

Psalm 135:3, “Praise the LORD; for the LORD is good: sing praises unto his name; for it is pleasant.”



1 Chronicles 23:30, “And to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at even;”

In 1 Chronicles 23 verses 28-32 it lists ways the Levites assisted the priests within the temple. One of these duties was to stand every morning and every evening giving thanks and praise to God.

In Nehemiah, after Ezra opened the Word of God and the people stood, they lifted their hands, bowed their heads, and worshipped God.

Nehemiah 8:5-6, “And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.”

Hebrews 13:15, “By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.”

Several years back after reading these verses, I thought about the following:

- 1) If I compare myself to the Levites, the ‘worker bees in the temple’, then I can follow their pattern of giving thanks and praising God each morning and evening. God calls me to be His ‘worker bee’ in this life. Before they began their day and at the end of each day, God said this act of standing and praising was important enough to make it a rule to follow.
- 2) Each day, each hour and each minute God is constantly bombarded by the sin and wickedness of the world. He hears each cry of the oppressed. He hears each mockery of those that reject His Son. He hears the screams of infants aborted. He hears the pain of each person he loves whom after rejecting Him is thrown into the pits of Hell.

3) If standing each morning and each evening to give thanks and praise God pleased the Lord during the time of the temple, wouldn't it bring Him some pleasure if I do the same?

1 Chronicles 16:32-33, "Let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof: let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein. Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD, because he cometh to judge the earth."

You've heard the phrase 'the rocks will cry out'. Here the sea, the fields and the trees are singing. If we could hear what they are saying, what would be the message? Could it possibly be the next verse?

1 Chronicles 16:34, "O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever."

This is also repeated in Psalm 106:1, Psalm 107:1, Psalm 118:1,29 and Psalm 136:1.

2 Chronicles 5:13, "It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD;"

2 Chronicles 7:3, "And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever."

Ezra 3:11, "And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid."

Psalm 100:5, "For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations."

Psalm 92:1, "It is a good thing, to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:"

Psalm 147:1, "Praise ye the LORD: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely."

After thinking over all these things, I made a decision. Each morning and each evening, I would stand, raise my hands, bow my head and sing Psalm 135:3 to the Lord. Afterwards I would repeat these words: 'Praise the LORD of hosts, for the LORD is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.' (Exert from Jeremiah 33:11)

I didn't make this choice because God requires it of me; I made it because I want to please Him. If it pleased Him during the time of the Levites, it must please Him today. So amidst all the sorrow, grief and pain that rise to the ears of our Savior, may our lips of praise be heard among them, giving Him pleasure.

"A drop of praise is an unsuitable acknowledgment for an ocean of mercy." Rev. William Secker