

Psalm 113

Redeemed to Praise the Glory of Our Compassionate God

Tuesday, February 27, 2024 • Read Psalm 113

Questions from the Scripture text: With what command does this Psalm begin (v1a, cf. 111:1a, 112:1a) and conclude (v9c)? What does v1b call its recipients? What, specifically, are they to praise (v1c)? Why (v2a)? For how long (v2b)? How continually will His Name be praised (v3a–b)? Above whom is He (v4a)? How great is His glory (v4b)? What rhetorical question does v5a ask? With what implied answer? Where does He dwell (v5b)? What does He do from there (v6a)? Why (v6b)? What does He do for whom in v7? Why (v8)? What does He do for whom in v9a? Like whom (v9b)?

What is the point of redemption? Psalm 113 prepares us for the opening portion of public worship on the Lord's Day. In these nine verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **the point of the great God's redeeming of lowly men is to be praised for it forever—especially by the redeemed.**

Who praises, v1–2a. The Psalm is especially for God's slaves, God's servants. "Praise!" it commands, three times. The Lord's Name is blessed in and of itself (v2a), and He will be praised by all His works. But this is the special place of the redeemed: to praise their redeeming God!

When, v2b–3. The next section of the Psalm covers two "when" aspects of God's praise: duration and persistence. He will be praised from this time, in the coming time, and forever. And this praise never takes a moment off: it is from the rising of the sun to its going down. Our view of things is short-sighted; we tend to be forgetful of eternity. And, it is narrow. We see some circumstances but forget that the God Who rules over all by grace is continually being praised in glory. This continual, forever praise is what we have been redeemed to participate in and lead!

How much, 4–5. Man is so impressed with himself, but YHWH is above all men taken together—indeed, high above them (v4a)! This is not surprising; man is a small creature when he views himself next to the heavens (cf. 8:3–4).

For what, v6–9. YHWH has infinite greatness in Himself, but it is especially in helping lowly man that He most displays His glory. And all men are lowly. The Lord "has to stoop" way down (v6a) even to look at what's in the heavens and in the earth (v6b). And upon whom does the Lord especially bend His redeeming eye? Upon the poor (v7a), the needy (v8a), and the barren (9a). The poor is in the dust. The needy is in the ash heap. And the barren woman has no home—probably because she has been rejected by men, to whom she cannot bear offspring.

But the Lord's people (v8b) do not have the same social structure as this world. YHWH, Whose glory is above the heavens, sets the poor and needy among the princes (v8) and gives the barren woman a home. A mother of children should have joy in the Lord, from Whom she receives her children, and Whom she serves in rearing them. But if the joy is in the Lord, then one doesn't need children to have the joy; she only needs the Lord!

Dear reader, all creation will praise YHWH forever, but it is especially to lowly sinners such as yourself that He has given the chief place of praise. He stoops down to lift the lowly up to rejoicing in Himself. Find in Him your salvation, your purpose, your place, and your joy!

What place does praising God have in your schedule? What place does it have in your ordinary thinking and feeling? How big do people and nations seem in your thoughts? Who is bigger? How does He impress that greatness upon your heart? Upon whom does God look with mercy? What does He do for them? What do they have in Him?

Sample prayer: O Lord, blessed is Your Name, morning and night, forever and ever! You are high above all the nations, and Your glory above the heavens! But You have most displayed Your incomparable greatness in Your mercy to us who are lowly. There is no height greater than the height of rejoicing in You. Now, stoop down in Your mercy, we ask, and lift us to the height of rejoicing in You as Your princes, we ask through Christ, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP113 "O Praise the LORD" or TPH113B "Praise God, O Servants of the Lord"

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Psalm 113. These are God's words. Praise Yahweh. Praise the Servants of Yahweh. Praise the name of Yahweh. Must be the name of Yahweh from this time forth and forevermore from the rising of the sun to its going down. Yahweh's name is to be praised. Yahweh is high Above All Nations.

His glory above the heavens, Who is like Yahweh, Our God who dwells on high who hbles himself. To behold the things that are in the heavens and in the Earth, He raises the poor out of the Dust and lifts the needy out of the ash Heap. That he may set him with Princess.

With the princes of his people. He grants the barren woman. Like a joyful mother of children. Praise. Amen, that sends this reading of God's inspired and and Aaron twart. Psalms 113 through 118. Called the Halal Psalms. Not in the Bible. are, are they called that? Although Halal just means praise.

Hallelujah. Praise y'all. Yah Yahweh? Hallelujah means y'all praise Yahweh. praise God. And, These Psalms came by tradition to be sung, especially around the time of the Passover. when it talks about after the Last Supper, The Lord Jesus and the disciples saying to him as they were departing.

It would have been one of the Psalms From this particular. section of the Salter almost certainly. And so that reminds us that wherever we are in the Salter and we We are singing with Jesus. These are the songs that he, by his. In his Divine. nature. Gave for when he would come.

As as a man and have to grow in wisdom and have to grow in favor with God. And with men, And so, just a reminder, Of that. but this is indeed a Psalm that lives up to that name. That Halal Verb. Appears in the first three lines.

As the initial command. Praise Yahweh. Praise those Servants of Yahweh. Praise The name of Yahweh. And so this is very much a hallelujah solem, or even Hallelujah. Psalm Now, who is to praise? Well, all creatures are going to praise Yahweh. But there are especially those Servants of Yahweh, those slaves.

Of Yahweh that he has taken. for his own praise. This is This is what he told Pharaoh. Let my people go, that they may be enslaved to me and as we To hear that progress, in Exodus We hear that especially it is to come and be gathered to him at the mountain, not just to worship him at Sinai but remembering that at Sinai he's going to give them the design of the Tabernacle we are still hearing.

We're about to depart from Sinai in the book of nbers but throughout the Book of Leviticus, we heard on Mount Sinai at Mount Sinai that here was their new king who had redeemed them. Out of their old slavery, which was a tyrannical bondage and brought them into a new slavery or a new service.

Sorry and brought them into a new service. which is to be those who have been redeemed from the sort of slavery to be worshipers to be praisers. to be full of joy in the knowledge of and in belonging to, and being brought near. having Atonement for their sins and descending to him, and the tribute that That is a token of their belonging to him and his belonging to them.

And And the Peace of Of Fellowship with him. And all of these things, of course. Not being decreased by the removal of the Earthly, copy, the Earthly Shadow Tabernacle, but increased. by the Lord Jesus being your Tabernacle. So who Praises? Well, you if you are in Christ, this is what you have been saved for.

To be the. Appraisers of God from among all the creatures, even the Angels. Cannot offer the sort of Praise. That a redeemed Saint. In Jesus Christ offers unto him. They join in the song. But, They only get to be. Ancillary Outsiders. As we praise him. With the song that you see in Revelation for you have redeemed, By your blunt.

So that's who Praises when well forever. this is that's where our praise is going, but we don't have to wait until then. If we have been brought by grace through faith, in Jesus Christ, and to fellowship with God already, if we have been made righteous before him and reconciled to him, we are already able to give this sort of phrase now that we will perfectly give forever.

Yeah, and so we can Genuinely praise him. From this time forth and forevermore. And so, Not only are we going, are we to praise him in the assembly? but we are to praise him. All day long. Give thanks. continually The Apostle writes to the Thessalonians of from the rising of the sun to its going down.

Yahweh's name is to be praised. Everything in his creation, everything in his work, brings him honor brings him. Praise And so, We ought to have our eyes out for that and our hearts uplifted towards him. That, that would be as it were the, the background music of our heart.

And, How much richer Our Lives would be? the more that we follow that. So who Praises you when eternally. At particular times in his assembly. but also all day long. Continually. How much? well in a way that is appropriate to who he is. He's high above all nations.

Nations have been. battling for preeminence. Ever since there have been Nations. And God actually divided them up into Nations so that they would remember the e as the preeminence. You remember man was still United after the flood? Until they tried to men. Collaborated in giving himself the preeminence over God at Babel.

And so in God's mercy, he confused the tongues and divided the peoples into the 70 Nations there. And, and of course, man and his sinfulness would instead rage And plot in vain to overthrow the Lord and is anointed Psalm 2. But even all the power and Glory of all the nations.

But together of course, as infinitesimal, it's nothing. Compared to God, Yahweh is high above all nations. His glory above the heavens, there's no one like him. Who dwells on? So there's no one like him. in his power and therefore we are to praise him for that.

But that means that he is since he is so high. There's always also no one like him in his compassion. Or in his Mercy, those who are great among men, very rarely, take an interest in those who are far beneath them as far as men go. but he who is greater than all the nations has taken an interest in the least of men.

And we can see the glory of God even in that, that it is not lower for God to stoop to the poor of the needy. It is not lower for God to stoop down. To help the barren woman. Than it is for God to stoop down. To help kings and princes, he's stooping.

The same amount to each one before God, men are equal. We have different ranks within the order of his Providence. But the same distance of each of those ranks from us. Unto the Lord. And so, even his greatness is glorified. And the glory of his greatness is Amplified by his compassion.

And so he raises the pore out of the Dust. He lifts the needy out of the ash sheep and he sets him with his princess. we are At kings and Priests to, our God. by the Redemption of his blood, that's the song in Revelation, isn't it? And so, All of God's children are royalty in heaven.

however, lowly, they may be on Earth, and so, surely rather than trying to exalt ourselves among men, which is a Fool's errand and puts us on the wrong side of Psalm 2. Surely, we ought to Hble ourselves before him knowing that in Christ. We are royalty and glory.

That is the greatness of the place to which we will be lifted and and that exaltation in him having him himself as our reward being seated with his princes in the Lord Jesus. Who The Crown Prince the King of it resolves, all of the problems in our life.

Yeah, how sad. Was the state of the barren woman. Who could not have a child? And yet whether it's she here in Psalm 113 verse 9 or the eunuch who keeps the Sabbath in Isaiah 56. She has a, a family that has more fulfilling. And that is forever. In glory.

Because she is. see it too. Is seated with the princess. and the joy that she has as being part of God's household, God's family that she is to Delight in. There is greater than That of A mother. That joy that a mother has in the children whom she's been able to bear and has had that intimacy with and that she's rearing with her husband and dependence upon God, according to his word and she sees them growing and coming to Faith and And the working out of his grace and their lives.

the joy of a joyful mother of children is great. And so verse 9 says, Because of her part and the praise of God. Because of her part in the people of God. God has stooped down even to the barren woman. Whose lot in life, includes much deprivation. And he has given her.

Greater Joy, even Than that joyful mother of children. And so, who, who's to praise him as all of creation, which especially his people Forever and continually already and Continually. How much as the infinitely glorious God? And for what, especially for his Redemption in which he has Amplified the greatness of his glory, By the greatness of his compassion.

When he Stoops down and helps us. So praise God for this Halal, Psalm this, Hallelujah, Psalm and his Spirit helping us his Spirit helping you. May the praise of your heart to the infinitely. Glorious God. Who has stooped down infinitely? To lift you up, may that praise indeed be.

the background, the soundtrack for your heart and for your life in this world. And the next, Let's pray.

We thank you, and praise you, our God of Grace. For this amazing glory and mercy to us. That you set before us in this Psalm. And now we pray for the ministry of your spirit. For our whole lifelong. To apply it to us, and make it to be. That which characterizes?

Our hearts. And our lives before you Grant that we ask in Jesus name, amen.