



Everyone who repeats the Tehillah of David thrice a day may be sure that he is a child of the world to come.

The Talmud

Psalm 145

- An acrostic Psalm (one of 8)
- The last psalm of David in the Psalter
- Key themes in the summer season of faith are giving praise and thanks to God

- Verses 1 & 21 bookends of praise – “I will bless your name forever”
- The body of the Psalm unfolds the character of God – revealing his name
- Psalm 145 falls into 4 panels of praise and reasons for praise

Panel 1

- V 1&2 – a call to bless God’s name
– to bless him every day and in the every day
- V 3 – the reason given is God is great

Panel 2

- V 4-7 – one generation shall laud your works to another
– the importance of giving testimony; the growth of praise leading to the person of Jesus and his work
– a focus on God’s mighty acts

Panel 2

- V 8-9 – the reasons for praise are the cluster of terms which reveal God's character
- see Exodus 34:5-6 – God's name revealed

Panel 3

- V 10-13a – "All your works give thanks ..." – they speak of your glory ...
- V 13b – The reason – God is faithful

Panel 4 – A Reversal of Order

- V 14-20 – Reasons for praise – key verse is 17, "God is just"
- V 21 – a call to praise – "all flesh will bless his holy name" ('all' or 'every' used 16x in this psalm)

Summary of Key Themes

1. God's 'Good power'
 - V 4-7 – for example a focus on God's goodness and God's power
 - But text connects the 2 aspects – his power is good; his goodness is powerful

2. A God of the Open Hand

- Focus on God's provision for all of his creation (v16)
- Jonah 4:2; 11 – even God's concern for the cattle of Ninevah

3. God's Available Presence

- V18 – "God is near"
- God supplies not only physical food but spiritual food for those who are hungry

4. God's Nature Revealed in this Psalm

- Calvin called verse 8, "as clear and satisfactory a description of the nature of God ... as can anywhere be found".
- Especially v8-9 - but ultimately in Jesus Christ

"He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word."

Hebrews 1:3a

5. The Entire Psalm is a Summer Expression of Faith

- A call to be grateful & to give God praise
- The following five psalms continue with this focus
- Psalm 150:6 – "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!"