

הלל - to brag about, shout in joy or terror, rejoice, cry aloud. It seems to be the idea of making a big deal about something. In this case it basically means bragging about God. Like cheerleaders shouting for their team. It's the opposite of "trash talking". It's "treasure talking".



Always & Everywhere

At all times & In all places

But you say, "I don't really know how to praise Him." vs. 4-9 shows you how. It's a primer on the basics of praise. It consists of declaring in words how wonderful He is and what wonderful things He does.

For who He is

Being & Beholding

Verse 7 is a direct quote of Hannah in 1 Samuel 2:8

For what He does

Acting & Serving

This reflects the honor and respect paradigm, not the sin and guilt one.

It says nothing about what these needy people might or should do for Him: sacrifice, serve, fear, love, or believe. Just that all should praise such an incredible God.

Ash pit- אֶשְׁפֹּת (ashpot) refuse heap, dung hill. Neh. 2:13 - "dung" gate sewer, septic tank, out house, latrine, garbage, trash. God saves us out of dirt and dung, out of grimy and gross.

No mention of:

10 commandments, sacrifices, sabbath, king, priest, nation, Messiah, food, drink, feast, fast, prayer requests, creation, Abraham, David, Moses, Law, promise, the land.

Matt. 26:30 "They sang a hymn." 1st psalm in the Hallel: sort of a Jewish holiday medley. Ps. 113-118 (6 psalms). Also called the Egyptian Hallel. Ps. 136 is the Great Hallel.

This is a psalm of contrasts. It covers a huge scope, and yet it's so tiny, like a locket you can wear around your neck.



Praise is not just mindlessly repeating a mantra or phrase over and over. It has content and variety. It has focus and fascination.

Praise the Lord!

Psalm 113

Praise is **commanded**.

What? Praise

Who? God's servants

Whom? God, His name

When? From now on

Where? Everywhere

Movement from high to low foreshadows Philipians 2:5-11
How?

High
Exalted
King
Transcendent

Low
Humble
Servant
Immanent

1 Cor. 6:9-11 "*For such were some of you...*" God found you in the garbage dump.

Princes - He lifts us up to dignity and noble service. Not just a handout and a

change of clothes, but honor, respect and usefulness.

Why would anyone be on a dung hill in the first place? It was land no one else wants to live on. And they may also find something to eat there.

1. **Praise** the LORD! (הַלְלוּ יְהוָה)
2. **Praise**, O servants of the LORD;
3. **praise** the name of the LORD.

PRaise



Blessed be the name of the LORD
from this time forth and forever.
From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of the LORD is to be **praised**.

3

The LORD is high above all nations;
His glory is above the heavens.

ENTHRONED



Who is like the LORD our God,
1. who is enthroned on high,
2. who humbles Himself to behold *the things that are* in heaven and in the earth?

6

He a) raises the poor from the dust, and
b) lifts the needy from the ash heap,
to make *them* sit
with princes,
with the princes of His people.

ASH HEAP



He makes the barren woman abide
in the house
as a joyful mother of children.



9 **Praise** the LORD! (הַלְלוּ יְהוָה)

The Lord is high above- He's got the high ground; He's number one; He's "got the drop on us." How would we use that kind of advantage? Probably voyeurism, spying, playing tricks on people, exposing liars. Look at what both Saul and David did to misuse power when they had it.

He specializes in resurrection. He gives purpose and value. He doesn't just save from distress and sorrow and need; He saves for meaningful service.

Who is this psalm for?

1. For God's servants, Those who have surrendered their lives to Him. Many of them are high in activity but low in praise.

2. For those who feel weak, depressed, poor, needy, fruitless. And for those who used to be that way, to remember and celebrate God's unfailing love.

Sovereign	Servant
Holy	Helpful
Extensive	Intensive
General	Specific
Overview	Details
Righteous King	Red Cross
High	Humble
King	Caretaker
Exalted	Lowly
Governing Potentate	Garbage Picker
God is great	God is good