

# Praise God, He is Always Righteous and Kind

## PSALM 145 (NASB95)

### Title and Attribution of Psalm

V1a	A Psalm of Praise, of David.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>King David</i></li> <li>• <i>Colossians 3:16</i></li> </ul>
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### God

V1b-2	1 I will extol You, my God, O King, And I will bless Your name forever and ever. 2 Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever.	Addressing God	David's promise to praise God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'forever and ever' x2</li> </ul>
V3	3 Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised, And His greatness is unsearchable.	Addressing man	David praises God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'unsearchable' – keep in mind</li> </ul>

### God's Good and Mighty Works

V4-7	4 One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts. 5 On the glorious splendor of Your majesty And on Your wonderful works, I will meditate. 6 Men shall speak of the power of Your awesome acts, And I will tell of Your greatness. 7 They shall eagerly utter the memory of Your abundant goodness And will shout joyfully of Your righteousness.	Addressing God	David's assurance that others will praise God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Praise of God's works as inter-generational evangelism</i></li> <li>• <i>Linked to personal meditation on God's good work</i></li> <li>• <i>Meditation seems to be attempting to search out God's greatness (cf. verse 3) – what does 'unsearchable' mean?</i></li> <li>• <i>Verse 5 stands out here, exhorts us to follow King David's example</i></li> </ul>
V8-9	8 The Lord is gracious and merciful; Slow to anger and great in lovingkindness. 9 The Lord is good to all, And His mercies are over all His works.	Addressing man	David praises God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The silence speaks – part 1 (Exodus 34:6-7)</i></li> <li>• <i>Pointing forward to verse 17</i></li> </ul>

## God's Kingdom

V10-12	10 All Your works shall give thanks to You, O Lord, And Your godly ones shall bless You. 11 They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom And talk of Your power; 12 To make known to the sons of men Your mighty acts And the glory of the majesty of Your kingdom.	Addressing God	David's assurance that others will praise God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>It is partly people (v10 who make up the Kingdom of God) and who are the 'works' of God – personified works, saved and sanctified, but also the deeds speak for themselves (John 10:38)</i></li> <li>• <i>V4-7 seemed to be inward focused, raising godly children (Jewish), v10-12 seems to be outward focused, evangelistic (Gentiles)</i></li> </ul>
V13	13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion <i>endures</i> throughout all generations.	Addressing God	David praises God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cf. v1-2 'forever and ever' and 'throughout all generations'</i></li> </ul>
V13b/14a	[The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.]		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Fits with acrostic pattern in Hebrew + in DSS + other ancient MSS but missing from the standard Hebrew text. Doesn't seem to change much so passing over it here.</i></li> </ul>

## God's righteousness and kindness (defended?)

V14-16	14 The Lord sustains all who fall And raises up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look to You, And You give them their food in due time. 16 You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing.	Addressing man	David praises God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The perfect Kingdom (already but not-yet nature of the Kingdom) – note 'all'x3, 'every'x1 – no exceptions here</i></li> <li>• <i>Sermon on the Mount (beatitudes in particular)</i></li> </ul>
V17	17 The Lord is righteous in all His ways And kind in all His deeds.	Addressing man	David praises God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Important verse (sandwiched as it is between v14-16 and v18-20)</i></li> <li>• <i>David seeks to proclaim (and I think defend) God's righteousness and God's goodness cf. Romans</i></li> <li>• <i>Calvin quotes</i></li> <li>• <i>Will come back to V17</i></li> </ul>
V18-20	18 The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth. 19 He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He will also hear their cry and will save them. 20 The Lord keeps all	Addressing man	David praises God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Qualifying/conditional statements, contrast with verses 14-16. The Psalm is self-conscious, it knows these verses seem to contradict earlier. For now, God's promises are conditional.</i></li> </ul>

who love Him, But all the wicked He will destroy.

*At the last, all people in the Kingdom will receive them v14-16 are a picture of the final state of the Kingdom of Heaven cf. Revelation 21:4*

- *The silence speaks – part 2*

### **Conclusion and Benediction(ish)**

V21 21 My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, And all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever.

Addressing man

- *Doxology vs Benediction – not quite either, more a recognition of Philippians 2:10-11 Every knee + tongue confess (willingly in joy or unwillingly in agony)*
- *Demands that we respond in praise also. And condemns the one who does not!*
- *Praise God, He is Always Righteous and Kind*

### **Colossians 3:16**

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

### **Exodus 34:6-7**

6 The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, 7 keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."

### **John 10:38**

...even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”

### **Matthew 5:2–6**

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

### **John Calvin on verse 17:**

“Though all acknowledge God to be just, most men are no sooner overtaken by affliction than they

quarrel with his severity: unless their wishes are immediately complied with, they are impatient, and nothing is more common than to hear his justice impeached. As it is everywhere abused by the wicked imputations men cast upon it, here it is very properly vindicated from such ungrateful treatment, and asserted to be constant and unfailing, however loudly the world may disparage it.”

And

“Nothing is more difficult in the time of trouble, when God has apparently forsaken us, or afflicts us without cause, than to restrain our corrupt feelings from breaking out against his judgments; as we are told of the Emperor Mauricius in a memorable passage of history, that seeing his sons murdered by the wicked and perfidious traitor Phocas, and being about to be carried out himself to death, he cried out -- "Thou art righteous, O God, and just are thy judgments.”

#### **Revelation 21:4**

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

#### **Romans 2:4-5**

“4 Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?5 But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.”