



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NINILCHIK

WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING

Mid-Week Devotional

SERIES:

“Christ in the Psalms”

May 5th, 2021

“Song of East to West Praise”

Psalm 113

TITLE AND SUBJECT. — This Psalm is one of pure praise, and contains but little which requires exposition; a warm heart full of admiring adoration of the Most High will best of all comprehend this sacred hymn. Its subject is the greatness and condescending goodness of the God of Israel, as exhibited in lifting up the needy from their low estate. It may fitly be sung by the church during a period of revival after it has long been minished and brought low. With this Psalm begins the Hallel, or Hallelujah of the Jews, which was sung at their solemn feasts: we will therefore call it *THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE HALLEL*. Dr. Edersheim¹ tells us that the Talmud² dwells upon the peculiar suitability of the Hallel to the Passover, “since it not only recorded the goodness of God towards Israel, but especially their deliverance from Egypt, and therefore appropriately opened with ‘Praise ye Jehovah, ye servants of Jehovah,’ — and no longer servants of Pharaoh.” Its allusions to the poor in the dust and the needy upon the dunghill are all in keeping with Israel in Egypt, and so also is the reference to the birth of numerous children where they were least expected.

DIVISION. — No division need be made in the exposition of this Psalm, except it be that which is suggested by the always instructive headings supplied by the excellent authors of our common version: an exhortation to praise God, for his excellency, 1-5; for his mercy, 6-9.

The Treasury of David

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892)

VOLUME V, PASSMORE & ALABASTER EDITION

(footnotes added by Pastor Jon)

¹ **Alfred Edersheim** (1825-1889), a Jewish convert to Christianity, was a missionary & minister in the Free Church of Scotland. He authored several books, including, *The Temple and Its Ministries and Services*, *Sketches of Jewish Social Life*, and *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*.

² **Talmud** is the Hebrew word for “learning.” The *Talmud* was written between the third and sixth centuries since Christ’s birth. It is a collection of writings commentary of the Law, as well as traditions concerning the Law, the Prophets, and the Sacred Writings (Psalms and poetical books).

Devotional Thoughts from Psalm 113

INSTRUCTION. Praising God is a command (v1). Praising God is eternal (v2). Praising God must consume our waking hours (v3). Praising God acknowledges His glory (v4). Praising God recognizes He is beyond compare (v5). Praising God exalts His grace (v6). Praising God magnifies His mercy, saving goodness, and His eternal reward (vv7-9).

REFLECTION. The Lord Jesus Christ, as sinless Man, was the model of perfect praise unto the heavenly Father during His earthly ministry.

APPLICATION. (1) Jesus Christ is our Messiah, who has praised the Father on our fallen behalf, since so often we have failed to praise. Praise Him for that. (2) Jesus Christ is also our model of perfect praise. When you have difficulty praising God in Christ for a situation or circumstance, look to Jesus, who while crucified, said, *“Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit”* (Lk 23:46). (3) If Christ praised the Father so faithfully with His life because He is the essence of praise, should we not also praise God in Christ since we were created for praise (1 Cor 10:31).

Devotional Challenge from Psalm 113:3

PRAISE FROM SUNRISE TO SUNSET. Praise God for Christ Jesus as soon as you wake up in the morning, before even opening your eyes. Praise God in Christ again as your last word upon your lips and your last thought before falling asleep.

PRAISE THE NAME OF JESUS. The Father has given us the Son, not only to save us by His grace, but in the Son, we have a name given by God, which is a name above all names (Phil 2:9-11).

PRAISE AT ALL TIMES. Are you happy? Praise the Lord. Are you saddened? Praise the Lord. Are you encouraged? Praise the Lord. Are you discouraged? Praise the Lord. Are you healthy? Praise the Lord. Are you sick? Praise the Lord. Are you wealthy? Praise the Lord. Are you poor? Praise the Lord. **God is holy, just, good and sovereign no matter our circumstances. There is no reason not to praise the Lord. Hallelujah!**

What to Pray for This Week:

1. May the blessed truth of Your Word minister to us as we pray.
2. May our prayers begin sounding like those prayed in Scripture because You're conforming our lives to Christ.
3. May our focus in prayer be upon You, and not for the ears of man.
4. Pour out Your Spirit upon Christ's church, and upon the world.
5. Purify Your children, and unite us to worship You in Christ, with one heart, one mind and one accord.
6. Raise up godly ministers unto Your harvest, and bless those who are already laboring in Your field.
7. Be merciful unto us by bringing saving faith to our unsaved family, friends, neighbors, the village of Ninilchik, and all the residents of the Kenai Peninsula.
8. Remove from us all pride, haughtiness and arrogance, and make us ever watchful against the flesh and every temptation from the enemy.
9. Humble us as we commune with You in prayer, and keep us from lip-service, from deedless word religion and heartless works religion.
10. Teach us to abide in Christ each time we pray; that our hearts may be knit to His so we may glorify You.

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