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## Psalm 148

(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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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 148.

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### Topics.

- God commanded and all things were created and established forever.
- Kings, princes, old men, maidens and children praise the LORD.
- Praise with understanding.
- Praise and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Praise and the silent chatter of the mind.
- God has raised up a horn for Israel His people.

**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.

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### INTRODUCTION

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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)

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#### PSALM 148:1-10

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#### God Commanded and all Things were Created.

- **Psalm 148:1-10:** 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 shining stars! <sup>4</sup>Praise him, you highest 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>And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away. <sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, <sup>8</sup>fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word! <sup>9</sup>Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! <sup>10</sup>Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!

It is interesting to notice that in this entire Psalm which is full with praise there is no mention of praising God for personal blessings. Obviously, we are to praise God for all the good things that come into our lives and our homes, but here we see the praise is all about praising God for His creation and a call for all creation to praise Him.

**For he commanded and they were created:** (v5) in these words the breathtaking power of the Most High God is shown, God spoke and the sun, moon and shining stars, the clouds and waters above and the fish in the waters below, fire and hail, snow and mist and the stormy winds, the mountains hills, fruit trees forests, beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds came into existence at the command of God. Who can comprehend such power and wisdom? The following verses show that man cannot find out God's power wisdom and 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. <sup>12</sup>For 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 God's power wisdom and works 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).

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### PSALM 148:11-13

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#### **Kings, Princes, Old Men, Maidens and Children Praise the LORD.**

- **Psalms 148:11-13:** Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! <sup>12</sup>Young men and maidens together, old men and children! <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

Every living man, woman and child is called to praise God as the God of creation, the God of nature, 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.

The praise the Psalmist is calling those dwelling on the earth to praise God with is the praise that flows upward from an honest heart of gratitude and thankfulness toward the Creator of all the earth. It is only praise that originates in the heart that rises up before God's throne like sweet smelling incense.

**Praise with 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.

**Praise and the silent chatter of the mind:** praise toward God is not dependent upon musicians or a choir, praise toward the Lord is something that is continual since it is in the heart and the mind and therefore it matters not where we are we can always be praising God in the chatter of our minds.

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## PSALM 148:14

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### God has Raised up a Horn for Israel His People.

- **Psalm 148:14:** He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

In its immediate context this verse would most likely refer to God removing the kingdom from Saul and exalting David to the throne of Israel, but it also echoes the birth of Jesus, his water baptism which was the beginning of his ministry and his resurrection and since the entire heavens and earth are called to praise the horn that the LORD has raised up it would certainly apply to Christ return 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).

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*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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