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Psalm 145

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Bible
at Home

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 145.

Topics.

- Great is the LORD, to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.
- Generations will declare God's mighty acts and His majesty.
- God's Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom that, endures all generations.
- The LORD is near to all who call on him in truth and saves them.
- Man cannot find out God's works upon earth.
- God fulfils the desire of those who fear Him and saves them.
- God preserves all who love Him, but destroys the wicked.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they cover the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

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BOOK FIVE (PSALM 107-150)

PSALM 145: 1-3

A Song of Praise. Of David.

Great is the LORD and His Greatness is Unsearchable.

- **Psalm 145: 1-3:** I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. ²Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. ³Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

God should be praised as God, the Creator and the God of nature and the God of providence and as the God who allows those who dwell on the earth to run their affairs as they please until the appointed time of judgment.

Following are two types of praise:

1. Praise prompted from a sense of duty and tradition led by a trained choir and professional musicians standing in front of the congregation which is formal in its nature of praise and once the worshippers have left the building the praise is ended.
2. Praise that flows continually up from the heart and mind in thanksgiving and heartfelt gratitude toward God. This type of praise is also often led by a trained choir and professional musicians standing in front of the congregation, but it has one major difference in that the praise flows up from the heart and when the worshippers leave the building the thanksgiving and praise continues on in the heart and mind throughout the worshippers daily life.

David is exalting God with the praise that flows upward from an honest heart of gratitude and thankfulness toward the Creator of all the earth it is this type of praise that rises up before God's throne like sweet smelling incense.

Praises and understanding: means when we praise God we should pray with the understanding and clearly know why we are praising God. Without an understanding of God and why we are praising Him our worship is lacking. Unless we have the Kingdom of God established in our minds and the spirit of praise toward the Lord reigns in our hearts by faith our praise is left shallow and empty.

Praise and the Lord Jesus Christ: without understanding the message of the bloodstained cross of Calvary; Jesus death and resurrection; the Gospel and God's grace praise toward our heavenly Father and His Son the Lord Jesus Christ will be nothing but the empty praise of duty and tradition motivated not from a heartfelt spirit of love toward God and our Saviour and redeemer the Lord Jesus Christ, but motivated by a choir professionally trained for such a purpose. The Bible is primarily about man's way back to God, deliverance from eternal death, forgiveness of sin and eternal life. If a billionaire came to you and said he was going to give you one billion dollars, nothing else in the world would matter to you, all your financial problems would be solved for all your remaining years, you could have whatever you desired, that is how valuable the prophets, the apostles and the faithful of the Old and New Testament viewed God's gift of eternal life. In the eyes of the faithful of the Old and New Testament everything else pales before God's gift of eternal life, it is because of this gift that supersedes everything the world can give they are able to thank and extol the LORD always.

Pray without ceasing: Paul told Christians "to pray without ceasing," (1 Thess. 5:17) this does not mean, hide in a closet and pray all day, (no-one has time to do this, nor does God expect it of anyone, rather it means that no matter what you are doing always be talking to God and praising Him in your mind. Let the chatter of self-talk that is constantly flowing through the mind be in communion and in prayer with God and the Lord Jesus Christ as you go about your daily work. To explain the words, "pray without ceasing" a faithful Christian woman wrote: think of a mother who has a child who is ill with a fever. Finally, the fever breaks and the mother and child settle down for some much-needed sleep. Not a noise from the television, from the street, or from the phone could awaken that mother, but one whimper from her child and she's awake, right? That's because even when she is asleep, she is in tune with that child—just as we are to be with God...constantly communing and attuned to His voice and praising and talking to Him in the silent world of our thoughts. Prayer to us should be as natural and continual as breathing. A devoted and faithful Christian teacher asked her classroom the following question: "Do you 'have a prayer life or are you living a praying life?" Think about the difference.

PSALM 145: 4-7

Generations will Declare God's Mighty Acts and of His Majesty.

- **Psalm 145:4-7:** One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. ⁵On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. ⁶They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. ⁷They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The power of God is beyond human understanding, some people try to demean or explain away God's breathtaking miracles of the Old Testament, the ten plaques, the parting of the Red Sea and the River Jordan, the sun stopping for a day, the donkey talking to Balaam, Jonah being swallowed by fish etc. David does not do any such thing, because he knows God's miracles and His power is beyond his limited mortal human understanding.

There is certain theological Christian, who tries to explain away God's miracles by modern science, but this is foolishness, it is the miracles that separate the God of the Bible the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the God of Israel from all other gods people believe in. It is also foolishness since all Christians believe God created man from the dust of the earth and Eve from his rib and that he created the starry heavens and all living creatures on earth, the birds of the air and the fish in the oceans so for God to perform any other miracle on earth that defies our laws of nature is but child's play.

Added to this it is God who set our laws of nature in place so it should not be surprising to anyone that He by His awesome creative power is able to supersede them as He wishes.

One generation shall commend your works to another: (v4) this is one of God's ordained ways of spreading His word and the message of salvation to all mankind from generation to generation. Israel continues to teach their children in this manner even today. Sadly, they only recognise the Old Testament and believe that should a Jew accept Christ they have forsaken the faith. The following prophecy of Zechariah shows that even this is in the sovereign will of God.

Zechariah wrote:

- On that day (the day the Lord protects the inhabitants of Jerusalem) I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. ¹⁰"And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. ¹¹On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great the priests will mourn by themselves and each family will mourn by themselves (Zech. 12:9-14).

In our schools today our children are taught a doctrine of evolution that denies the very existence of God. The further mankind moves away from God and His laws the further God lifts His hand of blessing and favour from our earth and the more the earth and everyone upon it suffers. (The Bible calls those who deny the existence of God fools).

- The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good. (Psalm 14:1) (Psalm 53:1).
- The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice. ¹⁶The vexation of a fool is known at once, but the prudent ignores an insult. (Prov. 12:15-16).

PSALM 145: 8-12

The Faithful will speak of the Glory of God's Kingdom.

- **Psalm 145:8-12:** The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made. ¹⁰All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you! ¹¹They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, ¹²to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.

God is gracious and his mercy is over all that he has made: (v8-9) Mercy comes from the Hebrew word (*cheched*) and means kindness and favour, to be compassionate by word or deed and especially by divine grace, it carries the idea of showing pity, tender mercy and showing good will and showing mercy toward the helpless and the afflicted joined with a desire to help them. It carries the idea of bowing to show oneself loving and kind.

God's mercy: is revealed in His offering to sinners' salvation by grace in Christ and at the judgment seat His mercy will be revealed when He blesses those who belong to Christ with eternal life.

God shows Mercy to those who:

- Belong to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Love God and keep His commandments (Exod. 20:6) (Deut. 5:10) (Neh. 1:5).
- Listen to the LORD'S rules and keeps them (Deut. 7:9-12).
- Walks before God with all their heart in faithfulness and in righteousness of heart (1 Kings 3:6) (1 Kings 8:23 2) (Chron. 6:14).
- Fear God and are obedient to Him (Luke 1:50) (Rom 11:30).

God does not show mercy to:

- Those who are guilty (Exod. 34:7) (Num. 14:18).
- People who do not show mercy to others (James 2:13).

The tablets of stone and the mercy seat: it is interesting to notice that the only thing Moses put in the Ark of the Covenant was the two tablets of stone. The law was under the mercy seat overshadowed by the wings of the cherubim and it was from above the mercy seat that the LORD spoke. This means that to get to the law one had to go through mercy first. The law was covered by mercy. This clearly shines a brilliant spotlight upon the truth that the Ark of the Covenant was built according to the perfect design of God. The apostle Paul wrote, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23) and that, "the wages of sin is death," but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom. 6:23). We all sin and are therefore all under the condemnation of the law and condemned to death, without God's mercy we would all be doomed to the darkness of the grave never to rise.

- There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets that Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of Egypt (2 Chron. 5:10).

God is slow to anger: (v8) since anger is listed in the works of the flesh (Gal. 5:18) some find it difficult to understand God being angry, but consider the following: in 2011 on a national T.V. News program a lady who was well into her retirement years was filmed racing across the street with no fear for her own life armed only with a handbag to stop five men with baseball bats robbing a jewellery store (they all fled). This brave and courageous woman had such a strong love for justice and what was right that it overrode any concern for her own life. When she saw these five men robbing the store, she was so angry at the injustice of it and the fact some honest hard-working person was being burgled her anger drove her to protect his store without any thought for her own safety. This is righteous anger, meaning that it is anger against injustice and anger motivated by the passion to protect others from harm, in contrast to anger that is motivated from pride and self being offended in some manner.

God seeing the gross corruption amongst the people of Israel (especially the leaders) is angry because His people are destroying themselves and their future generations for all eternity by their corruptions. The expression "God is angry" is the same as saying, "God is enormously grieved because His own people who should be blessed are not only bringing judgment upon themselves by their gross wickedness but are also leading their future generations into spiritual darkness and eternal destruction and by their wicked behaviour turning secular nations against God instead of toward Him. It is very much like a father who raises his son in love and the son turns to drugs and crime and eventually kills someone. The father is forced to do the right thing and give his son over to justice to protect others. In these circumstances it is common to hear the father say, "I am so angry," meaning he is angry that his son has destroyed his life. This kind of anger stems from deep hurt, because all the good future

hopes the father had for his son are crushed. Likewise, God's anger stems from the same hurt, because his chosen people are so grossly corrupt, they force him to act against them rather than for them.

God is abounding in steadfast love: (v8) the expression, "God's steadfast love endures forever," is one of the most common expressions throughout the Psalms. Some Bibles say, "God's steadfast mercy endures forever," while others say, "God's love endures forever. The word mercy comes from the Hebrew word (*checed*) and means to show, kind favour, to show merciful kindness, to be kind, to show one-self merciful and to pity which embraces such things as compassion, sympathy, empathy, comfort and forgiveness showing that love and mercy are bound together.

The apostle Paul wrote:

- Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law (Rom. 13:10) and that love is patient and kind. (1 Cor. 13:4).

And John wrote:

- Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. . (1 John 4:8).
- God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. (1 John 4:16).

The word mercy embraces all of the following, compassion, pity, kindness, sympathy, grace and forgiveness which means love and mercy cannot be separated, love without mercy is not love and mercy without love is not mercy, which also means that Bibles that state, "God's mercy endures forever," and Bibles that say, "God's love endures forever," are both correct in their interpretations.

NOTE: love is not a part of God's character; God is love wherever love is God is present by His Spirit. This does not mean that wherever love is the people are saved to eternal life, it simply means God by His love is in that love.

God is good to all: (v9) this does not mean that God will not judge and punish the wicked, it is certainly true God is love (1 John 4:8, 16) and that love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law (Rom. 13:10), but love also embraces justice, judgment and punishment in fact administering righteous justice is sometimes the loving thing to do since it protects the innocent. The justice of God is called righteous judgment because God is not only perfect in Holiness and perfect in love, but also knows the true state of the heart and perceives the motivations of it so no one no matter how good they are at deceiving and lying can fool God. This is why His judgments are always perfect and true judgments, people may be able to fool us in a court of law by their clever deceit and lies, but no one can deceive God who sees the heart. Added to this it matters not whether a person is a king, a ruler of a nation, famous, rich or noble or whether they are lowly and poor God shows no favouritism and is not influenced by a person's status, but judges each man and woman according to their works.

The Judge of all the earth will judge the populations of the earth in the following ways:

- According to whether they have honoured or dishonoured God.
- According to their wicked works.
- According to the violence inflicted upon the innocent.
- According to the oppression of the poor.
- According to Jesus command to love your neighbour as yourself (meaning do-good and not harm to others).

The following verses show God will render to everyone according to their work:

- Hear in heaven your dwelling place and forgive and act and render to each whose heart you know, according to all his ways (for you, you only, know the hearts of all the children of mankind). (1 Kings 8:39) (2 Chron. 6:30).
- According to the work of a man he will repay him, and according to his ways he will make it befall him. (Job 34:11).
- To you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love. For you will render to a man according to his work. (Psalm 62:12).
- If you say, "Behold, we did not know this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work? (Proverbs 24:12).
- According to their deeds, so will he repay, wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies. (Isaiah 59:18).
- God will render to each one according to his works. (Rom. 2:6).

One of the most common expressions throughout the Psalms is "God's steadfast love," but though God is love, love does not do away with justice in fact the following words of David, "To you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love, because you will render to a man according to his work," (Psalm 62:12) show that steadfast love embraces justice. Love does not turn a blind eye to murder, violence, robber and such like things steadfast love demands justice for the innocent victims of crime. Imagine a world without any justice it would be chaos and no one would be safe. The justice and judgment of God is not random, it has its own appointed time. At the moment it could be said that we are living in the long day of death and the long day of God's grace, because judgment is delayed until the right time. No one should think that just because God's justice and judgment cannot be seen in the world at this present moment in that that many of the ungodly and wicked prosper while many of the innocent and righteous suffer that they can do as they please and act corruptly and wickedly and escape God's judgment.

God does not forget the cry of the afflicted: (Psalm 9:12) some may find it difficult to comprehend God remembers the cries of the poor, the oppressed, the helpless and the afflicted, but think of it this way: we have super computers today that have in their memories literally trillions of bits of information and at the touch of a key any one of those bits is resurrected to us on a brightly coloured screen (soon it is most likely they will simply appear in the air), then with another touch of the key it all vanishes into the super memory and is gone, until we resurrect it again. Knowing that God has given his creation a mortal mind and finite memory to be able to build such amazing computers should make it very easy to understand how God keeps the cries of the afflicted in His immortal mind and eternal memory waiting for the right time to touch the supernatural keyboard of heaven and avenge the cries of the poor, the oppressed, the helpless and the afflicted, on the day of judgment and His righteous justice.

- The LORD sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice,⁸ and he judges the world with righteousness and the peoples with uprightness. (Psalm 9:7-8).

PSALM 145: 13-14

God's Everlasting Kingdom Endures all Generations.

- **Psalm 145:13-14:** Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. [The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.] ¹⁴The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

The following shows that God's Kingdom has been and will forever be an everlasting Kingdom:

1. During the Old Testament God's Kingdom under King David and Solomon literally existed, it slowly declined as God's people turned to idols and pagan gods, but there has always remained a faithful remnant.
2. In the New Testament God's Kingdom is for the most part an invisible Kingdom in the heart of all who belong to the Lord Jesus Christ, it is visibly seen in a Christians life by the outward manifestation of God's character and His love toward other humans and collectively through the global body of Christ.
3. During the millennial reign of Jesus ruling as King of kings and Lord of lords on earth (Rev. 19:11-16) God's Kingdom will be manifested in a different way again, it will be a Kingdom of righteousness, peace, joy and justice to all.
4. At the end of Christ's glorious millennial reign and after the Great White Throne Judgement God's eternal Kingdom will once again change with God Himself descending and dwelling with those who love Him. For further information see the title:
 - Kingdom of God in, Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

God is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works: (v13) mankind denies God, treats Him with indifference, grossly sins and violates all His laws yet He so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16). In the bloodstained cross of Calvary God kindness to all mankind is seen and in His eternal plan of salvation and His mercy and grace His faithfulness is manifested. Some may think that Christ blood cleanses only those who are saved after Christ's death and resurrection, but this is not so the power of Christ's cleansing blood flows back to the foundation of the earth so that the faithful of the Old and New Testament are saved by the same Saviour and Redeemer.

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In the book of Revelation, it is written:

- All that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (Rev. 13:8).

And Peter wrote:

- You were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot foreordained before the foundation of the world and manifest in these last times for you. (1 Peter 1:18-20).

These verses shine a brilliant spotlight on the truth that Jesus was not only the central focus of God's eternal mind and of His eternal plans and purposes for mankind's salvation and for eternity, but also the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. The cleansing power of Jesus blood shed on the cross of Calvary doesn't just cover and cleanse only those who have come to the Lord after his death and resurrection, but flows all the way back to the foundations of the earth to Adam and Eve like a spiritual invisible river cleansing all the faithful of the Old Testament from the fall of Adam onward who by faith looked to the appearing of the promised Messiah the Christ.

This shines a glorious spotlight on the truth that whether a man or woman is of the Old or New Testament we are all saved by the same cleansing power, the same cleansing blood and the same Deliverer, King and Saviour. This is because God in his eternal mind planned and purposed before time began that His Son the Lord Jesus Christ would be the Saviour of all mankind for all eternity. Truly, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. (Heb. 9:22).

God is upholds all who are falling and bowed down: (v14) it matters not how great our sin maybe if we come to our senses as the Prodigal son did and honestly repent from the heart and change our ways God will receive us in His love and grace and into His eternal Kingdom.

AN ECHO OF CHRIST'S RETURN

The above verses also echo the New Age and future Kingdom to come when the Lord Jesus Christ returns in glory as, King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to destroy the antichrist and his kingdom and establish God's Kingdom on earth during his glorious millennial reign. The dead in Christ (Old and New Testament) and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6) to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God. Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God's Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth. Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish. The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce. All nations the LORD has made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God's Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God.

The book of Revelation states:

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

In Revelation chapter five we are told that:

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

The great prophet Isaiah wrote:

- They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:9).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done. Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev. 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory.

For further information see titles:

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

The LORD is Near to All who Call on Him in Truth and Saves Them.

- **Psalm 145:15-17:** The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. ¹⁶You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. ¹⁷The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.

Many find it impossible to understand what appears to our mortal minds unjust suffering, hardships and troubles on earth and because of this lack of clear understanding refuse to believe that there is a God. They do not understand that our mortal consciousness before the eternal consciousness of God is like the consciousness of an ant before the consciousness of a brain surgeon. When the ant looks upon the brain surgeon drilling through the skull of a man and cutting or removing fleshy tissues of his brain how could the ant possibly understand that the surgeon is doing it so that the man would live a better life in the future. Likewise our mortal consciousness has no hope of understanding the workings and mysteries of God upon the earth, but this lack of understanding is no excuse for not believing that there is a God, since God does not require us to come to Him through understanding all things, but by faith and love.

Man cannot find out God's works upon earth: the following verses show that man cannot find out God's works upon earth:

- God has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. (Ecclesiastes. 3:11).
- Man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However, much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out. (Eccles. 8:17).
- The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favour to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. ¹²For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them. (Eccles. 9:11-12).

This means that no man can find out the works of God upon the earth. The LORD has designed the universe this way so that no human whether righteous or wicked can find out their future or know what will happen to them tomorrow. The writer of Ecclesiastes concludes with the following two statements, firstly, that without God all is vanity (meaning brief, passing and meaningless) because the righteous and the wicked, the wise and the foolish all end up in the grave and are forgotten. (Eccles. 3:11) and secondly, the end of all wisdom is to fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man, because God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil. (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

PSALM 145: 18

God is Near to all who Call on Him in Truth.

- **Psalm 145:18:** The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Truth in this context means to call on God in honesty and from the integrity of the heart, as opposed to hypocrisy and pretence. The religious leaders of Jesus generation (the chief priest's, Pharisees and scribes), called on the name of the God, but Jesus called them whited sepulchres full of lies and deceit.

God Fulfills the Desire of those who Fear Him and Saves Them.

- **Psalm 145:19:** He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.

The fear of the LORD has the following two aspects:

- 1 An eternal aspect: wisdom teaches that mankind is separated from God because of sin and without God a person has no hope of eternal life and will be judged accordingly. The fear of the LORD in this context is wisdom because it motivates a person to seek God and eternal life.
- 2 An aspect for the present moment: the fear of the LORD in the present moment motivates mankind to obey God's Ten Commandments which are all designed to protect the innocent from harm, physically, financially, sexually, verbally, emotionally and spiritually. The fear of the LORD in this context is also wisdom because if everyone feared the LORD humanity would live in harmony with each other. Sadly, there is very little fear of the LORD in the world today and so we see rampant rebellion, violence, crime and wars in most countries.

The fear of God and Christians: those in Christ look to the bloodstained cross of Calvary and understand and experience Christ's great love and God's grace in their hearts and minds and no longer act from fear, but from love in the same way that a man in love with a woman does not do things to please her from fear, but from the love dwelling in his heart. Likewise, it is with the faithful who belong to the Lord's global family. The statement, "the LORD will satisfy the desire of the heart of all who fear Him," does not mean the LORD will give us the car, boat, holiday, abundance of material possessions, riches, wealth or fame we may desire, He may, but God is not dependent on any of these materialistic things to satisfy the human heart. The LORD does not need any worldly thing to give the human heart joy peace, contentment and love. God is not dependent on anything external to satisfy the heart, the only thing He is dependent on is our yielding and surrendering our life and our circumstance to Him and then trusting and loving Him. This is why the Christian faith in its pure form meets the need of the poor and rich alike, because its blessings are spiritual and meets every spiritual need of the human heart. God may bless those that belong to Him with worldly riches, but He is not dependent on worldly riches to fulfil their hearts with joy, peace contentment and His love and grace. Sadly, the Christian faith which should be the least materialistic faith has in some circles today become one of the most materialistic faiths.

PSALM 145: 20-21

God Preserves all who Love Him, but Destroys the Wicked.

- **Psalm 145:20-21:** The LORD preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. ²¹My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

It is interesting to notice that those the LORD will preserve (meaning keep for eternal life) is not all who know the Bible from Genesis to Revelation but all who love Him. Obviously there has to be knowledge of His plan of salvation, but it does shine a light upon the truth that it matters not how brilliant our knowledge maybe if the heart is lacking love toward God all the knowledge will count for nothing. David constantly meditates on the wonder of creation and the good things God had done for him. This is a good principle for the faithful who are suffering a crisis or difficult time and find it hard to think of any good thing, in these trying moments

ponder upon the love God has toward us. He gave His only Son that our sins would be forgiven and we would be granted eternal life and everlasting happiness. Think of the Lord's suffering on the bloodstained cross of Calvary to bring this eternal gift to us and meditate on the emotional hurt and pain in God's heart as He watched His Son being brutally beaten and cruelly nailed to the wooden cross by sinful men.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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