

The Lord willing, I will bring three messages on this great Psalm. 1. Let the Whole Earth Praise the Lord; today. 2. Let the Whole Church Praise the Lord; Next week July 1. 3. Let my Whole Heart Praise the Lord. July 8. The Lord Willing.

I will read the entire Psalm. I have consulted a number of commentaries, and have found David Dickson especially helpful, as usual.

“1 Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: 2 Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious. 3 Say unto God, How terrible *art thou* in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee. 4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing *to* thy name. Selah. 5 Come and see the works of God: *he is terrible in his* doing toward the children of men. 6 He turned the sea into dry *land*: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him. 7 He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah. 8 ¶ O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard: 9 Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved. 10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. 11 Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins. 12 Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy *place*. 13 ¶ I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows, 14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble. 15 I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah. 16 Come *and* hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul. 17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue. 18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear *me*: 19 *But* verily God hath heard *me*; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer. 20 Blessed *be* God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.” (Ps 66:1-20 AV)

My remarks will come from the first seven verses: a call to raise a disturbance throughout the world, calling the world to the praises of Jehovah. There are two things here: **First, a Command** to raise a noise, to call the world to worship and praise of the Lord; **Second, the Cause** or the reason for this call to worship and praise.

- I. **First, a Command. Vs. 1,2.** We are to raise a noise, to call the world to worship and praise of the Lord;
  - A. All the world is called to the praise of the Lord. It is nothing to keep silent about; to perform in secret. There are some things shameful or impolite to utter. This is not one of them.
  - B. All lands. There is but one God and one law, and it applies to all people, to everyone.
  - C. It is to be a joyful sound. Not in embarrassment; not in fear and trembling; not in deprecation and apology; but a full throated joyful praise to the God of Creation.
  - D. It is to be like music; in harmony and unity. The “noise” is not the shouts of the mob. This is a figure, but music is most conducive to the praises of God, and the music must fit the grandeur of the subject. There is one music suitable for ice cream trucks to sell ice cream to children; music for circuses; music to stir rebellion to parents and authori-

ty; music to feed unlawful desires; The music here spoken of is music suitable for the majesty and honor of God.

- E. The word “noise” doesn’t have to mean shout, although it can be; neither does it have to be “music”; it simply means loud and orderly and harmonious energetic call to the world to loudly call men to praise the Lord. Not in envy and strife; not in pride and despising of others; but a joyful verbal harmonious magnifying of God.
- F. The noise is to honor the Lord. Boo’s and catcalls are noise, but these are praises. God is honored; the noise is to suit the honor of the Lord, as the angels do in heaven, so do we on earth.
- G. The noise is to be glorious. [weighty].
  1. A man gives a weighty ring to his fiancé; not some cheap bauble made out of tin and plastic. No, he gives a weight gift: gold, silver, precious stones, not pebbles from the beach.
  2. The noise we make to the Lord is to be weighty praise; with meaning and dignity.
  3. Our words, our music, our prayers are not to be made of plastic and tin; but weighty and full of meaning—not baubles to be discarded.
  4. God’s Name is filled with meaning: So is His praise to be [glorious]. Fitting for His majesty, magnificence, goodness, power, and mercy.

II. **Second, the Cause** or the reason for this call to worship and praise. There are many causes for weighty praise to be given by the whole earth to God. Vs. 3-7

- A. He is terrible in His works. He is not to be trifled with. This words means to inspire fear and terror. Think on the earthquake, the fire, the hurricane, the tidal wave, the tornado, the wild lion and bear--and fear. God is not a kindly grandfather; nor a sentimental nanny. He has his way in the storm and the flood. He will terrible bring vengeance upon His enemies and tread them underfoot.
- B. He defeats all His enemies. Every tongue will confess and every knee shall bow. God has power that you and I have not dreamed of. The Bible is clear:
  1. Sometimes this power is used to overthrow and bring wrath upon His enemies—those who have raged against Him and His law, as at Sodom and Gomorrah, and the flood at the time of Noah, and Pharaoh at the time of the Exodus.
  2. Sometimes this power is used to subdue and win to grace His enemies, as with Saul of Tarsus and many of the chief rulers of the Jews after Pentecost.
  3. These two outcomes are described in Revelation 21:6-8: 6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. 8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.
- C. It is the purpose of God to bring all the world to His feet to worship Him. Vs. 4. It will come. Those who refuse to praise the Lord are out of touch with reality and will be made ashamed, when the Lord comes to be glorified in His saints. Think of THAT.

- D. God is especially terrible in his works on behalf of His people: illustration, the parting of the Red Sea and the drowning of Pharaoh and his hosts. Vs. 5,6
1. This is the same structure as in verse 3. All His might and power are used in behalf of His people.
  2. He is terrible in his doing to the children of men. It is not all love and kisses, and men are to fear before Him. It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God.
  3. The Power of God is a cause for great rejoicing by the people of God, especially those enduring cruel persecution: see 2Thess 1:1-10: turn to and read.
- E. The whole earth is to be reminded that God rules by His power forever:
1. He puts up the weak and puts down the mighty.
  2. He resists the proud, and turns their wisdom into foolishness.
  3. He blinds the minds of His enemies so they rush on into damnation and ruin.
  4. He sets over the nations whomever He wishes.
  5. There is no power but God; those who have power have it from God, and He accomplishes His will always in the kingdoms of the world.
- F. How futile it is to rebel against the Lord and to think you can impose your will upon Him. It cannot be. Think of THAT.

Application: Let us noise this message to the whole world. God is God of the whole world and is to be praised by all men. Those who rebel against Him shall not prosper, for He will overthrow them and the societies that support them, though He is patient and bears long with them, often for the sake of the elect within those societies who are yet to be born.