

Level Up Level Up Your Celebration Psalm 147

Psalm 147

Praise the Lord!

For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

- 2 The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.
- 6 The Lord lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass grow on the hills.

9 He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry.

10 His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,

11 but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

12 Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.

14 He makes peace in your borders; he fills you with the finest of the wheat.

15 He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

16 He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.

17 He hurls down his crystals of ice like crumbs; who can stand before his cold?

18 He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow and the waters flow.

19 He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and rules to Israel.

20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his rules.

Praise the Lord!

Celebrate our majestic LORD who restores – vv. 1–6

- "Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting" (v. 1).
- Who is the LORD?
 - He is majestic
 - "He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure" (vv. 4–5).
 - Majesty = Greatness
 - Omnipresence God's ubiquitous presence
 - Omniscience God's complete knowledge
 - Omnipotence God's almighty power
 - He restores
 - "The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Jerusalem" (v. 2).
 - "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (v. 3).
 - "The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground" (v. 6).
 - Japanese kintsugi Picture
 - God restores broken things.

Celebrate our majestic LORD who provides - vv. 7-11

- "Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!" (v. 7).
- Who is the LORD?
 - He is majestic
 - "His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love" (v. 10–11).
 - He provides
 - "He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass for on the hills" (v. 8).
 - "He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry" (v. 9).
 - "25 Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:25–33).
 - God sees what you need, knows what you need, and has the power to give it to you.

Celebrate our majestic LORD who speaks – vv. 12–20

- "Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!" (v. 12).
- Who is the LORD?
 - He is majestic
 - "For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you. He makes peace in your borders; he fills you with the finest of the wheat" (vv. 13–14).
 - He speaks
 - "15 He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. 16 He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes. 17 He hurls down his crystals of ice like crumbs; who can stand before his cold? 18 He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow and the waters flow" (vv. 15–18).

- He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and rules to Israel. He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his rules. Praise the LORD!" (vv. 19– 20).
- Word=Dabar=Logos
 - "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made" (John 1:1–3).
 - "God's 'Word' in the Old Testament is his powerful self-expression in creation, revelation, and salvation, and the personification of that 'Word' makes it suitable for John to apply it as a title to God's ultimate self-disclosure, the person of his own Son" (D. A. Carson, The Gospel According to John, 116).
 - God is NOT silent.

2 Questions:

- What do you have to celebrate this week?
- How will you celebrate the LORD?