

V. Psalm 150: An Every Widening Crescendo of Praise

- A. When all is said and done, praise of God remains in an ever increasing crescendo of praise.
- i. Where? *In His sanctuary... in His mighty heavens.* (v1)
 - ii. Why? *for His acts of power, for His surpassing greatness.* (v2)
 - iii. How? Instruments of increasing volume. (v3-5)
- B. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

LIVE THE STORY

The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community. The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

- Read the quote by Davidson at the beginning of the notes. How do you think these last 5 psalms “put everything else [in the Psalms] in perspective?”
- How were you encouraged from these psalms and/or this message from them? How might it affect your worship?
- Does the fact that God delights in those who put their hope in Him, and not in powerful horses (or tanks, fighter planes, or bombs), give you reasons for praising Him? Explain.
- Do you delight in praising God in song?
- In Psalm 148:13-14 what is a “horn”? How might this be fulfilled in Jesus?
- How many references to gladness (or synonymous terms) can you find in Psalm 149?
- What has effected you most from the series in the book of Psalms?

The Hallelujah Chorus

Jerry Cisar — May 1, 2016

Text: Psalms 146-150

The Hallelujah Chorus

R. Davidson: *“Much that we have heard in other psalms now fades into the background. Here there are no urgent questions – no “Why?”s or “How long?”s, no puzzling doubts, no talk of threats from enemies, no wrestling with what authentic worship means. There remain only “Songs of Praise” which put everything else in perspective.”*

I. Psalm 146: Because God will Triumph Finally and Forever

- A. *How can we praise God with an endurance that won't quit? Or, How can I praise God despite what I see going on in the world?* (1a-2)
- B. Because the wicked aspirations of the powerful in the world will surely come to nothing. (3-4)
- C. Because our hope is in the Lord and He is active in helping the lowly.

II. Psalm 147: Praise is Good, Pleasant, and Becoming

- A. Why is praise so delightful, pleasant, and becoming?
- i. 2-3 The Lord builds Jerusalem.
 - ii. 19-20 He revealed His Word.
 - a) Amos 3:2

- b) It is fitting that we worship Him because of His bountiful grace.

B. Right in the middle we find yet more reasons to see praise and fitting and delightful. (10-11)

III. Psalm 148: Commanded from Everything in Heaven & Earth

- A. This psalm commands every created thing in heaven and earth to praise YHWH.

- B. The 1st half commands praise from everything in the heavens and the highest heights. The 2nd half commands everything on earth and in the deepest depths.

John Goldingay: *Much of the heavens and the earth is noisy, and its noise has the ring of praise about it. Its noise draws attention to the one who made it the way it is. As the Psalms see it, silence cannot be praise (except when silence is a mark of trust or submission in particular circumstances). Praise requires noise, and much of creation expresses itself in noise. And the reason why creation should so express itself is that it is secure in the way Yhwh established it.*

- C. The reasons:
 - i. v5-6 All the heavenly hosts were created by him and are kept in their course and do their work by His decree.
 - ii. vs. 13-14 His Name (YHWH) alone is inaccessibly high! And, He has raised up a horn for His people.
 - a) What is a horn?

- b) “Horn” may have an additional meaning. (Ps. 132)
 - 132:1, 11, 13-18. The heir of the Davidic throne who will be the strength of God's people.

➤ 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

IV. Psalm 149: Gladly for God will Triumph Over the Wicked

- A. This psalm calls for the praise which comes from God's people...here referred to as his “*faithful ones*”.

- B. They are called to praise their Maker with glad praise.

- C. Vs. 6-9 for many seem awkward or out of place, or just down right offensive to others.
 - i. Vs. 6 reminds me of two different scenes that may be relevant to here.
 - a) 2 Chronicles 20:20-23

 - b) Nehemiah 4:17

 - ii. Book of Acts