

Psalm 135

Everyone praise the LORD

¹ Praise the LORD! Yes, praise His matchless name. Praise Him, ² you who are responsible to labor for the LORD in God's house! ³ Everyone, praise the LORD. Do it because He is good. Sing praises to His name because it is lovely in every sense.

Why everyone should praise Him

1) He controls nature

⁴ We should worship the LORD because He has chosen Jerusalem and the people of Israel as His precious possession. ⁵ I am convinced that the LORD is great, and He is the God of all so-called gods. ⁶ After all, He does whatever He wants, and He does it in heaven and on earth. He also does it in the seas and at the bottom of the deepest ocean. ⁷ At creation the LORD designed the laws of nature so that water vapor permeates the atmosphere. When the LORD causes the winds to blow, those water vapors collect and form clouds all over the world. When conditions are right, the water condenses and falls as rain accompanied by lightning.

2) He controls nations and their leaders

⁸ The LORD killed the firstborn children in Egypt. This even included the son of Pharaoh himself. At the same time He killed the firstborn of all of the animals there. ⁹ He sent all kinds of plagues upon Pharaoh and the Egyptians in order to force Pharaoh to release the children of Israel from bondage. ¹⁰⁻¹² That's not all. He killed all of the kings of the nations of Canaan by giving Israel's army victory over them in battle. Then He gave the conquered land to the children of Israel as an inheritance.

3) He is the greatest and has compassion upon His people

¹³ LORD, You are everlasting, Your name will endure forever, and people will remember You throughout all generations. ¹⁴ The biggest reason they will do so is because You will judge Your people according to justice, and You have a deep sympathy for your children who are hurting accompanied by a deep desire to come to their aid¹.

Why idols are no match for the true God

¹⁵ The idols of those conquered nations were useless and were nothing more than man-made figures made of gold or silver. What are they like?

- 1) ¹⁶ They are crafted with a mouth, but they cannot form words or speak a sound.
- 2) They are crafted with eyes, but they cannot see a single thing.
- 3) ¹⁷ They are crafted with ears, but they can't hear a thing.
- 4) Since they are not alive, they are nothing more than inanimate objects, unable to help their owners. ¹⁸ Those who craft them and/or put their trust in them will become spiritually deaf, dumb, and blind just like their idols. In the end, they will be lost forever.

Israel, bless the LORD and fear Him

¹⁹ All of you who make up the nation of Israel, bless and thank the LORD. ²⁰ You full-time workers in God's house, bless and thank the LORD. You who have a genuine, Biblical fear of the God, bless and thank the LORD. ²¹ Bless the LORD from Jerusalem because He is the One who has taken up residence in the temple there. Yes, everyone, everywhere should praise the LORD!

¹ Definition of "compassion" www.dictionary.com/browse/compassion

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