

Psalm 145:1-21

Purpose: to challenge all to glorify God by worshiping the King who reigns over all

Introduction: The Psalm is from book five of the Psalms (107-145). These are primarily praise Psalms. It is the last Psalm before the climax of praise found in 146-150. It is the last of David's 73 Psalms. It is an acrostic Psalm, with the exception of the letter N.

Its focus seems to be on Yahweh's great reign over a universal kingdom.

It is a praise of David. This is the only Psalm with this title (see the superscription). In Jewish practice this Psalm was repeated twice in the morning and once in the evening service. How can we glorify God

- 1) We glorify God for who He is—His universal **KINGSHIP**—145:1-9
  - a) By determining by His grace to exalt Him—145:1-2
  - b) By praising Him for His infinite greatness/majesty—145:3
    - i) God's greatness cannot be completely known by our finite minds.
    - ii) But not abstractly. Look at the specifics in 145:4-7.
  - c) By telling our family about God's mighty works—145:4
  - d) By meditating on Him—145:5-6
    - i) Literally, "*the splendor of the glory of Your majesty, and the matters of Your amazing deeds I will ponder*"
  - e) By telling others of His awesome acts and greatness—145:6
  - f) By remembering the abundance of His goodness and by singing of His righteousness—145:7
    - i) Literally, "*the fame of the greatness of Your goodness*"
  - g) By talking accurately about the character of Yahweh—145:8
    - i) *Gracious (chanun), full of compassion (raham), slow to anger, great in loyal love (hesed).*
    - ii) Cf. Exodus 34:6-7; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 86:15; 103:8; Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2; Nahum 1:3
  - h) By declaring His common grace, expressed in *goodness [tob]* and *tender mercies [rahamim]*—145:9
  
- 2) We glorify God for what He does—His universal **KINGDOM**—145:10-21
  - a) By thanking and blessing Yahweh—145:10
  - b) By talking of the glory and splendor of His kingdom and power—145:11-12
    - i) Note the repetition of *glory [kabod]* & *power [geburah]*, *mighty [geburah]* and *glorious [kabod]*
  - c) By recognizing His faithful, eternal, sovereign rule—145:13
    - i) The universal kingdom
  - d) By reminding each other of His **ongoing** care—145:14
    - i) How different is God's kingdom from the kingdom of men. Here the King condescends to meet the needs of His people!

- e) By depending expectantly for His **timely** care—145:15-16
    - i) He satisfies our desires because He is the God-who-is-enough.
  - f) By reminding each other of His *righteousness* [tsaddiyq] and *loyal love* [hesed]—145:17
  - g) By reminding each other of His nearness—145:18-19
    - i) When we pray truthfully
  - h) By reminding each other of His protection—145:20
    - i) Of those He loves, and His judgment of the wicked
  - i) By anticipating the day when all people will bless His holy name forever and ever—145:21
    - i) This then provides the theme of the concluding praise Psalms 146-150.
- 3) Summary and applications
- a) Promises like these, though addressed to individuals in the kingdom, transcend the particulars and guarantee that the kingdom (of God, demonstrated through the kingdom of Israel) as a whole will not only survive but will triumph to the glory of God. (Merrill, *Everlasting Dominion*, 600)
  - b) Do you see your problem to be that you need more faith, or do you need a greater vision of who God is and what God does?