

Date: November 29, 2020
Message: "REASONS TO PRAISE THE LORD"
Text: Psalm 146
Speaker: Steve Balvanz

Introduction:

The psalm begins and ends with a command to "praise the Lord" (v.1,10) and sandwiched in between these two imperatives are many inspired reasons to praise our wonderful Lord. This psalm is an excellent prescription for our souls especially when we succumb to gazing at our circumstances instead of gazing at our awesome God.

I. The Call to Praise the Lord (v.1-2,10)

"Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord while I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being." (v.1,2)

"This 'while I have my being' will be a great while, but the whole of it will be filled up with adoration. The glorious Jehovah is my God, my own God by covenant, and by blood relationship in Jesus Christ. I have no being apart from my God, therefore, I will not attempt to enjoy my being otherwise than by singing to His honor." (C.H. Spurgeon)

II. The Negative Reason to Praise the Lord (v.3-4)

"Do not trust in princes, in mortal man, in whom there is no salvation. His spirit departs, he returns to the earth; In that very day his thoughts perish." (v.3,4)

"All human objects of trust, whether outstanding or ordinary lack ability, continuance, and reliability." (D.A. Carson)

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III. The Positive Reasons to Praise the Lord (v.5-10)

"How blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God" (v.5)

Our happiness of soul is grounded in a personal trust in God as both our present help and also our future hope.

1. Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them (v.6)
2. Who keeps faith forever (v.6)
3. Who executes justice for the oppressed (v.7)
4. Who gives food to the hungry (v.7)
5. The Lord sets the prisoner free (v.7)
6. The Lord opens the eyes of the blind (v.8)
7. The Lord raises up those who are bowed down (v.8)
8. The Lord loves the righteous (v.8)
9. The Lord protects the strangers (v.9)
10. He supports the fatherless and the widow (v.9)
11. He thwarts the way of the wicked (v.9)
12. The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations (v.10)

Conclusion:

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