

## Global Praise

### Psalm 117

Psalms 113-118 are called the “Egyptian Hallel.” For centuries, as far back as the time of Jesus, Jewish people have sung (or chanted or recited) these six psalms while celebrating Passover year after year (remembering how the LORD set them free from enslavement in Egypt and praising Him for it). And it is safe to assume that our Savior did the same during the Passover week in Jerusalem which ended with His death. Matthew 26:30 and Mark 14:26 both tell us that Jesus and His followers sang a hymn before they left the city on the night of His betrayal and arrest. It is possible or very likely that Jesus sang Psalms 113-118 on that very night when He ate the Passover meal with His disciples. It was also on that same night that He established the practice of the Lord’s Supper, which included these words: “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for **many**.”

Psalm 117 is the second to the last of these six Egyptian Hallel psalms. It’s the shortest psalm in the Bible and the shortest chapter in the Bible. And Jesus surely sang this psalm at some point during that Passover week which ended with His crucifixion. These words were certainly on His lips that week.

הַלְלוּ אֶת־יְהוָה כָּל־גּוֹיִם שִׁבְחוּהוּ כָּל־הָאֲמִים:

all peoples! Extol him, all nations! Praise the LORD,

חֲסֵדוֹ

עָלֵינוּ

כִּי גָבַר

is his steadfast love

toward us,

For great

וְאֵמֶת־יְהוָה לְעוֹלָם הַלְלוּ־יְהוָה:

Praise the LORD! endures forever. of the LORD and the faithfulness

*There are many nations and peoples, but there is just one God.*

*This psalm calls for global praise to the only and good God.*

There are Jews and there are Gentiles. There are many cultures and languages. But there is only one true God. The LORD (יְהוָה) is God alone. He is not a localized or tribal deity. His presence, plan, purpose, and relevance are not restricted to certain peoples or regions of the world. Abram was told up front that the plan was **not** to just bless him and his descendants but to bless all people through him (Genesis 12:2-3). What **started** with Abram and his offspring was **never** meant to **end** with them. *It was to expand to all!*

The three commands: Praise the LORD... Extol him... Praise the LORD!

**Why** should this call for global praise be answered by us and by all?

**1. His steadfast love is strong. It p\_\_\_\_\_ mightily.**

His חֲסֵד (chesed) is His faithful, loyal, covenant-upholding, promise-keeping lovingkindness. It is strong and steadfast.

It p\_\_\_\_\_ mightily.

**2. His faithfulness won’t stop. It p\_\_\_\_\_ endlessly.**

His אֵמֶת (emeth) is His consistent, unchanging, utter dependability. His Word is always reliable. His trustworthiness is constant. It’s forever.

The steadfast love and the faithfulness of the LORD extend far beyond Israel, and everyone should answer the call to extol Him for it!

**But** over 3 billion of today’s 8 billion people have little to no access to the gospel right now. “Let’s pray, give, go, and live to make His love known among all of them” so that they will join us in answering this call for global praise!

We can be a part of it! See Psalm 67, Romans 15:8-11, and Revelation 7:9-12!