

# Great Is The Lord

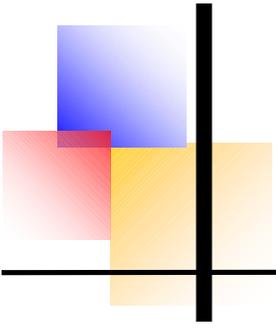
Prepared by: Pastor Blaine G. Smith

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## Scripture Study

### Reasons To Praise

- ✠ We praise Him because we are commanded to do so in His Word. "Praise the LORD. Praise the name of the LORD; praise him, you servants of the LORD." (Psalms 135:1) "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise-- the fruit of lips that confess his name." (Hebrews 13:15)
- ✠ God's presence comes when we praise Him. Psalms 22:3 Gives us another good reason to praise. "But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel." The word inhabit comes from the Hebrew word yashab. It means "to dwell, sit, abide, inhabit, remain. God lives in your praises.
- ✠ There is deliverance from your enemies through praise. "From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger." (Psalms 8:2)
- ✠ It is a good thing to do. "It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High." (Psalms 92:1) "Praise the LORD. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!" (Psalms 147:1)
- ✠ He is worthy of praise. "Great is the LORD, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, his holy mountain." (Psalms 48:1) "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." (Rev 4:11)
- ✠ You were created to praise. "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9) "This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise." (Isa 43:21)
- ✠ Praise will bring us into a close union with the Lord. Praise brings a completeness to our relationship with the Lord that nothing else can.



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## When Should We Praise?

- ✠ Some view praise as only an emotional display. In reality praise is more of a discipline than it is emotionalism. To define emotionalism in this context is to be controlled by the dictates of your emotions. If we praise or don't praise, based on how we feel, that would be emotionalism. There is of course times that our praise and our emotions are in agreement. It is ok to be emotional when the Word is your foundation. We should praise because the Word says for us to do so. Now lets look at some appropriate times to praise.

### James 5:13

13 Is anyone among you afflicted (ill-treated, suffering evil)? He should pray. Is anyone glad at heart? He should sing praise [to God]. AMP

- ✠ We praise Him when we are happy.

### Psalms 42:5

5 Why are you cast down, O my inner self? And why should you moan over me and be disquieted within me? Hope in God and wait expectantly for Him, for I shall yet praise Him, my Help and my God. AMP

- ✠ We praise Him when we are downcast.

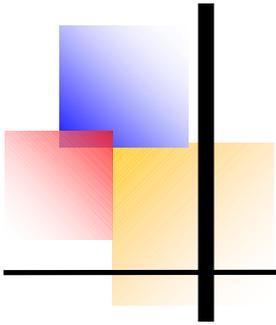
### Habakkuk 3:17-19

Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls —

18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

19 The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills. NKJV

- ✠ We praise Him when everything is going wrong. Circumstances should never determine whether we praise God or not. The joy of the Lord is your strength. Praise will cause joy to be released.



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## **Acts 16:23-27**

23 And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely.

24 Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

25 But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. NKJV

✠ Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises unto God after they had been beaten and cast into prison. They had a choice to complain or to praise God. They made the right choice and look how it paid off. God brought deliverance to them.

## **Psalms 57:8-9**

8 Awake, my glory! Awake, lute and harp! I will awaken the dawn.

9 I will praise You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing to You among the nations. NKJV

## **Psalms 119:62**

At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You, because of Your righteous judgments. NKJV

## **Psalms 119:164**

Seven times a day I praise You, because of Your righteous judgments. NKJV

## **Psalms 34:1**

I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. NKJV

## **Psalms 35:28**

And my tongue shall speak of Your righteousness and of Your praise all the day long. NKJV

## **Psalms 71:8**

My mouth shall be filled with Your praise and with Your honor all the day. AMP

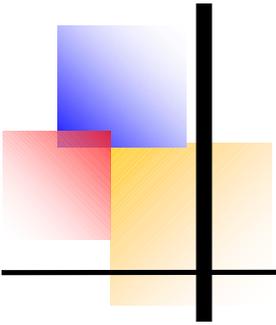
## **Psalms 145:2**

Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever. NKJV

## **Psalms 113:1-2**

1 PRAISE THE Lord! (Hallelujah!) Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord!

2 Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forever AMP



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## Where Should We Praise?

### **Psalms 22:22**

I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise You. NKJV

### **Psalms 22:25**

My praise shall be of You in the great assembly; I will pay My vows before those who fear Him. NKJV

### **Psalms 26:12**

My foot stands in an even place; in the congregations I will bless the LORD. NKJV

### **Psalms 35:18**

I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people. NKJV

### **Psalms 68:24-26**

24 They see Your goings, O God, even the [solemn processions] of my God, my King, into the sanctuary [in holiness].

25 The singers go in front, the players on instruments last; between them the maidens are playing on tambourines.

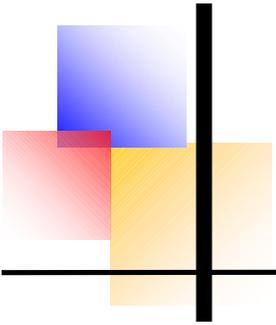
26 Bless, give thanks, and gratefully praise God in full congregations, even the Lord, O you who are from [Jacob] the fountain of Israel. AMP

† The scripture clearly points to congregational praise to be done in the sanctuary. One side note: Israel didn't believe in silent dignified praise. When they praised they did it with everything that was within them. Western churches have much to learn about Hebrew praise.

### **Psalms 96:3-4**

3 Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples.

4 For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. NKJV



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## **Psalms 40:3**

And He has put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many shall see and fear (revere and worship) and put their trust and confident reliance in the Lord. AMP

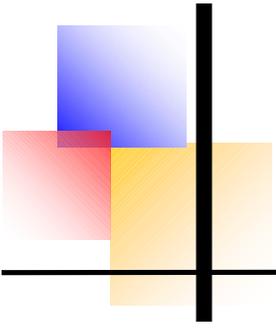
- † The praises of the saints are not limited to only the ears of other Christians. When sinners see and hear the praise given to God for His marvelous deeds and His greatness they will fear and put their trust in Him. If you never praise you are at a great disadvantage.

## **Psalms 113:3-4**

3 From the rising of the sun to its going down the LORD's name is to be praised.

4 The LORD is high above all nations, His glory above the heavens. NKJV

- † At first glance these verses would seem to mean from morning until dark. I don't see why this wouldn't be a good interpretation. There is however another interpretation. Notice he said from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, making reference to a place not a time. We could say from one horizon to the other the name of the Lord is to be praised. Meaning everywhere.



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## Study Questions

1. List as many reasons as you can for praising God.
2. God inhabits our praise. Explain this statement.
3. T or F. Praise is given to God only during good times.
4. Read Habakkuk 3:17-19. What did Habakkuk say to do when nothing is going well?
5. When should we praise the Lord?
6. T or F. We should declare His marvelous deeds only among other believes.
7. Where should we praise the Lord?
8. What did God reveal to you as you studied?

## Extra Blessing

**(Study To Show Yourself Approved Unto God 2 Timothy 2:15)**

Psalms 150