

Loftiest subject. Few give it much serious thought. Two great questions: 1) Who is God? 2) Why worship Him? Widespread neglect is a moral felony, exposing the prevalent godlessness of cosmic criminals. Reverent attention is a mark of God’s favorites, in whom is His delight, whom He saves.

*Praise the Lord Most High for it is good and right.*

I. Introducing the LORD Most High (v. 8). “Who is God, really?” Much of the Bible in both testaments is devoted to answering this very question.

- Not just any god will do. Irreligion is bad but religious (sincere belief in some “god”) is not enough (Psa 96.5; 1 Cor 8.4). The worship of false gods (gross idolatry and subtle) still abounds.
- The true and living God is the LORD Most High forevermore. “Thou, LORD, art most High for evermore.” JHVH/YHWH, unique name, “I am,” the self-existent One (Exod 3.14). “Most High” → absolute supremacy and sovereignty, none equal or comparable to Him. And this eternally → no beginning, no end, no succession or change. YHWH of OT Israel and the Lord of the Christian church is alone true (objectively existing as God) and living (acting powerfully). True Christian conversion is turning to God from idols (1 Thess 1.9).
- I suspect that many professing Christians could not answer this question “Who is God?” very well or would be offended if told, but this is all important. You must know and worship Him or perish.

II. His Praise Is Good (1-3). “Why worship Him?” 1) It is good 2) and right.

- Praising Him is praiseworthy, “a good thing” in many ways: proper, profitable, pleasant. Our reason for being, our most noble, important, and beneficial activity, at our best our highest joy.
- Tell of His lovingkindness and faithfulness all the time. God keeps His promise to save His people by powerful redemptive deeds.
- Praise Him musically (cf. title). Obscure for stringed instruments. NT commands singing but not instruments in the church’s worship.

III. His Praise Is Justified (4-15). Worshiping Him is *right, morally required*.

- For His works and thoughts toward His people (4, 5). “Work(s)” 3x, incomprehensibly great, and “thoughts,” “very deep,” toward His people → make us “glad” and “triumph” (Jer 29.11).
- For His destruction of wicked (6, 7). “Brutish” (like an animal, “senseless,” “dullard,” alts.), “fools” (“stupid,” alt., lacking the fear of the LORD; Prov 1.7). “Wicked” is one guilty of crime, deserving punishment, guilty of hostility to God (BDB). “Iniquity” is “morally objectionable behavior” (LBSL). That this is a fair description of anyone many find offensive; that it describes all non-

Christians, much more so. Providentially, they may prosper in this life, but this is only to glorify God more in their overthrow! That God does this is another reason to praise Him. They truly deserve it and God Most High is dealing with them in strict justice.

- For the future judgment distinguishing the wicked and the righteous (9-15). Remainder emphasizes salvation, but first, v. 9.
  - ❖ The wicked shall perish (9). Very dramatic: “lo” 2x means look, behold, ponder. How could *His* enemies *not* lose? Contempt for God is spitting straight up at heaven; fighting Him is leaping into hell. Deut 32.35; Heb 10.31; 12.29.
  - ❖ The righteous shall be glorified, triumphant, flourishing (10-14). “Exalted horn” (10) connotes rising to great, public strength; “unicorn” better translated “wild ox or bull.” V. 11 means God (not I) will take revenge against my enemies (same as His) and I will see it with relief, gratitude, and joy (cf. song of Moses celebrating demise of Pharaoh, Exod 15). Extended metaphor of beautiful, nurtured trees, bearing fruit, for the abiding blessing of God upon the psalmist (12-14), even “in old age” (14).
  - ❖ The great purpose is to vindicate the LORD Most High (15). “To show that the LORD is upright,” etc. All His deeds of redemption through judgment worth doing because they put on public display His glory (esp. His justice, power, and faithfulness).

IV. New Testament Affirmation and Addition. Many (even professing Christians) glibly say, “Well, that’s the OT,” as if the NT opposed this.

- Continuity of the doctrine about the LORD Most High. Rather, the NT assumes and perpetuates this revelation of the true God and His ways (Rev 15.1-4 even alludes to Psa 92.5; cf. Rev 19.1-4).
- Progressive revelation of:
  - ❖ The Lord Most High as our Lord Jesus Christ (1 John 5.20, 21).
  - ❖ Christians as the righteous (2 Cor 5.21).
  - ❖ Unbelievers as the wicked (John 3.36). Now ponder Psa 92 with this NT light and truth informing your understanding.

*Praise the Lord Jesus Christ for it is good and right, for His thoughts and works to save some sinners, for His justice in punishing the rest, etc.*

Closing application

As the Lord Jesus Christ is the true God, let us worship Him and recommend His worship to others. Let us warn them about Judgment Day for unbelievers and proclaim His salvation of all who trust in Him. Ω