

## Studies In Psalms by [John T Polk II](#) For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Psalm 147

5/8/13

### Psalm 147

### Jehovah is God – And We're NOT!

These last five Psalms ([Psalms 146-150](#)) are called "Hallelujah Psalms" because they begin and end with that expression: "Praise – Jehovah," or "Hallelujah." The author, date, and setting of each Psalm are undetermined, but their acceptance is unquestioned.

Verse 1 calls for praise;

Verses 2-6 give Israelite outcasts reasons to praise God;

Verse 7 calls for praise;

Verses 8-11 give those who fear Him reasons to praise God;

Verse 12 calls for Israelites to praise God;

Verses 13-18 call attention to God's absolute Power;

Verses 19-20 call Israelites' attention to God's special Word to them.

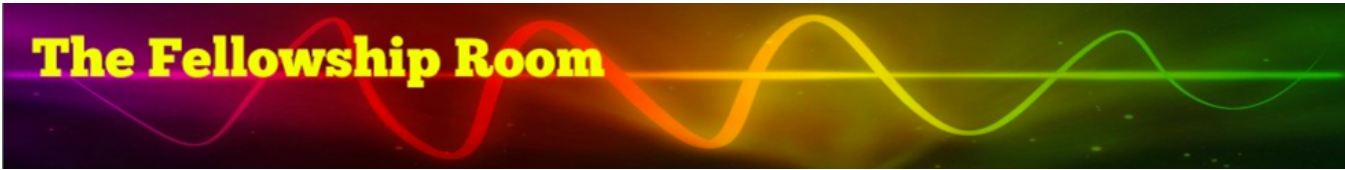
**Verse 1:** Sing "Hallelujah" because it is "good," "pleasant," "beautiful."

**Verses 2-6:** Jehovah "builds up Jerusalem" by making sure the "outcasts" are included. These are people who might be rejected by the religious snobs and overlooked for blessings. **Verses 2-3** describe the work of Jesus Christ when He came ([Jeremiah 30:10-17](#); [Luke 4:16-20](#)). God can account for all of Israel's "outcasts" because only He knows the number, but also the name, of the stars. With all of today's technologies, humans haven't even *seen* all of the stars, yet! Although God is "great," "mighty in power," infinite in "understanding," He compassionately "lifts up the humble," but does not do the same for "the wicked."

**Verse 7:** Praise should be sung, and the instruments of David left behind, for the only instrument that should accompany worship singing today is "your heart" ([Ephesians 5:19](#)).

**Verses 8-11:** The Earth follows God's physical rules, as those who "fear Him" follow His spiritual rules: from cloud coverings come rain; from rain comes grass on mountains; from grass (greenery) comes food for beasts and ravens *asking*. God's pleasure is not in the strength of horses or men's legs, but "in those who hope in His mercy."

**Verse 12:** Israel, whose capital of Jerusalem, was also its' worship center, Zion, is alerted to "praise your God."



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**Verses 13-18:** A God-blessed nation has:

- 1) Strong "bars" of its "gates." Aren't we talking about keeping out illegal immigrants, outsiders who corrupt, and disguised terrorists? A godless society has no limits!
- 2) Blessed "children," and this is not discussing their toys, games, sports, or other distractions, but genuine faith.
- 3) Internal "peace," and this is not with martial law, or a police state, but citizens with faithful obedience to God's moral Law;
- 4) Abundant harvest, because God has made the land cooperate and bless ([Acts 14:14-17](#)). It is by God's Command that the Earth is blessed with: "snow," "frost," "hail," "cold," "melting," blowing wind, and flowing water!

**Verses 19-20:** God gave the Israelites (including Jews!) the advantage of "His Word," including His "statutes" and "judgments." That Word should have lead them all the way to Jesus Christ ([Deuteronomy 4:5](#); [Leviticus 26:40-46](#); [Malachi 4:4](#); [Galatians 3:7-29](#)). No other nation ever had that advantage of specific written revelation through prophets, and yet when Jesus came, "although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him" ([John 12:37](#)). Paul asked the question: "What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God. For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar" ([Romans 3:1-4](#)).

God had given the Jews the advantage of having His Word first. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek" ([Romans 1:16](#)). Having God's Word, knowing it, and obeying it is our advantage, today. Jesus said: "For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother" ([Mark 3:35](#)).

"Praise the LORD" or "Hallelujah!"

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