

Love and Worship God

Psalm 103:1-17, 21-22

Dec. 16, 2018

Be not afraid of saying too much in the praise of God: all the danger is of saying too little.
Matthew Henry

Unifying Principle

People feel anxiety and confusion when they remember their personal failures and as they continually face life's trials. What consolation is there? The psalmist lists the many reasons God's steadfast love inspires enthusiastic thanksgiving rather than dismay.

The Individual Psalmist's Praise to God

Ps. 103:1-5

Praise the Lord with your whole being: (1-5)

- a. Praise His holy name. (1) To bless the Lord is to praise and express love and gratitude for all that God is and all that he does. David blessed and exalted the holy name of the Lord. His name is to be so revered, so honored, that God commanded His people never to take His name in vain-never to use it commonly, casually, or insincerely.
- b. Praise Him for all his goodness. (2) David gives all that is within himself to God and remembers all that God has done for him.
 - 1) Forgiveness (3) Forgiveness is the foundation for fellowship.
 - 2) Healing:
 - 3) Redemption (4) He redeems us from eternal death.
 - 4) Love:
 - 5) Compassion
 - 6) Satisfaction (5)
 - 7) Physical and spiritual renewal:

The Nation of Israel's Praise to God

Ps. 103:6-17

Acknowledge the Lord's works: (6-17)

- a. He provides justice for His people and punishes their oppressors. (6) In His righteousness, God provides justice for them by carrying out judgment against their oppressors.
- b. He revealed Himself-His ways and works-to the world: (7)
 - 1) He is a merciful judge: (8)
 - He does not constantly accuse us nor harbor anger when we do wrong. (9)

- He does not punish nor repay us as much as our sin deserve. (10)
- He has a love for all who truly fear and reverence Him that soars above the highest heavens. (11)
- He forgives and removes our sins from us. (12)
- 2) He is like a compassionate father:. (13)
- 3) He is our Creator and knows our exact nature...
 - That we are mere dust. (14)
 - That we are as frail as grass and flowers: (15)
 - Subject to nature, disease, and death with only a brief lifespan on earth. (16) Man bursts upon the scene of human history but then is swept away.
- c. He showers His eternal love and righteousness on all who fear Him. (17)

The Universe's Praise to God

Ps. 103:21-22

- 1) By all the heavenly hosts. (21)
- 2) By every one of us, every single individual. (22) God's works are his creation, which he made for his own glory and praise. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
(Ps.150:6)

Principle: Everything that we are and have is attributable to God's mercy and goodness toward us.

References: Holman's OT Commentary
The Communicator's Commentary