

Psalm 148 "A Call to Worship!" Hymns: 521, 525, 534, 538, 585, 699, 709

**PSALM 148**

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
Praise Him in the heights!
- <sup>2</sup> Praise Him, all His angels;  
Praise Him, all His hosts!
- <sup>3</sup> Praise Him, sun and moon;  
Praise Him, all you stars of light!
- <sup>4</sup> Praise Him, you heavens of heavens,  
And you waters above the heavens!
- <sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
For He commanded and they were created.
- <sup>6</sup> He also established them forever and ever;  
He made a decree which shall not pass away.
- <sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth,  
You great sea creatures and all the depths;
- <sup>8</sup> Fire and hail, snow and clouds;  
Stormy wind, fulfilling His word;
- <sup>9</sup> Mountains and all hills;  
Fruitful trees and all cedars;
- <sup>10</sup> Beasts and all cattle;  
Creeping things and flying fowl;
- <sup>11</sup> Kings of the earth and all peoples;  
Princes and all judges of the earth;
- <sup>12</sup> Both young men and maidens;  
Old men and children.
- <sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
For His name alone is exalted;  
His glory *is* above the earth and heaven.
- <sup>14</sup> And He has exalted the horn of His people,  
The praise of all His saints—  
Of the children of Israel,  
A people near to Him.

Praise the LORD!

*We are called to worship, that is to ascribe worth to God!*

*He is worthy of our time!'*

*He is worthy of our effort(s)*

*He is worthy of our best!*

*According to Psalm 147:1 a call to worship is a call to something pleasurable,  
beautiful, good -*

- <sup>1</sup> **Praise the LORD! For *it is* good to sing praises to our God; For *it is* pleasant, *and* praise is beautiful. Psalm 147:1 (NKJV)**

*I. A call to the heavens, and heavenly beings to  
praise the LORD –*

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights! <sup>2</sup> Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts! <sup>3</sup> Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all you stars of light! <sup>4</sup> Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, And you waters above the heavens! <sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, For He commanded and they were created. <sup>6</sup> He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away. Psalm 148:1-6**

*"Whoever ye may be that hear this word, ye are invited, entreated, commanded, to magnify  
Jehovah." CH Spurgeon*

- 1. Here the Psalmist sings out loud! How appropriate these verses would be  
for an open-air worship service!*

*A. He calls for praise **from the heavens**;*

*B. He calls for those in the heavens to **Praise Him in the heights**!*

- 2. Here praise is sought from heavenly beings –*

*A. Angels*

*B. God's host(s), His Heavenly army, servants, cherubim, living creatures,  
seraphim ...*

3. *Here praise is called for from heavenly objects –*

<sup>2</sup> **Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all you stars of light!**

**Psalm 148:3**

4. *Praise is called for from:*

A. *Heaven of heavens – the broader heavens*

B. *Waters above the heavens, the clouds at the height of our earthly sky, those by which God provides us rain –*

*These praise by their very being –*

**1 The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Psalm**

**19:1 (NKJV)**

*By their vastness, by their beauty, by their number (stars)*

## *II. A call to the earth, and creatures of the earth to praise the LORD –*

**<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth, You great sea creatures and all the depths; <sup>8</sup> Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy wind, fulfilling His word; <sup>9</sup> Mountains and all hills; Fruitful trees and all cedars; <sup>10</sup> Beasts and all cattle; Creeping things and flying fowl; Psalm 148:7-10**

1. *Here is another location from which praise should come – Earth!*

2. *Literally sea dragons, could have been great white sharks, other creatures ...*

3. *Fire, hail, snow and clouds, fulfilling His word – :8*

*Telling us God CONTROLS the weather, here “fire” is probably lightning!*

*These things lead to the “fear of the LORD” when we count them from Him! When we count “stormy winds” part of manmade climate change, we are practical atheists!*

4. *Glorious beauty of nature, mountains and hills praise Him! Fruitful trees provide us food! Cedars provide us wood for housing - :9*
5. **:10** *Beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying fowl ... all animals, both wild and domesticated are all to praise God! My cat Pierre would fit in this category!*

### *III. A call for humanity to praise the LORD –*

**<sup>11</sup> Kings of the earth and all peoples; Princes and all judges of the earth; <sup>12</sup> Both young men and maidens; Old men and children. <sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, For His name alone is exalted; His glory is above the earth and heaven. Psalm 148:11-13**

1. *Kings of the earth, princes and judges, all in power are privileged by God with position, they are called to praise God - :11*
2. *Men and women, young and old, all are to praise God – :12*
3. *Ultimately all will be judged in relation to Christ – Psalm 2, John 3:35-36*  
**<sup>1</sup> Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, “Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us.” He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The LORD shall hold them in derision. <sup>5</sup>Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure: <sup>6</sup> “Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion.” <sup>7</sup> “I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. <sup>8</sup> Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. <sup>9</sup> You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel.’ ” <sup>10</sup> Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. <sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup> Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.**  
**PSALM 2**

**<sup>35</sup> The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.  
<sup>36</sup> He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.” John 3:35–36 (NKJV)**

#### *IV. A call to God’s people to praise the LORD –*

**<sup>14</sup> And He has exalted the horn of His people, The praise of all His saints— Of the children of Israel, A people near to Him. Praise the LORD! Psalm 148:14**

*God’s people, the Jews in the Old Testament times, us (Christians) now, are privileged, we have God’s truth. They had God’s law; we have been shown God’s grace, O how we are bound to praise Him –*

**<sup>29</sup> Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? Hebrews 10:29 (NKJV)**

*See this verse in context – Hebrews 10:24-31*

**<sup>24</sup> And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.**

**<sup>26</sup> For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup> but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. <sup>28</sup> Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on *the testimony of two or three witnesses*. <sup>29</sup> Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? <sup>30</sup> For we know Him who said, “*Vengeance is Mine, I will repay*,” says the Lord. And again, “*The LORD will judge His people*.” <sup>31</sup> It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Hebrews 10:24–31 (NKJV)**

*Arnold A. Brevick*