

WHAT IS PRAISE?

Key scripture: Psalm 147:1-13

Praise is a frequent theme in the psalms, the Hebrew title of which is "Praises." Yet praise is a theme that pervades the whole of Scripture. Words that are often used as synonyms or in parallel with "praise," and so help point to its meaning, are "bless," "exalt," "extol," "glorify," "magnify," "thank," and "confess." To praise God is to call attention to his glory.

Praise can be expressed through singing and music (including clapping, dancing, lifting our hands, kneeling, etc.), through testimony and thanksgiving, prayer, sacrificial service, and giving.

If we want praise to characterize our lives, the psalmist would have us understand ... A God-centered person will be a person of praise. As God's people, we should be focused on Him in every situation, and therefore we should be people of praise.

Discussion Points

(1) **What is Praising God? Rev 4:11, Psalm 96:4**

(2) **Why must we praise God? Psalm 63:3-8, Isaiah 43:21, Jer 13:11**

(3) **What are the benefits of praising God? Psalm 8:2, 2 Chronicles 5:13-14, Psalm 22:3**

(4) **Who should praise God? Psalm 150:6, Psalm 134:1-2**

(5) **What could hinder you from praising God?**