

PSALM 145-146 – THE GREATNESS OF OUR GOD

Introduction

- 1) **Psalm 145:3** – “Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable”
- 2) One thing learned when studying the Old Testament is the great nature of God and His works
- 3) Both Psalm 145 and 146 praise the greatness of God for who He is and what He has done
 - a) **Psalm 145** – “A Praise of David” and written as an alphabetic acrostic
 - b) **Psalm 146** – the first of five final praise psalms known as Hallelujah Psalms

I) Praising God’s Greatness (145:1-7; 146:1-5)

- A) God is greatly to be praised every day, and forever and ever (145:1-2; 146:1-2; 104:33)
- B) God is great – His greatness is “unsearchable” (145:3; Job 11:7-9)
 - 1) Impossible to be fully known by man’s wisdom and power – we can know its depths only through the revelation of the Spirit of God (cf. 1 Cor. 2:7-11; Rom. 11:33-36)
- C) One generation will praise God’s works to another generation (145:4-7)
- D) Must not put trust in men “in whom is no help” – man dies and plans perish (146:3-4; Jer. 17:5)
 - 1) God’s ways do not end – happy is he whose hope and help are in God (146:5; Rom. 15:13)

II) The Greatness of God’s Nature and Works (145:8-17; 146:6-10)

- A) Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them (146:6a; Gen. 1:1; Psa. 19:1; Rom. 1:20)
- B) Keeps truth forever – righteous and gracious in all His ways (146:6b; 145:17; Rom. 3:26)
- C) Gracious, full of compassion, slow to anger, great in mercy, good to all, tender mercies are over all His works (145:8-9; Psa. 86:5, 15; Ex. 34:6; Neh. 9:17b; Joel 2:13)
 - 1) Illustrated in various Bible stories about people and nations (Acts 14:17)
- D) Glorious, majestic, mighty, everlasting kingdom – Lord reigns forever! (145:10-13; 146:10)
 - 1) Addressed as “my God, O King” (145:1); Christ is King now (Heb. 1:8)
- E) Provides help, comfort, and provisions to all (145:14-16)
 - 1) Executes justice, gives freedom, opens eyes, relief (146:7-9)
 - 2) Provides food, raises up those who fall/are bowed down (145:14, 15; 146:7, 8; Eph. 2:6)
 - 3) Consider how these are seen in the work of Jesus (Lk. 4:18-19; 7:22)

III) Near to All Who Call Upon Him (145:18-21)

- A) Lord is near to all who call upon him “in truth” (145:18)
 - 1) Everyone who seeks God on His terms will find Him (Matt. 6:33; Jas. 4:8)
- B) Fulfill their desire, hear their cry, preserve all who love Him (145:19-20a)
- C) Will destroy the wicked (145:20b); turns upside down [makes crooked] the way of the wicked (146:9b)

Conclusion

The final words of the final psalm of David declares his desire to speak the praises of God forever and ever (145:21). In the heart of the sincere believer in God is the desire to “praise without ceasing” (cf. 1 Thess. 5:17)! Let us do so every day.