

Sermon Title: The Fundamental Principle of Praise in Prayer

Sermon Text: Psalm 145

Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to develop a prayer habit of praise to God for His mighty acts and works.

Sermon Proposition: There are 6 concepts of effectual praise in prayer.

Introduction: Worship appreciates who God is, praise pays tribute to the acts and works of God. He deserves praise “for his acts of power . . . for his surpassing greatness.” (Ps. 150:2)

Believers are encouraged to speak highly of God’s great goodness and gracious compassion (Ps. 145:4-9). God is honored and Christians grow when they credit Him. Praise projects a positive outlook on life by remembering God’s favor.

This Psalm of David is titled “A Psalm of Praise” – the only one in the Psalter with this title. Here begins the grand doxology of the entire collection, for praise plays a large part in Psalms 145-150. The word “praise” is found 46 times in these Psalms.

The Psalm in 145 is where David praises the Lord for His mighty acts, by prayer, which are told from one generation to another.

I. The opening commitment to praise God. V.1-2

Psalm 34:1 <A Psalm of David when he pretended madness before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he departed.> I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth.

Isaiah 12:5 Sing to the LORD, For He has done excellent things; This *is* known in all the earth.

Isaiah 61:3 To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

Revelation 19:5 Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both¹ small and great!"

II. The one commitment to praise God for His greatness. V.3-7

A. Praise declares from generation to generation God’s splendor.

B. Praise declares from generation to generation God’s majesty.

Jude 24 Now to Him who is able to keep you¹ from stumbling, And to present *you* faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, **25** To God our Savior¹, Who alone is wise², *Be* glory and majesty, Dominion and power³, Both now and forever. Amen.

Revelation 15:3 They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous *are* Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true *are* Your ways, O King of the saints!¹ **4** Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For *You* alone *are* holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested."

C. Praise declares from generation to generation God’s work.

1. Meditate on them
2. Sing of them
3. Celebrate them

III. The one commitment to praise God for His great grace. V.8-13

A. The compassion of God is evident in all His works. V.8a (**Luke 23:34**)

Acts 7:59 And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on *God* and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." **60** Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

- B. The **mercy** of God is evident in all His works. V.8b
2 Corinthians 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, **4** who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.
2 Thessalonians 2:16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, **17** comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.
1 Peter 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

C. The **tender mercies** of God is evident in all His works. V.9

D. The **dominion** of God is evident in all His works. V.10-13

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out! **34** "For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor¹?" **35** "Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him¹?" **36** For of Him and through Him and to Him *are* all things, to whom *be* glory forever. Amen.

Revelation 4:11 "You are worthy, O Lord¹, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist² and were created."

IV. The one commitment to praise God for His unfailing **faithfulness**. V.14-16

A. Praise God because He is faithful to all His **promises**.

B. Praise God because He is faithful to all who **fall**.

1. He provides basic needs.

2. He fulfills godly desires.

(**Matt. 5:45; Luke 6:35; Acts 14:17; 17:25**)

V. The one commitment to praise God for His unblemished **righteousness**. V.17-20

A. Praise the Lord for being righteous and loving. V.17-18

B. Praise the Lord for answering those who fear and love. V.19-20

2 Thessalonians 1:9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

Revelation 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. **12** And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God¹, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. **13** The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. **14** Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death¹. **15** And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

VI. The one closing commitment to praise God. V.21

"We understand that the only ones who prepare themselves for prayer adequately are those who are so impressed with God's majesty that they can be free from all earthly worries and affections." – John Calvin