

## ספר תהילים קמח | Tehillim / Psalms 148

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### Praise, the Horn of Salvation, and these being applied to the Messiah of God

In this week's study from *Tehillim / Psalms 148:1-14*, the psalm opens saying, א הַלְלוּ אֶת-יְהוָה | הַלְלוּ אֶת-יְהוָה מִן-הַשָּׁמַיִם הַלְלוּהוּ בַּמְרוֹמִים: 148:1 Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights! ב הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל-מַלְאָכָיו הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל-צָבָאָו [צָבָאָו]: 148:2 Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts! ג הַלְלוּהוּ שֶׁמֶשׁ וְיָרֵחַ הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל-כּוֹכְבֵי אוֹר: 148:3 Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all stars of light! ד הַלְלוּהוּ שָׁמַי הַשָּׁמַיִם וְהַמַּיִם אֲשֶׁר | מַעַל הַשָּׁמַיִם: 148:4 Praise Him, highest heavens, And the waters that are above the heavens! ה הַלְלוּ אֶת-שֵׁם יְהוָה כִּי הוּא צִוָּה וַנִּבְרָאוּ: 148:5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, For He commanded and they were created. (NASB) The psalmist speaks to the heavens, the angels, the sun, moon, and stars, all of God's creation to sing praises to His name because He commanded and they were created. The power of God in His Word, He speaks and things happen. (Isaiah 55:11) The Psalmist continues saying the following, ו וַיַּעֲמִידֵם לְעַד לְעוֹלָם חֵק-נֶתַן וְלֹא יַעֲבוֹר: 148:6 He has also established them forever and ever; He has made a decree which will not pass away. (NASB) Left on their own the heavens and the earth will remain established. The Psalmist says, ז הַלְלוּ אֶת-יְהוָה מִן-הָאָרֶץ תַּנְיִנִים, וְכָל-תְּהוֹמוֹת: ח אֲשׁוּבָרְד שְׁלֵג וְקִיטוֹר רִיחַ סַעְרָה עֲשֵׂה דְבָרוֹ: ט הַהָרִים וְכָל-גְּבֻעוֹת עֵץ פְּרִי וְכָל-אֲרָזִים: י הַחֲזִיהַ וְכָל-בְּהֵמָה רָמֵשׁ וְצַפּוֹר כָּנָף: יא מַלְכֵי-אָרֶץ וְכָל-לְאֻמִּים שָׂרִים וְכָל-שֹׁפְטֵי אָרֶץ: יב בַּחֲוָרִים וְגַם-בְּתוֹלוֹת זְקֵנִים: 148:7 Praise the Lord from the earth, Sea monsters and all deeps; 148:8 Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy wind, fulfilling His word; 148:9 Mountains and all hills; Fruit trees and all cedars; 148:10 Beasts and all cattle; Creeping things and winged fowl; 148:11 Kings of the earth and all peoples; Princes and all judges of the earth; 148:12 Both young men and virgins; Old men and children. 148:13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, For His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. (NASB) The Psalmist then calls all creatures on the earth to praise His name. The Psalm concludes saying, יד וַיָּרֶם קַרְן | לְעֲמוֹ תְהַלֵּה לְכָל-חַסִּידָיו לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, 148:14 And He has lifted up a horn for His people, Praise for all His godly ones; Even for the sons of Israel, a people near to Him. Praise the Lord!(NASB)

עברית	Hebrew	ארמי	Aramaic	ελληνικός	Greek
<b>ספר תהלים פרק קמח</b>	<b>ספר טוביה פרק קמח</b>	ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 148			
א הַלְלוּ אֶת-יְהוָה מִן-הַשָּׁמַיִם הַלְלוּהוּ בַּמְרוֹמִים: ב הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל-מַלְאָכָיו הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל-צָבָאָו [צָבָאָו]: ג הַלְלוּהוּ שֶׁמֶשׁ וְיָרֵחַ הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל-כּוֹכְבֵי אוֹר: ד הַלְלוּהוּ שָׁמַי הַשָּׁמַיִם וְהַמַּיִם אֲשֶׁר   מַעַל הַשָּׁמַיִם: ה הַלְלוּ אֶת-שֵׁם יְהוָה כִּי הוּא צִוָּה וַנִּבְרָאוּ:	א הַלְלוּהוּ שְׁבַחוּ אֱלֹהֵי שְׁבַחוּ יְהוָה בְּרִייתָא קְדִישָׁא מִן שְׁמַיָּא שְׁבַחוּ יְתִיהָ כָּל חִילֵי אַנְגְּלֵי מְרוּמָא: ב שְׁבַחוּ יְתִיהָ כָּל מַלְאָכֵי דִּי מִ שְׁמַשִּׁין קְדָמוּי שְׁבַחוּ יְתִיהָ כָּל חִילוּתֵיהָ: ג שְׁבַחוּ יְתִיהָ שְׁמַשׂא וְסִיְהָרָא שְׁבַחוּ יְתִיהָ כָּל כּוֹכְבֵי נְהוּרָא: ד שְׁבַחוּ יְתִיהָ שְׁמַי שְׁמַיָּא וְמֵיָא דִּיתְלִין בְּמֵימְרָא מַעִילוּי שְׁמַיָּא: ה יִשְׁבַּחוּן יְתִיהָ שְׁמַא דִּיהוּ אַרוּם הוּא פְּקִיד וְאַתְבְּרִין:	148:1 αλληλουια Αγγελου και Ζαχαριου αινειτε τον κυριον εκ των ουρανων αινειτε αυτον εν τοις υψιστοις 148:2 αινειτε αυτον παντες οι αγγελου αυτου αινειτε αυτον πασαι αι δυναμεις αυτου 148:3 αινειτε αυτον ηλιος και σεληνη αινειτε αυτον παντα τα αστρα και το φως 148:4 αινειτε αυτον οι ουρανοι των ουρανων και το υδωρ το υπερανω των ουρανων 148:5 αινεσατωσαν το ονομα κυριου οτι αυτος ειπεν και εγενηθησαν αυτος ενετειλατο και εκτισθησαν			

<p>ו וַיַּעֲמִידֵם לְעֵד לְעוֹלָם חֶק-נֶתֶן  וְלֹא יַעֲבֹר: ז הִלְלוּ אֶת-יְהוָה  מִן-הָאָרֶץ תְּנַיִנִים וְכָל-תְּהוֹמוֹת:  ח אֲשׁ וּבְרַד שֶׁלֵּג וְקִיטוֹר רוּחַ  סַעֲרָה עֹשֶׂה דְבָרוֹ: ט הַהָרִים  וְכָל-גְּבָעוֹת עֵץ פְּרִי וְכָל-אֲרָזִים:  י הַחִיָּה וְכָל-בְּהֵמָה רֹמֵשׁ וְצִ-  פֹּר כְּנָף: יא מְלָכֵי-אֲרָץ וְכָל-  לְאָמִים שָׂרִים וְכָל-שֹׁפְטֵי אֲרָץ:  יב בְּחוּרִים וְגַם-בְּתוֹלוֹת זְקֵנִים  עַם-נְעָרִים: יג יְהִלְלוּ   אֶת-שֵׁם  יְהוָה כִּי-נִשְׁאָב שָׁמוֹ לְבַדּוֹ הוֹדוּ  עַל-אֲרָץ וְשָׁמַיִם: יד וַיִּרְם קָרֹן    לְעֵמּוֹ תְּהִלָּה לְכָל-חֲסִידָיו לְבָנֵי  יִשְׂרָאֵל עַם-קָרְבּוֹ הִלְלוּיָהּ:</p>	<p>ו והקיימנון וקיימינון לעלמי עלמין  גזירתא יהב ולא יעבר: ז שבחון ית  יהוה מן ארעא תניניא וכל תהומיא:  ח אשא וברדא תלגא וקטרא רוח על-  עולא עבדא פתגמיה: ט טוריא וכל  גלמתא אילן דעבד פירין וכל ארזין: י  חיתא חיותא וכל בעירא ריחשא וצי-  פר גדפא דפרח: יא מלכיא דארעא  וכל אומיא רברבניא וכל דיניי נגודיא  ארעא: יב עולימיא רווקין ולחוד  בתולן סביא עם טליא: יג ישבחון  ית שמא דיהוה ארום תקיף שמיא בל-  חודוי לבלחודוי תושבחתיה על ארעא  ושמיא: יד וזקף איקר מלכותיה לע-  מיה שבחא לכל חסידוי לבני ישראל  עמא דקריבין ליה שבחו ית יהוה:</p>	<p>148:6 ἔστησεν αὐτὰ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα καὶ  εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τοῦ αἰῶνος πρόσταγμα  ἔθετο καὶ οὐ παρελεύσεται 148:7  αἰνεῖτε τὸν κύριον ἐκ τῆς γῆς  δράκοντες καὶ πᾶσαι ἄβυσσοι 148:8  πῦρ χάλαζα χιών κρύσταλλος πνεῦμα  καταιγίδος τὰ ποιοῦντα τὸν λόγον  αὐτοῦ 148:9 τὰ ὄρη καὶ πάντες οἱ  βουνοὶ ξύλα καρποφόρα καὶ πᾶσαι  κέδροι 148:10 τὰ θηρία καὶ πάντα τὰ  κτῆνη ἔρπετὰ καὶ πετεινὰ πτερωτά  148:11 βασιλεῖς τῆς γῆς καὶ πάντες  λαοὶ ἄρχοντες καὶ πάντες κριταὶ  γῆς 148:12 νεανίσκοι καὶ παρθένοι  πρεσβῦται μετὰ νεωτέρων 148:13  αἰνεσάτωσαν τὸ ὄνομα κυρίου  ὅτι ὑψώθη τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ μόνου  ἢ ἐξομολόγησις αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ γῆς  καὶ οὐρανοῦ 148:14 καὶ ὑψώσει  κέρας λαοῦ αὐτοῦ ὕμνος πᾶσι τοῖς  ὁσίοις αὐτοῦ τοῖς υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ λαῶ  ἐγγίζοντι αὐτῷ</p>
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<p><b>Tehillim / Psalms 148</b>  148:1 Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights!  148:2 Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts!  148:3 Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all stars of light!  148:4 Praise Him, highest heavens, And the waters that are above the heavens!  148:5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, For He commanded and they were created.  148:6 He has also established them forever and ever; He has made a decree which will not pass away.  148:7 Praise the Lord from the earth, Sea monsters and all deeps;  148:8 Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy wind, fulfilling His word;  148:9 Mountains and all hills; Fruit trees and all cedars;  148:10 Beasts and all cattle; Creeping things and winged fowl;  148:11 Kings of the earth and all peoples; Princes and all judges of the earth;  148:12 Both young men and virgins; Old men and children.  148:13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, For His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven.  148:14 And He has lifted up a horn for His people, Praise for all His godly ones; Even for the sons of Israel, a people near to Him. Praise the Lord!(NASB)</p>	<p><b>Toviyah / Psalms 148</b>  148:1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, holy creatures in heaven; praise him, all hosts of angels on high.  148:2 Praise him, all angels that minister in his presence; praise him, all his hosts.  148:3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all stars of light.  148:4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, and the waters that are suspended by his word above the heavens.  148:5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.  148:6 And he established them for ages upon ages; he gave a decree and none will violate it.  148:7 Praise the Lord in the earth, sea serpents and all abysses.  148:8 Fire and hail, snow and vapor, storm wind fulfilling his command;  148:9 Mountains and all hills, [every] tree that produces fruit, and all cedars;  148:10 Animals and every beast, creeping things and the winged bird that flies;  148:11 Kings of the earth and all peoples; rulers and all judges[110] of the earth.  148:12 Lads and even girls, old men and youths;  148:13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name is mighty, he alone; his praise is over earth and heaven.  148:14 And he has lifted up glory for his people, praise for all his pious ones, for the children of Israel, the people who are close to him: Praise the Lord! (EMC)</p>	<p><b>Psalmoi / Psalms 148</b>  Alleluia, a Psalm of Aggaeus and Zacharias.  148:1 Praise ye the Lord from the heavens: praise him in the highest.  148:2 Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts.  148:3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all ye stars and light.  148:4 Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and the water that is above the heavens.  148:5 Let them praise the name of the Lord: for he spoke, and they were made; he commanded, and they were created.  148:6 He has established them for ever, even for ever and ever: he has made an ordinance, and it shall not pass away.  148:7 Praise the Lord from the earth, ye serpents, and all deeps.  148:8 Fire, hail, snow, ice, stormy wind; the things that perform his word.  148:9 Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars:  148:10 wild beasts, and all cattle; reptiles, and winged birds:  148:11 kings of the earth, and all peoples; princes, and all judges of the earth:  148:12 young men and virgins, old men with youths:  148:13 let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name only is exalted; his praise is above the earth and heaven,  148:14 and he shall exalt the horn of his people, there is a hymn for all his saints, even of the children of Israel, a people who draw near to him. (LXX)</p>
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In this week's study from *Tehillim / Psalms 148:1-14*, the psalm opens saying, א הַלְלוּהוּ | הַלְלוּ אֶת-יְהוָה, 148:1 Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights! ב הַלְלוּהוּ כָל-מַלְאָכָיו הַלְלוּהוּ כָל-צָבָאוֹ [צָבָאוֹ]: 148:2 Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts! ג הַלְלוּהוּ שֶׁמֶשׁ וְיָרֵחַ הַלְלוּהוּ כָל-כּוֹכְבֵי אוֹר: 148:3 Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all stars of light! ד הַלְלוּהוּ שָׁמַי הַשָּׁמַיִם וְהַמַּיִם אֲשֶׁר | מֵעַל הַשָּׁמַיִם: 148:4 Praise Him, highest heavens, And the waters that are above the heavens! ה יְהַלְלוּ אֶת-שֵׁם יְהוָה כִּי הוּא צִוָּה וַיִּבְרָאוּ: 148:5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, For He commanded and they were created. (NASB) The psalmist speaks to the heavens, the angels, the sun, moon, and stars, all of God's creation to sing praises to His name because He commanded and they were created.

***Bereshit / Genesis 1:1*** — “*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*”

The angels of God are His servants, sent by Him into the world to do His will and according to the Scriptures, one of the most important roles of angels is praising and glorifying God.

#### ***Isaiah 6:1-4***

*6:1 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. 6:2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 6:3 And one called out to another and said, 'Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory.' 6:4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke. (NASB)*

Here Isaiah sees into heaven and what he sees is two angels seated next to the Lord God Almighty. These two angels were chanting the phrase “*Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts*” to praise the Lord. The repetition by the angels signifies emphasis and the importance of always rejoicing in the Lord as we continue through out lives each day. Isaiah states that the whole earth is full of His glory, and therefore all creatures should join in praising Him! There is a parallel found in the book of Revelation in the Apostolic Writings.

#### ***Revelation 5:9-13***

*5:9 And they sang a new song, saying, 'Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. 5:10 'You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.' 5:11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, 5:12 saying with a loud voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.' 5:13 And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, 'To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever.' (NASB)*

In the book of the Revelation of John we read the inhabitants of heaven unite together in honoring the Lamb of God. This passage is to show us that there is universal harmony in heaven, and that all peoples unite in celebrating the victory of the Lamb of God. The text describes a countless number of angels coming together with all creation to rejoice in the beauty of God's kingdom. Based upon these Scriptures, and what the Psalmist is writing saying, ב הַלְלוּהוּ כָל-מַלְאָכָיו הַלְלוּהוּ כָל-צָבָאוֹ [צָבָאוֹ]: 148:2 Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts! (NASB) we know that in heaven above the angels are praising God even though we live in a dark and sinful world. The world that is above is a world of blessed angels celebrating the Lord

God Almighty and the Lamb of God in heaven. These angels are always praising God, and they call on us to do the same on Earth. This is seen in the statements from Luke.

**Luke 2:13**

*“And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward man.’”*

Here, the angels come in a multitude singing of their joy of the Messiah and love for the Lord. They continually praise Him and lift His name up. The angels here were celebrating Yeshua’s birth on earth, knowing that He would one day be the savior of the human race. The heavenly host is a reference to the “*army of God*” a multitude of angels celebrating peace. Job spoke of the angels desire that God be praised in the best manner and communicate to us their desires to glorify our Creator by saying the following:

**Job 38:7**

*“When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”*

Here the stars are used as a reference to the great magnitude of angels coming together to sing and rejoice in the Lord. This shows us how angels are loyal servants who sing in chorus to celebrate the Creator who had done marvelous things. In the Apostolic Writings, Yeshua describes angels in a similar manner to illustrate how the angels praise God’s creative power by working in man’s heart.

**Luke 15:3-10**

*15:3 So He told them this parable, saying, 15:4 ‘What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? 15:5 ‘When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 15:6 ‘And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ 15:7 ‘I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. 15:8 ‘Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 15:9 ‘When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost!’ 15:10 ‘In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.’ (NASB)*

Here, the heavenly beings are shown to be rejoicing over those who repent of their sins and turn to God’s ways (His commands). The angels rejoice in man walking in faith turning from the ruin of sin. The angels of God not only celebrate Him, but His children also. Similar to *Luke 15:10*, the angels are able to rejoice when a sinner has turned to God. Here though, the angels show their deeper love by celebrating those who admitted their faults and sins but were able to humbly ask for forgiveness. The angels rejoice more for the repentance of one sinner than they do for millions that have not fallen. The rejoicing of the angels demonstrates the great value in those who are grateful to God for His mercy.

In the Torah, the first thing we ever read about the Lord God Almighty is His expressing all His power and might by creating a beautiful and magnificent world. While we could never create something as complex, diverse, and abundant, later in God’s Word, we are told to worship Him in a multitude of ways. The Psalmist states because of His power, His creative ability, we are to praise the Lord. The power of God in His Word, He speaks and things happen. (*Isaiah 55:11*)

**Isaiah 55:1-12**

*55:1 ‘Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; And you who have no money come, buy*

*and eat. Come, buy wine and milk Without money and without cost. 55:2 'Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And delight yourself in abundance. 55:3 'Incline your ear and come to Me. Listen, that you may live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you, According to the faithful mercies shown to David. 55:4 'Behold, I have made him a witness to the peoples, A leader and commander for the peoples. 55:5 'Behold, you will call a nation you do not know, And a nation which knows you not will run to you, Because of the Lord your God, even the Holy One of Israel; For He has glorified you.' 55:6 Seek the Lord while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the Lord, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. 55:8 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,' declares the Lord. 55:9 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts. 55:10 'For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. 55:12 'For you will go out with joy And be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands. (NASB)*

Isaiah speaks of the good things God offers as being free to us who seek the Lord and His ways. Isaiah speaks by the inspiration of God saying, “Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And delight yourself in abundance.” (Isaiah 55:2) What we eat becomes a part of our lives making our bodies either healthy or sick. This is paralleled to the Word of God as opposed to turning to the ways of the world, this becomes a part of our lives and we live out what we take into our bodies. Isaiah says in 55:3 explaining what was meant by listening carefully to the Lord, speaking of the everlasting covenant of God. Isaiah says the Lord will call a nation that is not Israel who will run to the Lord to seek His ways. The idea here is when turning to the Lord the wicked turn from unrighteousness to righteousness and truth. 55:6 *Seek the Lord while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the Lord, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. (NASB)* The Lord is looking for us to even forsake our wicked thoughts. The Lord God wants to create in us a pure heart and He says, 55:11 *So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. 55:12 'For you will go out with joy And be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands. (NASB)* The Lord wants to give us peace, joy, happiness, and praises to His name for His great mercies.

The Psalmist continues saying the following, 148:6 *He has also established them forever and ever; He has made a decree which will not pass away. (NASB)* Left on their own the heavens and the earth will remain established. The Psalmist says, ז הִלְלוּ אֶת-יְהוָה מִן-הָאָרֶץ תַּנְיָנִים וְכָל-תְּהוֹמוֹת: ח אֵשׁ וּבָרָד שֶׁלֵּג וְקִיטוֹר רוּחַ סַעֲרָה עֹשֶׂה דְבָרוֹ: ט הַהָרִים וְכָל-גְּבוּעוֹת עֵץ פְּרִי וְכָל-אֲרָזִים: י הַחֲזִיהַ וְכָל-בְּהֵמָה רֹמֵשׁ וְצִפּוֹר כָּנָף: יא מַלְכֵי-אֲרָץ וְכָל-לְאֻמִּים שָׂרִים וְכָל-שִׁפְטֵי אֲרָץ: יב בַּחֳרִים וְגַם-בְּתוֹלוֹת 148:7 *Praise the Lord from the earth, Sea monsters and all deeps; 148:8 Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy wind, fulfilling His word; 148:9 Mountains and all hills; Fruit trees and all cedars; 148:10 Beasts and all cattle; Creeping things and winged fowl; 148:11 Kings of the earth and all peoples; Princes and all judges of the earth; 148:12 Both young men and virgins; Old men and children. 148:13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, For His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. (NASB)* The Psalmist then calls all creatures on the earth to praise His name. Here we find *Tehillim / Psalms 148* commanding all creation to

praise the Lord God Almighty including the animals. “Wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds, kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, young men and maidens, old men and children. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens” (148:10-13). Passages in the book of Revelation also indicate the animals will praise their creator, “Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: ‘To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!’” (Revelation 5:13). In the Psalms we find animals being commanded to praise the Lord, and in the Book of Revelation we find the same thing. Praise for the Lord God Almighty on this fallen earth and in the Olam Haba (World to come). The Palmist also states, “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord” (Tehillim / Psalm 150:6). Since animals are said to have breath, they are included among those directed to praise God. We are told eight times in the Book of Revelation of “living creatures” “Day and night they never stop saying: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.’... The living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne” (Revelation 4:8-9). The word translated “living creatures” is the Greek word zoon (ζῷον). Throughout most of the New Testament the word is translated as “animal” and is used to indicate animal sacrifices in the temple and as a reference to wild, irrational animals (see *Hebrews 13:11*, *2 Peter 2:12*, *Jude 1:10*). In the Old Testament, the Septuagint used zoon (ζῷον) to translate the Hebrew words for animals, including the “living creatures” of the sea (*Bereshit / Genesis 1:21* וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת-הַתַּיִם הַגְּדֹלִים וְאֶת כָּל-נֹפֶשׁ הַחַיָּה | הָרֹמְשׁוֹת אֲשֶׁר בַּיָּם וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים כִּי-טוֹב: 1:21 καὶ ἐποίησεν ὁ θεὸς τὰ κήτη τὰ μεγάλα καὶ πᾶσαν ψυχὴν ζῷων ἐρπετῶν ἃ ἐξήγαγεν τὰ ὕδατα κατὰ γένη αὐτῶν καὶ πᾶν πετεινὸν πτερωτὸν κατὰ γένος καὶ εἶδεν ὁ θεὸς ὅτι καλὰ, *Ezekiel 47:9*). In extra-biblical writings, zoon (ζῷον) commonly referred to ordinary animals and was used of the Egyptians’ divine animals and the mythological bird called the Phoenix (*1 Clement 25:2-3*). In virtually every case inside and outside of Scripture, this word means not a person, not an angel, but to a living animal, the creatures that “have life” (כָּל-נֹפֶשׁ הַחַיָּה). The King James version translates zoon (ζῷον) as “beasts” in Revelation, but the negative connotations of that word led subsequent translators to settle on “living creatures.” The most natural translation would be simply “animals.” That word would likely have been chosen by translators if it didn’t sound so strange for readers to envision talking animals praising God around his throne! (Note how this is possible based upon Parashat Balak, Bilam’s donkey) The “living creatures” look like a lion, ox, a man, and an eagle (*Revelation 4:7*). They appear to be the same creatures as described in the book of *Ezekiel 1:5-14* and *Ezekiel 10:10-14*, also called the cherubim, who are distinguished from angels (*Revelation 15:7*). The cherubim are first mentioned in *Bereshit / Genesis 3:24*, as guardians to the way of life, and is the reason the cherubim were carved as images on the top of the Ark of the Covenant. Their images were carved out of gold and placed on the Ark of the Covenant, indicating their closeness to God.

The Psalm concludes saying, 148:14 וַיִּרָם קָרְן | לְעֲמוֹ תְהַלֵּה לְכָל-חַסִּידָיו לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַם-קָרְבוֹ הַלְלוּיָהּ: And He has lifted up a horn for His people, Praise for all His godly ones; Even for the sons of Israel, a people near to Him. Praise the Lord!(NASB) What does it mean that God lifted up a horn for His people? The Word horn (קָרְן) is used throughout the Scriptures. In the Torah, the horn is used to denote the projecting corners of the altar of burnt offerings (*Shemot / Exodus 27:2*) and of incense (*Shemot / Exodus 30:2*). The horns of the altar of burnt offerings were to be smeared with the blood of the slain bullock (*Shemot / Exodus 29:12*, *Vayikra / Leviticus 4:7-18*). In one situation, a man condemned to die when his crime was accidental, found an asylum by laying hold of the horns of the altar (*1 Kings 1:50 and 2:28*). The word also denotes the peak or summit of a hill (*Isaiah 5:1*, where the word “hill” is the rendering of the same Hebrew word). There is also a metaphorical usage in the Scriptures referring to strength (*Devarim / Deuteronomy 33:17*) and honor (*Job 16:15 and Lamentations 2:3*). In *1 Samuel 2:1*, Hannah prays, “In the Lord, my horn is lifted high,” indicating her understanding on the meaning of the horn as the strength that will come from her having a child. In *Luke 1:69* Zechariah praises God that “He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David.” Here horn may be a reference to the One whom the Lord has chosen to proclaim the salvation and redemption of God. In this case, the prophecy of the “horn of salvation” is a

reference to the Messiah who would be the powerful deliverer and king who was soon to be born. Animal horns were also used as receptacles for oil (*1 Samuel 16:1*) or as a shofar trumpet (*Shemot / Exodus 19:16*) to declare the victory of God. The prayer in *Tehillim / Psalm 92:10* contains both a reference to oil and a figurative use of horn saying, “*You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine oils have been poured on me.*” Horns are symbols of power, dominion, glory, and fierceness, as they are the chief means of attack sounding the horns for battle and in the case for animals, those animals who have horns use them for defense (*Daniel 8:5-9, 1 Samuel 2:1, 16:1, 16:13, 1 Kings 1:39, 22:11, Joshua 6:4-5, Tehillim / Psalms 75:5 Psalms 75:10, 132:17, and Luke 1:69, etc.*). For example, in *Daniel 7:7* and *24*, the ten horns of Daniel’s fourth beast represent ten kings. In *Tehillim / Psalm 75:10*, Lord God Almighty says, “*I will cut off the horns of all the wicked, but the horns of the righteous will be lifted up.*” These words suggest the Lord God will cause the righteous to prevail, no matter how strong the wicked seem to be. In *Jeremiah 48:25*, the prophet states, “*Moab’s horn is cut off*” meaning that the strength of Moab is gone. The four horns mentioned in *Zechariah 1:18-19* represent the powerful nations that attacked and scattered Israel. The expression “*horn of salvation,*” has been applied to the Messiah, with the imagery of a salvation of strength, or a strong Saviour (*Luke 1:69*). In addition, to have the horn “*exalted*” denotes prosperity and triumph (*Tehillim / Psalms 89:17, 89:24*). To “*lift up*” the horn is to act proudly (*Zechariah 1:21*). Horns are also the symbol of royal dignity and power (*Jeremiah 48:25 Zechariah 1:18, Daniel 8:24*) and were the sound for the battle cry. (*Joshua 6:20 When the trumpets sounded, the army shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the men gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so everyone charged straight in, and they took the city. NIV*) We often see the horn in Scripture as a symbol of salvation where David writes in *Tehillim / Psalm 18:2* saying, “*The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.*” In the Apostolic Writings, we read the disciples interpretation that Yeshua as the horn of salvation (*Luke 1:68-69*). A title that was applied to HaShem is also applied to His Messiah as having the power and authority in the concept of both being referred to as “*the horn of salvation.*” The Messiah has the authority and power of God with Him. The very name Yeshua means “*The Lord Is Salvation.*” The salvation that Yeshua offers us is strong, triumphant, and powerful. Just like the horns on the altar offered refuge and atonement, Yeshua offers peace, a place of refuge, and cleansing through His word and through his death upon the cross. However strong our spiritual foe, the horn of our salvation is stronger still. Let’s Pray!

Heavenly Father,

Thank You Lord for Your mercy and the great work that you are doing in our lives. We believe You are able to overcome all things, from saving us from our enemies, to the deliverance from sin, and even to work in our hearts to deeply, truly, and honestly seek you all the days of our lives. We recognize the weaknesses in our strength and resolve to serve You and to do what is expected, to be humble and to pray and to remain in Your word. Lord help us to have the strength to stand for truth and life, to have the desire to seek You in prayer and in Your Word, to have faith in Yeshua Your Messiah, and to love our neighbor each day. We thank You Lord for Your continued faithfulness to Your promises and to us. Help us to grow in our faith, to walk in the spirit, and apply these truths to our lives. We praise Your Holy Name and give You all of the honor, and the glory, and the praise forever and ever.

In Yeshua’s (Jesus’) Name we pray! Amen!

Be Blessed in Yeshua, Christ our Messiah!

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הללויה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:

Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,

“Yeshua” King Messiah forever and ever



## Notes