

I. A GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO PSALM 117

A. A FAMILIAR SERIES (116:1-19; The (Egyptian) Hallel; 113-118; note: Great Hallel, 136)

1. Passover, Weeks & Booths (Lev.23); new moon (Num.29:6); Dedication (Jn.10:22)
2. Passover meal: at beginning, 113,(114); at end, (114)115-118 (Mt.26:30; Mk.14:26; see Eph.5:19; Col.3:16)
3. A Doxology for Psalms 111-116? (see 116:19; 117:1,2; transitioning to 118?; 117:2b; 118:1-4)

B. PUBLIC PRAISE (117:1,2; see 111:1,(10); 112:1,(9); 113:1,9; 114:7; 115:9f; 116:19; 117:1,2; 118:1,29)

C. CHRIST & IN CHRIST (117:1f; see Lk.22:13f; 24:44; see Jn.10:16; 12:20f; Acts; Eph.2:12f; Heb.12:2)

II. THE PINNACLE OF PRAISE! (Psalm 117:1,2)

INTRODUCTION: GOOD THINGS IN SMALL PACKAGES (117:1,2; see Jn.11:35)

A. WHAT: *PRAISE* (1a,b; 2c)

1. **“hallelu-j(ehov)ah!**: proudly boast (1a,2c; see 111:1; 112:11; 113:1,9; 115:18; 116:19 /Ps.20:7; 34:2)
2. **laud**: joyfully congratulate (1b; see 106:47; see Eccl.4:2; 8:15)
3. APPLICATION: **BOAST** in the Lord! (see 1Cor.1:31; 2Cor.10:17; Gal.6:14; see Jn.5:44; Rom.16:18)

B. WHO: *EVERYONE* (1a,b; see 2a)

1. **all nations**: all Gentiles (1a; “goyim” /Is.9:1; Mt.18:17; Mk.7:26 /Num.18:4f; 1Cor.5:12; Eph.2:11)
2. **all peoples**: all groups (1b; tribe; ethnic, linguistic, socio-economic, national, political, etc. /Rev.7:9)
3. APPLICATION: **URGE EVERYONE** to boast in the Lord! (Rm15:11,9f (Ps18:49; Dt32:43; Is11:10); c14,15; see Mt.28:18f; Mk.1:15; Acts 1:8; chps.8-28)

C. WHY: *THE LORD* (2a,b)

1. His **lovingkindness & truth** (2a,b; 115:1 /Ex.34:6, etc!; eg, Ps.103:8; 138:2 /Gen.24:27; 2Sam.2:6)
2. *great* upon us His **lovingkindness**... (2a)
 - a. *great*: immense & effective (2a; see Ps.103:11; Gen.7:18; Rom.5:20; 8:35f)
 - b. His **lovingkindness**: unconditional love in loyal commitment to do good (2a; see Dt.4:37; 7:7f; 10:15f; Eph.1:4; see Jer.31:1,3)
 - c. upon *us* (2a; see Dt.4:37; Ps.126:1-3; Jn.4:22; yet Ps.117:1; Is.42:4,6f; 49:6; Rom.15:8f,11; Jn.10:16; Eph.2:11f; so also Rom.11:15; Jn.4:22; Gen.12:3)
3. ... **truth** of the Lord *everlasting* (2b)
 - a. **truth**: absolute, unchangeable faithfulness (2b; “Amen!”; see Is.55:11; Heb.13:8; i.e., Acts 1:8; 2:1f; c.3-8; c.9-28!)
 - b. *everlasting*: no expiration date (2b /100:5; 103:17; 106:1&48; c136!; 1Chr16:17f; Rom.8:31f; 1Th.4:17; Heb.5:6,etc.; 2Jn.1:2; Rev.7:12; 22:5 /Ps.118:1-4; c.136; *parallel exchange*)
4. APPLICATION: boast **IN THE LORD!** (2a,b; see 1Cor.1:31; Jn.5:44; Rom.16:18)

III. PRAISE THE LORD! URGE EVERYONE TO BOAST IN THE LORD! (Ps.117:1,2; see Ex.34:6 w/Ps.86:15; 103:8; 108:4; 145:8; see Rom.1:16f; 1Cor.1:31; 2Cor.10:17; Gal.6:14; see Jn.5:44; Rom.16:18)

Discussion question:
*Brethren, what shall **WE do**?* (see Acts 2:37f)