

The Lord Is To Be Praised
(Psalm 111)

Introduction:

1. This Psalm emphasizes the fact that "the Lord is to be praised."
2. This is a common theme throughout the Psalms.
 - a. Psalm 112:1a
 - b. Psalm 113:1, 9b
 - c. Psalm 148:1a, 14b
3. We conclude from these verses that God's people under the old covenant were responsible for offering praise to Him.
4. According to Hebrews 13:15, Christians are also responsible for offering "*the sacrifice of praise to God continually.*"
5. Psalm 111 contains information that will help us in offering praise to the Lord.
6. The first point we need to make is that . . .

Discussion:

- I. PSALM 111 REVEALS DETAILS THAT RELATE TO OFFERING PRAISE TO THE LORD
 - A. (vs.1b) How the Lord is to be praised -- "*with the whole heart*"
 - B. (vs.1c) Where the Lord is to be praised -- "*in the assembly and congregation*"
 - C. (vs.10c) How long the Lord is to be praised -- "*His praise endures forever*"
 - D. The second point we need to make is that . . .
- II. PSALM 111 TEACHES US WHY THE LORD DESERVES PRAISE
 - A. This Psalm speaks at length about "the Lord's works."
 - B. In general,:
 1. the Lord's works are described in vs.2 as "*great*"
 2. the Lord's work is described in vs.3 as "*honorable and glorious*" [through His work the Lord demonstrated His everlasting righteousness]
 3. the Lord's works are described in vs.7 as "*verity (truth) and judgment*" [all of the Lord's commands are sure -- they stand forever (vs.8)].
 - C. Specifically,:
 1. we learn from vs.5 that the Lord sustains His people, and He will not forget His covenant (Matthew 6:33)
 2. we learn from vs.9a that the Lord sent "*redemption*" (Galatians 4:4-5)
 3. we learn from vs.9b that the Lord has given His everlasting covenant (Hebrews 8:6-13).
 - D. The Lord's works provide special blessings.
 1. According to vs.6, the Lord demonstrated His power through His works.
 2. Vs.4 shows us that the Lord "*made His wonderful works to be remembered.*"
 - a. Reflecting upon the Lord's works will encourage us (Psalm 22:1-5).
 - b. The Lord's works remind us that He "*is gracious and full of compassion.*"
 - E. In addition to deserving praise because of His works, the Lord deserves praise because of His name that is "*holy and reverend*" (vs.9c).

Conclusion:

1. A wealth of information is presented in Psalm 111 that relates to offering praise to the Lord.
2. A fitting conclusion is given in vs.10 -- it touches on how to be in good standing with the Lord (Ecclesiastes 12:13).
3. Let us always fear the Lord and be determined to always obey His will.
4. "*I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation.*"