The Love of God in 3-D – Part 3
The Delightful, Difficult, and Decisive Doctrine of the Love of God
Psalm 145; Coast Community Church Pastor's Class; Earl Miles; 8-20-17

Introduction to Psalm 145

- This Psalm is the last of David's 75 Psalms.
- Each verse is part of an acrostic based on the letters of the Hebrew alphabet.
- 'This poem is the first of six hymns that close the Psalter like a display of fireworks.' – Reformation Study Bible
- 'Some in the Jewish tradition believed that if one would recite it three times a day, with heart and lips, they would experience spiritual happiness and enjoy blessings in the world to come.' – Calvin
- 'One of the Bible's 'awe' passages.' – Paul Tripp

1. God is worthy to be praised. (1-2)

[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.

2. God is worthy to be praised because He is great. (3-6)

[3] **Great is the LORD**, and highly to be praised, And **His greatness is unsearchable**.
[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**.

3. God is worthy to be praised because He is great in love. (7-8)

[7] They shall eagerly utter the memory of **Your abundant goodness** And will shout joyfully of Your righteousness.
[8] The LORD is gracious and merciful; Slow to anger and **great in lovingkindness**.

4. God is worthy to be praised because He is great in love to all His creation (under His never-ending reign). (9-17)

[9] The LORD is **good to all**, And His mercies are **over all His works**.
[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.
[13] Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion *endures* throughout **all generations**.

5. **God is worthy to be praised because He is great in love to all creation (under His never-ending reign through merciful and gracious and faithful provision).**

   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**.
   ¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in **all His ways** And **kind in all His deeds**.

6. **God is worthy to be praised because He is great in love to all creation (under His never-ending reign through merciful and gracious and faithful provision) and, especially, to His people, but He will exercise justice to those who refuse His love. (18-21)**

   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 who love Him**, But **all the wicked He will destroy**.
   ²¹ My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, And **all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever**. – Psalm 145:1-21

What are the implications of God's love for all creation?

   ☐ Godliness requires that I love all creation. (Ephesians 5:1-2)
   ☐ Obedience requires that I use creation for the good of others (subdue: dominion over resources) and the glory of God (keep: glory of God in the beauty of creation). (Genesis 1:28; Mark 12:30-31)
   ☐ Animals should not be treated cruelly. (Proverbs 12:10)
   ☐ Our environment should be stewarded well. (Genesis 2:15)
   ☐ We don't have to fear destroying the earth ourselves. (Genesis 8:22; 9:11)

   Proverbs 12:10; Numbers 22:32-33; Genesis 2:19-20; Psalm 50:10-22; Psalm 104:21, 27-28; Genesis 9:8-11; Exodus 23:10-12; Exodus 20:9-11; Matthew 6:26; Luke 12:6, 24; Deuteronomy 25:4; Genesis 2:15; Deuteronomy 20:19-20; Isaiah 14:7-8

Memory Verse

⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful; Slow to anger and **great in lovingkindness**. – Psalm 145:8