

There has always been speculation about what we will do in eternity. For example, when Jesus Christ comes here to reign on earth from Jerusalem, what precisely is it that His people will do? Part of the answer to that is found in this remarkable Psalm. Harry Bultema called this Psalm one of the most beautiful Psalms in the whole Psalter.

We may observe from the superscription that Psalm 65 is a Psalm written by David, for the choir director, a song. So what this means is not only was this Psalm to be carefully studied publicly, this Psalm was to be sung publicly.

Psalm 65 is a Psalm for the Millennium. It is a psalm that will be lived out in Zion, which is another name for Jerusalem. David gives us a prophetic glimpse at God's Kingdom. There will come a day when we, who love the Lord, will actually participate in the events described in this Psalm and what is described in this Psalm is this:

THERE WILL BE A TIME WHEN ALL PEOPLE ON EARTH WILL STAND IN AWE OF GOD AND WILL PRAISE GOD AND WILL HAVE A DESIRE TO OBEY GOD.

Now just think about that for a moment. Let that sink in. Imagine a time when everyone on earth is actually on the same page when it comes to God. Imagine a time when all people are worshipping the true God of the Bible. Imagine a time when all people are in awe of God and praise God and have a desire to obey God.

Now let us remember that when David wrote these Psalms, he was hunted and hounded. He certainly was not living a millennial type of existence. He was living in anything but a millennial world. He was living in a wicked world that was trying to destroy him. But his mind went into the future and thought about the time when God would be properly viewed by all people and it was this that enabled him to praise God.

In **verse 1**, we learn that there are three realities that will someday exist before God:

(Reality #1) - Someday there will be a silent awe of God. **65:1a**

There should be a hushed silence when one comes into the presence of God and one day it will be that way.

(Reality #2) - Someday there will be a worshipful praise offered to God. **65:1b**

One day there will be worshipful praise offered to God in Zion, which means at the temple in Jerusalem.

(Reality #3) – Someday there will be a faithful performance by God's people. **65:1c**

Someday those who appear before God will be faithful. Sacrifices will be paid.

Let me suggest that we thrill the heart of God right now when we stand in silent awe of His greatness, when we offer Him worshipful praise and when we are faithful to carry out what we promise God and purpose to obey God. These things will eventually exist and when God sees them now, it thrills Him.

Now after **verse 1**, God gives a series of five reasons why His people will stand in awe of Him and worship Him:

REASON #1 – Because God hears and answers the prayers of all men. **65:2**

We know from I Thessalonians 5:17-18 that it is the will of God for God's people to pray. During the millennium, all men will come to God and pray to God. Truth is all men who truly worship God do pray to God. They believe in God and pray to God.

Now the particular flare of this verse speaks of a time when all of God's people see the necessity of prayer. Now just some of God's people see it. But there will come a day in which all of God's people will pray.

It is staggering to think that the sovereign God of the universe would listen to our prayers. It is an amazing thought to think in terms of God hearing our prayers and actually answering them. But that is what God does. We who are sinners should stand in silent awe of this wonderful blessing.

Someone has said when you see a godless life you can always know it is a prayer-less life.

One day all people will praise God and pray to God.

REASON #2 – Because God forgives our transgressions. **65:3**

Think about this—the only basis for which we have the privilege of prayer and worship is because of the fact that God forgives our sins.

When we have a proper view of ourselves and God, we quickly realize that our iniquities prevail against us. We are sunk in our own sinfulness. But God forgives us and there will come a day when every person on earth will be able to proclaim the same truth—God forgave me of my sins.

True worship demands our sins be forgiven. People who refuse to believe in Jesus Christ cannot possibly worship God. The sin issue is a key issue in a relationship with a Holy God. This is why in order for believers to fellowship with God, they must be clean (I John 1:6-9).

REASON #3 – Because God chose us. **65:4**

Anyone who has been chosen by God is truly blessed. Anyone who is chosen to actually get near to Him is doubly blessed.

Anyone chosen by God, who is actually permitted to dwell with Him in His place of residence, is triply blessed.

Of all the nations of the world, God chose Israel and He decided that His elect nation would share in the goodness of worship at His holy temple. Those of us who have believed on Jesus Christ have also been chosen by God (Rom. 9:14).

Those who are saved should stand in silent awe and offer total praise for this tremendous theological reality that God chose us. The election doctrine is something for which we should praise God for now because it is something we will praise Him for in eternity.

REASON #4 – Because God does awesome things for His people. **65:5**

God answers His people in righteousness and gives His people His righteous salvation and deliverance. God is the One in whom all of the people of the earth will one day worship and trust.

No matter how low God's child may be, he always may have his trust and hope in God, who is a righteous, powerful God who can and will deliver.

REASON #5 – Because God displays His awesome power in the Universe. **65:6-13**

There are many ways God demonstrates His sovereign power:

(Way #1) - God demonstrates His sovereign power by the mountains. **65:6**

Psalms 95:4 says those “peaks of the mountains” belong to God and display the glory of God. Mountains totally testify of the power of God. They testify of His majesty and His fixed and unmovable power.

(Way #2) - God demonstrates His sovereign power by the seas. **65:7a**

No man can tame the sea, it belongs to God. Proverbs 8:29 says God set its boundaries. Isaiah 51:10 says God dries up the seas and Jeremiah 5:22 says God put the sand at the sea.

(Way #3) - God demonstrates His sovereign power by the peoples. **65:7b**

Every human being is a testament to the sovereign power and majesty of God. God created people and He can stir up people.

(Way #4) - God demonstrates His power by the sunrise and sunset. **65:8**

Every day God displays His power at dawn and dusk. It is a daily reminder.

(Way #5) - God demonstrates His power by His earthly provisions. **65:9-13**

Look at what God will do in this earth when He lifts the curse:

Blessing #1 - God will cause the earth to overflow with His blessings. **65:9a**

Blessing #2 - God will cause the water to fill up the streams. **65:9b**

Blessing #3 - God will cause the crops to grow in abundance. **65:9c**

Blessing #4 - God will cause the earth to abundantly be blessed. **65:10**

Blessing #5 - God will cause full blessing every year. **65:11**

Blessing #6 - God will cause fields and flocks to grow at all times. **65:12-13**

What is so sad is that God has provided many of these things for the people and very few people even acknowledge it. He provided food and water. He provided the sun and the rain and most people will not give Him the credit until they get into eternity. But He deserves our praise now and David wrote this Psalm with that in mind.

PRACTICAL LESSONS:

- 1. We cannot truly worship God until we stand in silent awe of God.**
- 2. We cannot truly worship God if we don't pray.**
- 3. We should always praise God for His election.**
- 4. We should always praise God for His provisions.**
- 5. We should always stand in awe of God every time we look at His creation.**