

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

PSALM 145:1-3

I will extol You, my God, O King, and I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.

PSALM 148:13-14

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. And He has lifted up a horn for His people, praise for all His godly ones; even for the sons of Israel, a people near to Him. Praise the Lord!

PSALM 150:1-2, 6

Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse. Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness...Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION

DESCRIPTION

This song is admonishing everyone everywhere to sing to the creator of the universe.

VERSES

This song desires to stir the individual toward a posture of worship to God. The question that could perhaps be asked is why? After the song addresses that the praise that it is calling the worshiper should be done everywhere (sanctuary, heavens and earth) it provides two reasons for why He should be praised. First, He should be praised because of His excellent greatness, or in other words God's character (merciful, loving, holiness). Secondly, He should be praised for His mighty deeds, or in other words (again) His supremacy (power, victory/overcoming, and praiseworthiness).

CHORUS

A great deal of this song is coming straight out of Psalm 150. In fact, as shown above, even the portions that are not coming out of Psalm 150:1-2, still relates to those verses. The chorus also comes directly from the passage; only it jumps to Psalm 150:6, the end of the passage. Two interesting points can be made about this. First, the declaration of verse six cannot be missed, "let everything that has breath." That is not something, or some people, but all/every. This is not only what the song/psalm calls the believer to, but is also an instruction for them to turn and call others to do the same. Secondly, Psalm 150:3-5 list the instruments (which is by no means supposed to be a normative list) that were used to worship in the time the psalm was written. The point to this list is to stress a joy that ought to be behind our praise. Thus, as we praise may it be a joyful noise/sound, loud, resounding with dancing.

BRIDGE

Thus, everything that has breath should, with all they have, joyfully praise the Lord. The bridge stresses this point even further, calling the worshiper to give all they have and to offer a life of praise. A point Paul calls us to, saying offer "your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship"(Rom. 12:1).