

“The Foundations of Worship and Praise unto the LORD”*

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Text: Psalm 1

Introduction: Worship and praise of the LORD are paramount in the life of a believer, yet true worship and praise of the LORD is often shallow and lethargic.

The Psalms are filled with praise and worship unto the LORD and reveal to us the heart of one who truly does worship and praise the LORD.

In **Psalm 150**, the word “Praise” is said 13 times in 6 verses, ending with the familiar verse, “Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.”

Proposition: **Psalm 150** should exemplify the normal Christian’s worship and praise of the LORD.

Interrogative Sentence: How can the believer come to overflowing praise unto the LORD?

Transitional Sentence: The passage before us in **Psalm 1** reveals the foundations of true worship and praise unto the LORD. **Psalm 1** truly contrasts the believer in Christ and the ungodly without Christ.

I. The Righteous in Christ

A. By faith, the righteous in Christ:

1. Avoid following the sinful purposes and plans of people who have no relationship with God.

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly,

2. Avoid continuing on the sinful road of those who willfully violate God’s Word.

nor standeth in the way of sinners,

3. Avoid purposely establishing bonds with those who speak against Christ, His will, and His saints.

nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Walking in the counsel of the ungodly, standing in the way of sinners, and sitting in the seat of the scornful keeps all from entering into true worship and praise unto the LORD.

B. By faith, the righteous in Christ:

1. Is brought to pleasure in the Word of God.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD;

2. Is brought to ponder, study, speak, and proclaim the Word of God.

and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Without finding pleasure in the Word of God and without pondering, studying, speaking, and proclaiming the Word of God all are kept from entering into true worship and praise unto the LORD.

C. By faith, the righteous in Christ:

1. Is founded in union with the abundant life in Christ, which flows moment by moment, day by day to produce fruit in the life of a believer.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season;

2. Is sustained in union because of the abundant life in Christ, which he pours into the believer.

his leaf also shall not wither;

3. Is a testimony, while in union, of the abundant life in Christ.

and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Without being founded in union with the abundant life in Christ, being sustained in union because of the abundant life in Christ, and being a testimony, while in union, of the abundant life in Christ all are kept from entering into true worship and praise unto the LORD.

Transitional Sentence: The following two verses show us a sharp contrast of those without Christ.

II. The Ungodly without Christ

A. By unbelief, the ungodly without Christ:

1. Follow the sinful purposes and plans of people who have no relationship with God.

Applications: Movies, Television, Music, Magazines, Books

2. Continue on the sinful road of those who willfully violate God's Word.
3. Purposely establish bonds with those who speak against Christ, His will, and His saints.
4. Despise the Word of God.
5. Will not ponder or study the Word of God and will speak and proclaim against the Word of God.

The ungodly are not so:

6. Are not founded in life and bear no fruit, but are threshed lose from life, and like dust and are driven away, by the wind, as it were and forgotten.

but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

B. By unbelief, the ungodly without Christ:

1. Shall be brought to judgment, having not the righteousness of Christ.

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment,

2. Shall not be numbered among the assembly of the justified in Christ.

nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

Transitional Sentence: This final verse reveals to us the end of a man's life, whether he be in Christ or without Christ.

III. The Summation by Christ

A. The way of the believer is properly seen and discerned by Christ the near kinsman, our Kinsman Redeemer who founded them, sustained them, and was a testimony through them.

For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous:

B. The way of the ungodly is that they will not escape, shall be undone, and shall be causitively destroyed, suffering in the Lake of Fire throughout eternity.

but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

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