



# WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

## Psalm 149

(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.



Learn the  
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 149.

---

### Topics.

- Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly.
- God takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.
- Let God's praises be in their throats.
- The Commonwealth of Israel.
- The glory of the spiritual temple God is building in Christ.

**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.

---

### BOOK FIVE (PSALM 107-150)

---

1

---

### PSALM 149:1-3

---

#### **Sing to the LORD a New Song, in the Assembly of the Godly.**

- **Psalm 149:1-3:** Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly! <sup>2</sup>Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King! <sup>3</sup>Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!

The previous Psalm ended with the words, God has raised up a horn for his people (Psalm 148:14) which in its immediate context most likely refer to God removing the kingdom from Saul and exalting David to the throne of Israel, but the expression, "God has raised up a horn," also echoes the birth of Jesus; his water baptism (which was the beginning of his ministry); his resurrection and his return in glory. In this Psalm the Psalmist is calling all Israel to sing a New Song of joy to their king which based on the previous Psalm most likely refers to David replacing King Saul. This was a great day of praise, celebration and joy not only for David, but for all the people of Israel who had been under the ungodly rule of King Saul. But it also echoes the Lord Jesus Christ the true King of Israel and true King of all God's people.

**Let Israel be glad in his Maker:** (v2) the following verses show that the United Kingdom of Israel has always been God's special and unique nation unlike any other nation of them God said:

- Israel was his son who he called out of Egypt and he loved them when they were a child (Hosea 11:1).
- He gave birth to Israel and carried them from the womb even to their old age. (Isaiah 46:3-4).

- Israel is his allotted heritage (Deut. 32:9) and the apple of his eye (Deuteronomy 32:10).
- Israel is a people holy to him (Deut. 7:6) and his treasured possession (Deuteronomy 14:2).

The LORD has not spoken this way with any other nation, but God has not only spoken of Israel differently, but always dealt with them differently to any other nation:

- To Israel God gave the Ten Commandments and showed his great power. (Exodus 20:1-17).
- To Israel God declared his word, statutes and his rules. (Rom. 9:4)
- To Israel God gave the prophets, the worship and the promises. (Romans 3:4)
- To Israel belonged the covenant, the adoption, the patriarchs and the glory. (Romans 3:5)
- To Israel the oracles of God were entrusted. (Rom. 3:2)
- The people of Israel are the offspring of Abraham the father of faith. (Romans 9:7)
- From Israel's race came the Christ the Saviour of the world. (Rom. 9:5)

Added to these God said:

- Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine (Exod. 19:5).
- The LORD has declared today that you are a people for his treasured possession, as he has promised you, and that you are to keep all his commandments (Deut. 26:18).

The Psalmist wrote:

- God declared 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! (Psalm 147:19-20).

The LORD has not given any other nations such great privileges. These are the many reasons the Jews (especially the religious leaders of Jesus generation) considered themselves to be the holy race with God and the Gentile nations to be the unclean race without God.

---

### THE THERMOMETER OF GOD'S PROPHECY

---

It is true that Israel has been and still is a special nation to God, but since Christ death and resurrection salvation for both Jews and Gentiles is in the Lord Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, Israel remains a clear sign of where we are in prophecy concerning Christ's return. It could be said that they are the thermometer of God's prophecy much like the mercury on a natural thermometer measures the heat of the day and moves up the vertical red line warning us of impending danger when the heat of the sun is reaching temperatures that are dangerous for the good health of the skin and our well-being. Likewise Israel can be seen as the mercury of Bible prophecy in the sense that world events that come upon the nation of Israel (especially Jerusalem) are signs that give us some insight as to how close we are to that glorious breathtaking and world changing day when the Lord Jesus Christ returns in glory. But God's focus during our present age for eternal salvation is upon creating a new nation in Christ made up of Jews and Gentiles. This new nation is also called a new creation in Christ, the body of Christ, the Bride of Christ, the church and the Kingdom of God. For further information concerning this new nation God is building in Christ see the title: "The Commonwealth of Israel," at the end of this chapter.

**God takes Pleasure in His People; He Adorns with Salvation.**

- **Psalm 149:4:** For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation.

Our entire world system exalts and esteems the prideful, the rich, the wealthy and the famous, but God is the total opposite to the world system those things mean nothing to the LORD. He delights in those who are humble, those who show respect and kindness towards other people and who are without pretensions. This does not mean it is wrong to be a wealthy, successful or famous Christian especially since it takes money to help the poor and needy and it takes success to give people jobs and those who are famous have a great opportunity to share the Gospel with a group of people the average Christian is never going to meet. It simply means God does not judge a person by their wealth, their success or their fame, but by their character.

---

**PSALM 149:5-9**

---

**Let God's Praises be in their Throats.**

- **Psalm 149:5-9:** Let the godly exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their beds. <sup>6</sup>Let the high praises of God be in their throats (mouth in the KJV) and two-edged swords in their hands, <sup>7</sup>to execute vengeance on the nations and punishments on the peoples, <sup>8</sup>to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron, <sup>9</sup>to execute on them the judgment written! This is honour for all his godly ones. Praise the LORD!

As the faithful lay on their beds is a good thing to meditate with a joyful and thankful heart upon all the goodness of God, in creation, in salvation, in the wonders of the heavens, in the workings of our lives, in his word, in His love, grace and mercy, in the glorious future to come and such like things.

**Let the high praises of God be in their throats:** (v6) (mouth in the KJV) the word high means exaltation so the Psalmist is saying the following three things:

1. Let praises of exaltation be spoken or sung to God.
2. Let there be a consciousness that in whatever they were doing in their daily lives they were God's people engaged in carrying out His plans and purposes and not their own goals, ambitions and dreams. Meaning they should see themselves as God's warriors and servants on earth as they go about their daily lives, responsibilities and duties.
3. Let all praise spoken or sung exalt the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the God of Israel above all things especially pagan gods and idols and all the other so-called gods of all other faiths and religions.

**Let a two-edged sword be in their hands:** (v6) the idea and principal carried in this expression firstly applies to Old Testament Israel and secondly to New Testament Christians.

1. **Old Testament Israel:** under the Old Testament covenant Israel was called to conquer the seven grossly corrupt nations in the land of Canaan (some who cruelly sacrificed their children to their gods). The idea here would be that they were to see themselves going into battle not for their own glory, or to execute personal vengeance of any kind, but in obedience to God and for His glory and not their own glory. They were to see themselves as being servants in the hand of God to accomplish His work, plans and purposes and not go to war to further their own personal power and riches, but only in obedience to God's word.

2. **New Testament Christians:** under the New Testament and the covenant of grace those in the Kingdom of Christ are not called to go to war to establish God's Kingdom or spread His word, their weapons of warfare are not literal swords, but spiritual weapons. Paul in his letters wrote:

- Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, (Ephesians 6:17).
- God has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. (2 Cor. 3:6).

And the author of Hebrews wrote:

- For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Heb. 4:12).

These verses shine a brilliant spotlight on the truth that the word of God is a two-edged sword. During the Roman era Roman swords were often made with razor sharp edges on both sides of the blade for better effectiveness in battle. This is a most beautiful picture of the word of God since it also has the following two razor sharp edges:

1. The law, which sharply reproves and convicts of sin, threatening without any mercy or grace a judgment of condemnation and death. The law in the hand of the Spirit cuts deep into the hearts of all mankind and lays open the corruption of human nature, and the depth of sin which dwells within it. Such piercing causes pain and grief in an honest and humble conscience seeking God and not only robs of joy and peace, but deeply wounds and kills with guilt and for this reason the law is called the letter that kills. (2 Cor. 3:6).
2. The Gospel, which cuts in pieces even the best of men and women since it removes all their works of righteousness, all their wisdom, their holiness, their religious acts, their customs and traditions from their justification and salvation. It cuts down the sinful self as well as the righteous self and calls the faithful to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and is used by the Lord, as his power to save sinners to salvation. Its power is mighty, but only through God since it can do nothing of itself, but in the hand of the Spirit and the hand of the faithful and in the hand of Gospel ministers it has power to deliver a sinner from the domain of darkness and transfer them into the Kingdom of God's beloved Son. (Colossians 1:13).

---

4

Though Israel under the Old Testament covenant was called to cross the River Jordan and take the Promised Land by the sword (i.e. war) the death and resurrection of Christ abolished the Old Testament covenant and introduced a totally new covenant of grace. Jesus in his famous Sermon on the Mount said to his followers:

- You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.'  
<sup>44</sup>But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. (Matthew 5:43-45). (Luke 6:27) (Luke 6:35).

These words of Jesus clearly shine a brilliant spotlight upon the truth that no Christian man or woman today is called to go to war to spread the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus never intended that his Gospel should be spread by a literal sword, but by the Gospel that he proclaimed and taught his apostles and the Gospel he gave to Paul by revelation. For further information concerning Jesus famous Sermon on the Mount see:

- Matthew 5 in, Commentary NT (ON WEBSITE MENU).

**This is honour for all his godly ones** (v9) this honour refers to the following three things:

1. To Old Testament Israel serving God in battle to conquer the ungodly nations dwelling in the land of Canaan to take possession of the land promised to Abraham.
2. To New Testament Christians serving God in spreading the new covenant of grace, the message of the cross and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. To the resurrected faithful judging the nations spoken of in the following verses.
  - Do you (the Lords godly ones) not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? (1 Corinthians 6:2).
  - The Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom. (Daniel 7:22).

---

## THE COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL

---

It is important to understand that the promised seed of Abraham and David is Christ, all the promises to Israel are now fulfilled in Christ therefore they are not limited to Israel only, but extend and embrace all those who belong to Christ. This is because God is now creating one new nation in Christ made up of both Jew and Gentiles. (Gentiles are everyone who is not a Hebrew or Jew). This means that Jews and Gentiles become one new nation in Christ (also called a new man, a new creation, the church, the body of Christ and the Kingdom of God).

The Apostle Paul said:

- Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision (Jews), which is made in the flesh by hands—<sup>12</sup>remember that you (Gentiles) were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the *COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL* and *STRANGERS* to the *COVENANTS* of *PROMISE*, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you (Gentiles) who once were far off (from God) have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he himself is our (Jews and Gentiles) peace, who has made us both *ONE* and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup>by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he (Jesus) might create in himself *ONE NEW MAN* (or Nation) in place of the two (Jews and Gentiles), so making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile us (Jews and Gentiles) both to God in *ONE BODY* through the cross, thereby killing the hostility (between the Jews and Gentiles). <sup>17</sup>And he (Jesus) came and preached peace to you (Gentiles) who were far off (from God) and peace to those who were near (Jews). <sup>18</sup>For through him (Jesus) we both (Jews and Gentiles) have access in *ONE SPIRIT* to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you (Gentiles) are *NO LONGER* strangers and aliens, but you are *FELLOW CITIZENS* with the *SAINTS* (the Jews) and members of the *HOUSEHOLD* of God, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone <sup>21</sup>in whom the *WHOLE STRUCTURE* being joined together (Jews and Gentiles) grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>In him you (Jews and Gentiles) also are being built together into a *DWELLING PLACE* for *GOD* by the Spirit (Ephes. 2:11-22).

Gentiles were separated from Christ, alienated from the, Commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus they have been brought to God by the blood of Christ. Jesus has made Jews and Gentiles both one by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances so that Jesus might create in himself one new man (nation) in place of the two (Jews and Gentiles).

In Jesus both Jews and Gentiles are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. Christ is the head of this new nation and its Jewish and Gentile citizens are now equal in status before God since in Christ we are all brothers and sisters in the same eternal family that God is now establishing in the Lord Jesus Christ throughout all nations of the world. The practical application of what this means to those who belong to Christ is that all the future and eternal promises God made to Israel also apply to them.

The book of Revelation states:

- When Christ returns in glory every eye will see him, even those who pierced him and all the tribes of the earth (Rev. 1:7).

And in Revelation chapter five we are told that:

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

---

### **THE GLORY OF THE SPIRITUAL TEMPLE GOD IS BUILDING IN CHRIST**

---

Jews and Gentiles are being united together as one body in Christ to be a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. Believing Jews and Gentiles are being prepared by the prophets and apostles' teachings and by the influence of Christ and the Holy Spirit to become a majestic and glorious sacred temple in which God dwells for all eternity. When this majestic building is completed there will be nothing so worthy of reverence since God dwells in it; so ancient since the patriarchs and prophets laboured in building it; so solid since love cements it together; so closely united and indivisible since Christ is the corner stone; so exalted since it reaches as high as heaven and to God himself; so full of wisdom since its specifications are the word of God; so full of light since the Holy Spirit dispels every dark corner; so spacious since it is spread over the whole earth; so invincible and indestructible since it is being built by God, by Christ, by the Holy Spirit and by the influence of God's eternal word; so divine since it is a living, vibrant, dynamic temple inhabited by the Holy Spirit, and so universal since all its unique stones though spread throughout the world are compacted together in Christ.

God is the master builder of this majestic and glorious temple; Christ is the corner stone; faithful believers are the proper materials; the prophets and apostles are its foundation and the Gospel and love its pillars. Christ is the door and faith is the entrance into it. It is a spiritual building and through, faith and grace this living building is growing into an eternal house fit for the most Holy God to dwell in. It's beauty and radiance will surpass all temples that have ever gone before it since it will be adorned with a vast variety of rich colour made up of Jews and Gentiles of every age, country, sex, and condition: the mightiest of kings, the most renowned lawgivers, the most profound philosophers, the most eminent scholars and all those of whom the world was not worthy have formed this building, (taken from the beautiful writings of a faithful, but unknown brother in Christ). Peter wrote:

- Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame (1 Pet. 2:6).

Every faithful brother and sister in Christ are represented as living stones that God is using to build this spiritual, majestic temple of eternal glory which will be manifested in splendour for all to see when:

- The Lord himself descends from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ are raised then we who are alive are caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (1 Thess. 4:15-18).

---

*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.*

---