

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

1) 04 June.....	Psalm 1.....	The Path
2) 11 June.....	Psalm 78.....	The Past
3) 18 June.....	Psalm 23.....	The Shepherd
4) 25 June.....	Psalm 138.....	Our Response
5) 02 July.....	Psalm 84.....	His Presence
6) 09 July.....	Psalm 95.....	The Creator
7) 16 July.....	Psalm 19.....	God Revealed
8) 23 July.....	Psalm 136.....	His Love
<b>9) 30 July.....</b>	<b>Psalm 146.....</b>	<b>His Faithfulness</b>
10) 06 Aug.....	Psalm 51.....	The Confession
11) 13 Aug.....	Psalm 32.....	The Cleansing
12) 20 Aug.....	Psalm 141.....	The Protector
13) 27 Aug.....	Psalm 42.....	The Longing

**INTRODUCTION**

- Psalm 146 is the first of 5 "Hallelujah Psalms" (146-150)
- According to Clarke's commentary, No author's name is prefixed to this psalm, either in the Hebrew or Chaldee. But the Syriac, Arabic, Vulgate, Septuagint, and Ethiopic versions attribute this psalm to Haggai & Zechariah following Jewish return from Babylon.
- In this psalm, we see that God is, was, and will be faithful to past, present, and future generations
- The 5 Hebrew words for praise are used over 300x in the OT; and almost 200x in these 150 psalms; Praise only occurs 36x in the NT
- Over 40x in Psalms godly praise is rendered by singing, dancing, and by playing musical instruments
- According to Psalms, the Sun, Moon, stars, sea creatures, and the deep are also able to praise God {scientists say these elements give off or produce harmonic signatures, IOW – they sing}
- Test Question:** What comes first –  Blessings from God or  Praises from His people?

**UNIQUE ASPECTS OF GODLY PRAISE**

- General Considerations.** Praise is bragging or boasting about someone's awesomeness or greatness or generosity to us or to others. So, praise comes as a result of receiving some deserved or undeserved favor. E.g., God rescues us from turmoil or provides material blessings or saves us or a loved one from harm or Hell; or just for His overall goodness, greatness, mercy, & lovingkindness.
- Note – Not once on the cross did Jesus render praise to His Father
  - ♦ Yet, Jesus honored His Father and brought God glory through His obedience on the Cross.....[Phil 2:8](#)
- The dead (on earth or in Hell) cannot praise God. Only the living (on earth or in Heaven) are able to praise God.....[Ps 88:10](#)
- Scripture says, the afflicted and needy (those suffering), should pray; and those being blessed should "sing praises"..... [James 5:13](#)
- BUT – it is hard to render praise to God, or even to listen to godly direction when under extreme duress.....[Ex 6:9](#)
- YET, Scripture also says the afflicted & needy should offer praises to God.....[Ps 74:21](#)
- AND – even during times of loss, turmoil, or persecution we can still "exult" or "rejoice" in God.....[Hab 3:17-18](#)

Passage	Comments
Psalm 146:1-2	1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! 2 I will praise the LORD while I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>God is worthy of our praises.....<a href="#">Ps 18:3</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Some praise God 7x a day.....<a href="#">Ps 119:164</a></li> <li>♦ Others praise Him all day long.....<a href="#">Ps 35:28</a></li> <li>♦ Still others look forward to praising God FOREVER.....<a href="#">Ps 59:17</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>How often do we make time to Praise God?</li> <li>Is it intentional or incidental? Is it only on Sundays or is throughout the week? What are the results you see from giving God praise?</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
146:3-4	3 Do not trust in princes, in mortal man, in whom there is no salvation. 4 His spirit departs, he returns to the earth; In that very day his thoughts perish.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>So, men are not worth praising since they can do nothing that lasts throughout eternity as God's salvation does</li> <li>Who are we trusting? Parents? Spouse? Bosses? Politicians?</li> <li>But, but, but – some might say, "God doesn't really pay my bills, or keep me warm at night, or make me laugh," or give me a hug"</li> <li>How do we answer such skeptical beliefs?</li> </ul>
146:5-6	5 How blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God; 6 Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; Who keeps faith forever; 7 Who executes justice for the oppressed; Who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We answer such skeptical beliefs with the verse above and below</li> <li>Everything belongs to God, and He looks to bless His people</li> <li>So, if someone is not being blessed by God how do we get them underneath God's care? [Answer: Obedient living] ..... <a href="#">Jer 5:25</a></li> </ul>
146:7-9	8 The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises up those who are bowed down; The LORD loves the righteous; 9 The LORD protects the strangers; He supports the fatherless and the widow, But He thwarts the way of the wicked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are these verses absolutely true for every situation or generally true for some or spiritually true for all? Which perspective is right?</li> <li><b>Consider this.</b> A day is coming when the handicapped will inherit a special Land and become a strong nation..... <a href="#">Micah 4:6-7</a></li> </ul>
146:10	10 The LORD will reign forever, Your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>God is a God for all generations, though He might treat each generation differently – some with mighty supernatural wonders as He did during the time of the Exodus and during the Apostolic era; other generations with providential guidance and care</li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / CONSIDERATIONS**

- Answer to the Test Question:** Fortunately, we still receive much blessings from God though we fail to praise Him adequately.....PTL
- Let everything that has breath praise the LORD .....[Ps 150:6](#)

**NEXT WEEK: Psalm 51.** Psalm 51 is one of 8 penitential psalms (Pss. 6; 28; 32; 38; 51; 102;130; 143). We contemplate, is there anything God will not or cannot forgive? And does someone have to seek forgiveness before they are forgiven?

