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Rice Memorial MBC

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All Creation Praises the Lord

Definitions in **bold letters** are from **Strong's** Exhaustive Concordance
Other definitions are from **Webster's** Dictionary, 1828 Edition
or Roget's Thesaurus – **January 29, 2017**

Worship with us at 3201 Mary St until we rebuild our sanctuary at 15th & State.
...We're located just behind Kaufman's Lumber Company in Little Rock Arkansas...

Psalm 148:1-14

Introduction: The author of this psalm is unknown. The occasion on which it was composed was probably the same as that on which the two previous psalms and the two following were written - each commencing and closing with a Hallelujah. That occasion was, most probably, as before remarked, the **rebuilding of Jerusalem** AFTER the **captivity**, and the dedication of the temple.

The psalm is, in general, a call on all parts of the universe to praise the Lord. It is properly divided into two portions. In the first Psalm 148:1-6, the call is addressed to the **HEAVENS** - to all that is **above the earth** - to **praise Yahweh**; in the second Psalm 148:7-14, the call is addressed to all the **DWELLERS** on the earth to unite in that praise. The psalm is most animated and triumphant. The language accords with the sentiment. It is adapted to the most **animating** and **spirit-stirring MUSIC**; and these psalms - this and the two preceding and the two following - in style, in sentiment, in poetic beauty, in sublimity, in their adaptedness to fill the soul with lofty emotions - are eminently suited to close the whole collection - the entire Book of Psalms. Little can be needed, or can be added, in illustration of the sentiments of the psalm. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bnb/psalms-148.html>)

Psalm 148:1, PRAISE ye the LORD (Jehovah [Yahweh]). Praise ye the LORD (Yahweh)
from the **heavens:** *praise him in the heights.*

Praise defined 1984 halal pronounced haw-lal', to boast (EXTOL: magnify, celebrate);
to RAVE (delirious [WILD {indicating strong EMOTION, INTENSE excitement}]);
causatively, to CELEBRATE.

NOTE: ...from the heavens - On the part of the heavens. Let THOSE who dwell in heaven begin the song.

Praise him in the heights - All that are in the heights; to wit, in the highest parts of the universe, or the heavens.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bnb/psalms-148.html>)

Psalm 148:2, Praise ye him, ALL his **angels: praise ye him, ALL his **hosts (ARMY).****

NOTE: ... all his angels] Whose proper office it is to ADORE and PRAISE God, Job 38:7, Isaiah 6:3, Hebrews 1:6, which also they do constantly and completely; as those that both perfectly **know him** and **love him**. Jacob saw them, **1. ASCENDING**, to contemplate and

praise the Lord, and minister to him, Luke 2:13, Dan. 7:10, Matt. 18:10, Psalms 103:20.
2. DESCENDING, to **execute God's will upon men**, for **mercy** to some, and for **judgment** to others; which tendeth much to his praise. And David, by calling upon these heavenly courtiers, provoketh and pricketh on himself to praise God.
(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/jtc/psalms-148.html>)

Job 38:7, When the **morning stars SANG together**, and all the **sons of God shouted** for JOY?

Luke 2:13-14, And suddenly there was with the ANGEL a **multitude** of the heavenly **host (the angels) PRAISING** God, and saying, **Glory** to God in the highest (**the heavens**), and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Psalm 103:20, **Bless (praise, thank)** the LORD (Yahweh), ye **his ANGELS**, that excel in strength, that DO his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.

Psalm 148:3, **Praise ye him, SUN and MOON: praise him, all ye STARS of light.**

NOTE: There are the sun, moon, and stars, which continually, either day or night, present themselves to our view, as looking-glasses, in which we may see a faint shadow (for so I must call it, NOT a resemblance) of the glory of him that is the **Father of lights**, Psalm 148:3. The greater lights, the sun and moon, are not too great, too bright, to praise him and the praises of the less lights, the stars, shall not be slighted. **Idolaters** made the sun, moon, and stars, **their gods**, and praised them, worshipping and serving the **creature**, because it is seen, more than the **Creator**, because he is not seen but we, who worship the **true God** only, make THEM our fellow-worshippers, and call upon them to praise him with us, nay, as Levites to attend us, who, as priests, offer this spiritual sacrifice. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/psalms-148.html>)

Romans 1:24-25, Wherefore God also **gave them up to uncleanness** through the LUSTS of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves; Who **changed (exchanged)** the TRUTH of God **into (FOR)** a **lie**, and WORSHIPPED and SERVED the **creature (CREATION)** more than the **Creator**, who is blessed for ever.

Psalm 148:4, **Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens.**

NOTE: There are the **heavens** of heavens **above** the **sun** and **stars**, the seat of the blessed from the vastness and brightness of these unknown orbs abundance of glory redounds to God, for the heavens of heavens are the Lord's (Psalm 115:16) and yet they cannot contain him, 1 Kings 8:27.

1 Kings 8:27, But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the **heaven** and heaven of heavens **cannot contain thee**; how much less this house that I have builded?

The learned Dr. Hammond understands here, by the heavens of heavens, the **upper regions** of the **air**, or **ALL** the regions of it, as Psalm 68:33. We read of the heaven of heavens, whence God sends forth his voice, and that a mighty voice, meaning the thunder. (3.) There are the waters that are above the heavens, **the clouds** that hang above in the air, where they are reserved against the day of battle and war, Job 38:23. We have reason to praise God, not only that these waters do not drown the earth, but that they do water it and make it fruitful. The Chaldee paraphrase reads it, Praise him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters that depend on the word of him who is above the heavens, for the **KEY** of the clouds is one of the keys which God has in his hand, wherewith **HE opens** and **none can shut**, **HE shuts** and **none can open**.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/psalms-148.html>)

Psalm 148:5-6, Let them praise the **name (authority)** of the LORD (Yahweh): for he **commanded**, and they **were created**. He hath also **stablished** them **for ever** and ever: he hath made **a decree** which shall NOT PASS.

NOTE: For he commanded, and they were created. He hath also **stablished** them forever and ever. Herein are stated the **grounds of praise**. He stablishes the things which he creates, so that they never can free themselves from entire subserviency (instrumental use, subordination) to His will. There can be no change but by His appointment. He hath **made a decree** which shall NOT pass. So respecting the sea (Job 38:10-11),

Job 38:1, 4, 9-11, Then the LORD answered Job... ..Where wast thou when I laid the **foundations** of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.

... When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddling band for it, And brake up for it my **decreed** place, and **set bars** and **doors**, And said, **Hitherto** shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves **be stayed?**

... Hengstenberg takes the singular as referring to **each PART of creation**, or to ALL the parts regarded as one whole (cf. Psalms 104:9; Jeremiah 5:22).

The "**DECREE**" is the **ORDER** or **sphere** and **law of being prescribed** to ALL CREATED things, which order does NOT pass or change so long as God wills it, nor until they have fulfilled the purpose assigned to them. The stars must pursue their course; the upper and lower waters must remain distinct.

(Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/jfu/psalms-148.html>)

Psalm 148:7, Praise the LORD (Yahweh) from the earth, ye **DRAGONS**, and ALL **deeps**...

Dragons defined 8577, a marine or land monster, i.e. sea-serpent or jackal:-- whale.

NOTE: Let the dragons or WHALES, that sport themselves in the mighty waters (Psalm 104:26), **dance** before the Lord, to his glory, who largely proves his own **omnipotence** (almighty power) by his dominion over the **leviathan** or **whale**, Psalm 41:1, &c. All deeps, and their inhabitants, PRAISE God --the sea, and the animals there--the bowels of the earth, and the animals there.

(Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/mhm/psalms-148.html>)

Psalm 148:8, **Fire**, and **hail**; **snow**, and **vapour (fume, i.e. smoke)**; **stormy wind** fulfilling HIS WORD...

NOTE: If we look up into the **atmosphere** we meet with a great **variety** of **meteors**, which, being a king of new productions (and some of them unaccountable), do in a special manner **magnify** the power of the great Creator. There are **fiery meteors** lightning is **FIRE**, and there are other **blazes** sometimes kindled which may be so called. There are WATERY METEORS, hail, and snow, and the vapours of which they are gendered. There are **airy meteors**, stormy winds we know NOT whence they come nor whither they go, whence their mighty force comes nor how it is spent but this we know, that, be they ever so strong, so stormy, they fulfil God's word, and do that, and no more than that, which he appoints them... (Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/mhm/psalms-148.html>)

Psalm 148:9-10, **Mountains**, and all **hills**; **fruitful trees**, and all **cedars**... **Beasts**, and all **cattle**; **creeping things**, and **flying fowl**...

NOTE: Take a view of the surface of the earth (Psalm 148:9), and there are presented to our view the exalted grounds, mountains and all hills, from the barren tops of some of which, and the fruitful tops of others, we may **fetch MATTER** for **praise** there are the exalted **plants**, some that are exalted by their usefulness, as the FRUITFUL TREES of various kinds, for the **fruits** of which God is to **be praised**, others by **their stateliness**, as

all **cedars**, those trees of the Lord, Psalm 104:16. **Cedars**, the **high trees**, are NOT the fruitful trees, yet they had their USE even in God's temple. Pass we next to the animal kingdom, and there we find God glorified, even by the **beasts** that run WILD, and all cattle that are TAME and in the service of man, Psalm 148:10. Nay, even the creeping things have NOT sunk so low, nor do the flying fowl soar so high, as NOT to be **called upon to praise the Lord**. Much of the wisdom, power, and goodness of the **Creator** appears in the several capacities and instincts of the creatures, in the **provision made for them** and the use made of them. When we see all so very strange, and all so very good, surely we cannot but acknowledge God with WONDER and THANKFULNESS.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/psalms-148.html>)

Psalm 148:11-13, Kings of the earth, and ALL people; princes, and ALL judges of the earth; BOTH young men, and maidens; old men, and children; Let them PRAISE the name of the LORD (Yahweh):
for his **NAME** alone is excellent; his **GLORY** is ABOVE the earth and heaven.

NOTE: God is to be praised in the **ORDER** and **constitution** of **kingdoms**, -the part that commands, and --the part that is subject: Kings of the earth and all people. It is BY HIM that **KINGS reign**, and **people are subject to them** the **princes** and **JUDGES** of the earth have their wisdom and their commission from him, and we, to whom they are blessings, **ought to bless God** for them. God is to be praised also in the constitution of **families**, for HE is the FOUNDER of THEM and for all the comfort of relations, the comfort that parents and children, brothers and sisters, have in each other, God is to be praised. **2.** God is to be glorified by these. Let all manner of persons praise God.

(1.) Those of **each RANK**, high and low. The praises of kings, and princes, and judges, are demanded those **on whom God has put honour** MUST **honour him** with it, and the power they are entrusted with, and the figure they make in the world, put them in a capacity of **bringing more glory** to God and doing him **more service** than others. Yet the praises of the PEOPLE are EXPECTED also, and God will graciously accept of them Christ despised not the hosannas of the multitude. (2.) Those of **EACH SEX**, young men and maidens, who are accustomed to make merry together let them turn their mirth into this channel let it be SACRED, that it may be PURE. (3.) Those of **EACH AGE**.

Old men must still bring forth this fruit in **old age**, and NOT think that either the gravity or the infirmity (feebleness) of their age will excuse them from it and **children** too must begin betimes (EARLY) to praise God even out of the **mouth** of **babes** and **sucklings** **this GOOD WORK is perfected**.

A good reason is given (Psalm 148:13) WHY all these should *praise the name of the Lord*, because *his NAME alone is excellent* and **worthy to be praised** it is a **name** above every name, no name, no nature, but his, has in it all excellency.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/psalms-148.html>)

Thought 1. Even though, Jesus (Yahshua) has been exalted by God the Father, Yahweh, he did NOT exalt Jesus ABOVE himself. Yahweh will forever, and always, be the "Highest."

Matthew 28:18, And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All **power (authority)** is GIVEN unto ME in heaven and in earth.

1 Corinthians 15:27, For he (*Father*) hath put ALL things under his (*Jesus*) feet. But when he saith, ALL things are put UNDER him, it is **manifest (clear)** that He (*Father*) is **excepted**, which did put ALL things under him.

Ephesians 4:4, 6, There is... **...One God** (supreme (HIGHEST in authority) **Divinity**) and **Father** of ALL, who is ABOVE all...

1 Corinthians 8:6, But to US there is but **ONE God (supreme Divinity)**, the **Father**, of (from) whom are ALL things, and we in him; and ONE Lord (RULER) Jesus Christ...

Psalm 148:14, He also **exalteth** the **horn** of **his people**, the **praise** of all **his saints**; even of the children of Israel, a **PEOPLE** **near (allied [leagued: joined])** unto him. Praise ye the LORD.

NOTE: Most of all his OWN people, who are dignified with peculiar privileges, must in a peculiar manner **give glory** to him, Psalm 148:14. Observe, 1. The **dignity** God has put upon his people, even the children of Israel, typical of the honour reserved for all **TRUE believers**, who are God's **spiritual Israel**. He **EXALTS** their **horn**, their **brightness**, their **plenty**, their **power**. The people of Israel were, in many respects, honoured (GLORIFIED) above any other nation, for to them pertained the **adoption**, **the GLORY**, and the **covenants**, Romans 9:4. It was their own honour (GLORY) that they were a people near unto God, his Segulla, **his peculiar treasure** they were admitted into his courts, when a **stranger** that came nigh must be put to DEATH.

They had him **NIGH** to them in all that which they called upon him for. This blessing has NOW come upon the **Gentiles**, through **Christ**, for those that were afar off are by **his blood made NIGH**, Ephesians 2:13. It is the greatest honour (GLORY) that can be put upon a man to be brought near to God, the nearer the better and it will be best of all when nearest of all in the kingdom of **GLORY**. 2. The **duty** God expects from them in consideration of this. Let those whom God honours (GLORIFIES) honour (GLORIFY) him: Praise you the Lord (Yahweh). (Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/mhm/psalms-148.html>)

Thought 1. Notice, even though a common saying is "To God be **ALL** the **GLORY**", God's Word says differently. Scripture reveals, **FIRST**, give **HIM** the **GLORY** due unto his name, then, those who **HE SAYS** are also "DUE glory", and then he **WILL** also give **US** "GLORY."

Psalms 29:2, Give unto **the LORD** (Yahweh) the **GLORY** **DUE unto** his **name**...

1 Samuel 2:30, Wherefore the LORD (Yahweh) God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for **THEM** that **honour (GLORIFY) me** **I WILL honour (GLORIFY)**, and they that **despise** me shall be lightly esteemed.

Matthew 5:16, Let your **light** so shine before men, that they may **SEE** your **GOOD WORKS**, and **GLORIFY** your Father which is in heaven.

Psalm 84:11 ...the Lord will **GIVE GRACE** and **GLORY:** no **GOOD** thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Proverbs 3:35, The **WISE** shall inherit **GLORY:** but **shame** shall be the **promotion** of **FOOLS**.

Proverbs 15:33, The **FEAR (reverence)** of the Lord (Yahweh) is the instruction of wisdom; and **before honour (GLORY)** is **HUMILITY**.

NOTE: Let **HIM** be **the praise** of all his saints, the **OBJECT** of their praise for he **IS** a praise to them. He is **THY PRAISE**, and he is **THY GOD**, Deut. 10:21. Some by the **horn** of his people understand **David**, as a **type** (figure of something to come, symbol) of **Christ**, whom **God** has **EXALTED** to be a prince and a Saviour, who is indeed the praise of all his saints and will be so for ever for it is through him that they are a people near to God. (Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/mhm/psalms-148.html>)

Philippians 2:8-11, And being found in fashion as a **MAN**, he (*Jesus*) **humbled himself**, and became **obedient** unto **death**, even the **death** of the **cross**. Wherefore (for this reason) God also hath **HIGHLY EXALTED** him, and given him a **name** which is **above** every **name: (except his own name)** That at the **name (authority)** of **Jesus** (Yahshua) every **KNEE** should **BOW**, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should **confess** that **Jesus Christ** is Lord (**RULER**), to the **GLORY** of **God the Father**.