psalm 150

1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

**Praise ye the LORD.**

**Praise God in his sanctuary:**

**Praise him in the firmament of his power.**

**Praise him for his mighty acts:**

**Praise him according to his excellent greatness.**

**Praise him with the sound of the trumpet:**

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**Praise ye the LORD.**

# Psalm 150 Summary

- V. 1 Praise God to the greatest extent
- V.2 Praise God for the greatest of reasons
- Vv. 3–6 Let all praise God with all their being

# Instruments

## represent people

- *shophar*: used to call to attention and worship.
  - Represents the priests
- *psaltery and harp*: used in temple worship.
  - Represent the Levites
- *timbrel and dance*: not used in temple worship. Both usually associated with women.
  - Represents secular peoples

# Instruments represent people

- *stringed instruments and organs (flutes)*: refer to general classes of instruments (string, wind ).
  - Represent different classes of instruments (people)
- *loud cymbals and high-sounding cymbals*: note each has its own “praise him”
  - Represent specific types of the same class of people
- *everything that hath breath!* – the whole earth is filled with Yahweh’s glory



# Three main type of instruments

- **Wind** (shophar, flute, voice )
- **String** (psaltery, harp, stringed instruments )
- **Percussion** (timbrel, dance, cymbals )

# Three main type of instruments

- *Wind* instruments are associated with the head
- *String* instruments are associated with the heart
- *Percussion* instruments are associated with the hands and feet

# Three main type of instruments

- *Wind* instruments are associated with the head (MENTAL)
- *String* instruments are associated with the heart (MORAL)
- *Percussion* instruments are associated with the hands and feet (PHYSICAL)

# Symmetry brings home the lesson

- *Verse 1:* El is to be praised from *earth* to *heaven*
- *Verse 2:* El is to be praised for His *works* and His *being*
- *Verses 3–6:* El is to be praised by *works* (vv3–5 )and each player's *being* (v6 )