

ספר תהילים קנ | Tehillim / Psalms 150

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God's Excellence and His Praises

In this week's study from *Tehillim / Psalms 150:1-6*, the psalm opens saying א הַלְלוּ יְהוָה | הַלְלוּ-אֱלֹהֵי בְּקִדְשׁוֹ (NASB) When the psalmists speaks of praising God in His sanctuary, is he referring to the earthly sanctuary or the heavenly sanctuary? The reference to the mighty expanse, is this to all of the universe? The psalmist continues saying, ב הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּגִבּוֹרֹתָיו הַלְלוּ יְהוָה כְּרַב גְּדָלוֹ: (NASB) The great deeds the Lord is praised for, are these a reference to His miracles, to his creation, or to the way he works in our lives? The method in which the psalmist speaks of to bring praises to the Lord, he says, ג הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּנִבְכָל וְכִנּוֹר: ד הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִפְףָּהּ (NASB) The ancient way to praise the Lord is in singing. This is illustrated by the Psalmists statements to praise God with the harp, lyre, timbrel, stringed instruments, pipe, and cymbals. He also refers to dancing which provides an illustration of how one lives his life. The Psalm concludes saying, ו כָּל הַנְּשָׁמָה תְהַלֵּל (NASB) This statement refers to the created creature, all those who live on earth, both man and beast, birds and creeping things, as well as those created things in heaven, from plant life to the angels.

עברית	Hebrew	ארמי	Aramaic	ελληνικός	Greek
ספר תהילים פרק קנ	ספר תהילים פרק קנ	ספר טוביה פרק קנ	ספר טוביה פרק קנ	ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 150	ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 150
א הַלְלוּ יְהוָה הַלְלוּ-אֱלֹהֵי בְּקִדְשׁוֹ ב הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּרַקִּיעַ עֲזוֹ: בְּגִבּוֹרֹתָיו הַלְלוּ יְהוָה כְּרַב גְּדָלוֹ: ג הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִקְעַ שׁוֹפָר הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּנִבְכָל וְכִנּוֹר: ד הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִפְףָּהּ וּמְחֹל הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּמִנְיִם וְעוּגָב: ה הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּצִלְצָלִי-שְׁמַע הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּצִלְצָלִי תְרוּעָה: ו כָּל הַנְּשָׁמָה תְהַלֵּל יְהוָה הַלְלוּ יְהוָה:	א הַלְלוּ יְהוָה הַלְלוּ-אֱלֹהֵי בְּקִדְשׁוֹ ב הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּרַקִּיעַ עֲזוֹ: בְּגִבּוֹרֹתָיו הַלְלוּ יְהוָה כְּרַב גְּדָלוֹ: ג הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִקְעַ שׁוֹפָר הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּנִבְכָל וְכִנּוֹר: ד הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִפְףָּהּ וּמְחֹל הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּמִנְיִם וְעוּגָב: ה הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּצִלְצָלִי-שְׁמַע הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּצִלְצָלִי תְרוּעָה: ו כָּל הַנְּשָׁמָה תְהַלֵּל יְהוָה הַלְלוּ יְהוָה:	א הַלְלוּ יְהוָה הַלְלוּ-אֱלֹהֵי בְּקִדְשׁוֹ ב הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּרַקִּיעַ עֲזוֹ: בְּגִבּוֹרֹתָיו הַלְלוּ יְהוָה כְּרַב גְּדָלוֹ: ג הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִקְעַ שׁוֹפָר הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּנִבְכָל וְכִנּוֹר: ד הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִפְףָּהּ וּמְחֹל הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּמִנְיִם וְעוּגָב: ה הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּצִלְצָלִי-שְׁמַע הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּצִלְצָלִי תְרוּעָה: ו כָּל הַנְּשָׁמָה תְהַלֵּל יְהוָה הַלְלוּ יְהוָה:	א הַלְלוּ יְהוָה הַלְלוּ-אֱלֹהֵי בְּקִדְשׁוֹ ב הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּרַקִּיעַ עֲזוֹ: בְּגִבּוֹרֹתָיו הַלְלוּ יְהוָה כְּרַב גְּדָלוֹ: ג הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִקְעַ שׁוֹפָר הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּנִבְכָל וְכִנּוֹר: ד הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּתִפְףָּהּ וּמְחֹל הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּמִנְיִם וְעוּגָב: ה הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּצִלְצָלִי-שְׁמַע הַלְלוּ יְהוָה בְּצִלְצָלִי תְרוּעָה: ו כָּל הַנְּשָׁמָה תְהַלֵּל יְהוָה הַלְלוּ יְהוָה:	150:1 αλληλουια αινειτε τον θεον εν τοις αγιοις αυτου αινειτε αυτον εν στερεωματι δυναμεως αυτου 150:2 αινειτε αυτον επι ταϊς δυναστειαις αυτου αινειτε αυτον κατα το πληθος της μεγαλωσυνης αυτου 150:3 αινειτε αυτον εν ηχη σάλπιγγος αινειτε αυτον εν ψαλτηριω και κιθαρα 150:4 αινειτε αυτον εν τυμπανω και χορω αινειτε αυτον εν χορδαϊς και οργανω 150:5 αινειτε αυτον εν κυμβάλοϊς ευήχοις αινειτε αυτον εν κυμβάλοϊς ἀλαλαγμοῦ 150:6 πᾶσα πνοή αινεσάτω τον κύριον αλληλουια	150:1 αλληλουια αινειτε τον θεον εν τοις αγιοις αυτου αινειτε αυτον εν στερεωματι δυναμεως αυτου 150:2 αινειτε αυτον επι ταϊς δυναστειαις αυτου αινειτε αυτον κατα το πληθος της μεγαλωσυνης αυτου 150:3 αινειτε αυτον εν ηχη σάλπιγγος αινειτε αυτον εν ψαλτηριω και κιθαρα 150:4 αινειτε αυτον εν τυμπανω και χορω αινειτε αυτον εν χορδαϊς και οργανω 150:5 αινειτε αυτον εν κυμβάλοϊς ευήχοις αινειτε αυτον εν κυμβάλοϊς ἀλαλαγμοῦ 150:6 πᾶσα πνοή αινεσάτω τον κύριον αλληλουια

<p>Tehillim / Psalms 150 150:1 Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse. 150:2 Praise Him for His mighty deeds; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. 150:3 Praise Him with trumpet sound; Praise Him with harp and lyre. 150:4 Praise Him with timbrel and dancing; Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe. 150:5 Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals. 150:6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord! (NASB)</p>	<p>Toviyah / Psalms 150 150:1 Hallelujah! Praise God in his sanctuary, praise him in the firmament of his strength. 150:2 Praise him for his mighty deeds, praise him according to his abundant greatness. 150:3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with harps and lyres. 150:4 Praise him with drums and with dances, praise him with flutes and pipes. 150:5 Praise him with cymbals that sound alone; praise him with cymbals that sound with shouting. 150:6 Every breath will sing praise to God. Hallelujah! (EMC)</p>	<p>Psalmoi / Psalms 150 Alleluia. 150:1 Praise God in his holy places: praise him in the firmament of his power. 150:2 Praise him on account of his mighty acts: praise him according to his abundant greatness. 150:3 Praise him with the sound of a trumpet: praise him with psaltery and harp. 150:4 Praise him with timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and the organ. 150:5 Praise him with melodious cymbals: praise him with loud cymbals. 150:6 Let every thing that has breath praise the Lord. (LXX)</p>
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In this week’s study from *Tehillim / Psalms 150:1-6*, the psalm opens saying **א הַלְלוּ יְהוָה | הַלְלוּ-אֱלֹהֵי בְּקִדְשׁוֹ** *150:1 Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse. (NASB)* When the psalmists speaks of praising God in His sanctuary, is he referring to the earthly sanctuary or the heavenly sanctuary? The reference to the mighty expanse, is this to all of the universe? The study of the sanctuary is crucial for understanding God’s plan for salvation. Based upon the Apostolic Writings, the author of the book of Hebrews (9:23-24) states that there was a heavenly sanctuary of which the Lord God had shown Moshe and David how to make an earthly sanctuary. In the Tanach, there is a connection between the earthly sanctuary and the heavenly sanctuary. We remember that the Lord God showed Moshe the pattern of the sanctuary that he was to build (*Shemot / Exodus 25:40*). The Tabernacle represented God’s presence in the midst of His people in a covenant relationship with His chosen people. (*Shemot / Exodus 15:17, 25:8*) It is through the sanctuary that the people of Israel would draw near, worship, and interact with God through the service of the temple (i.e. Shelamim Korban, Peace offerings). In the wilderness, we read in the Torah that God’s glory was manifest in the pillar of cloud during day and fire during night. Later on in history, the glory of God was manifest in the cloud during the dedication of the Temple. We are also told in the book of Hebrews, that Yeshua the Messiah had the fullness of the glory of God upon him. God’s presence in the midst of the people demanded obedience beginning with their leaders, Moshe and Aaron. The Tabernacle by its nature symbolizes God’s choice to dwell with His people where we are His representatives bearing His testimonies (*1 Kings 6:12-13*). God’s presence illustrates his omnipresence in His ability to see all things (*Mishley / Proverbs 15:3, Job 34:21, Jeremiah 16:17, 2 Chronicles 16:9, Tehillim / Psalms 34:15*). The establishment of the dwelling place of God was assurance of God’s presence among His people (*1 Kings 9:3*). The plan of God for His people was that we are “to do all that is written in the law of the Lord which He commanded Israel” (*1 Chronicles 16:40*). HaShem revealed the plan of God to David and Moshe. In Moshe’s case, we read in the Hebrew bible that the Lord God allowed Moshe to see something with His eyes **ט כָּכֹל אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְרַאֶה אוֹתְךָ אֵת תְּבִנֹת הַמִּשְׁכָּן וְאֵת תְּבִנֹת כָּל-כְּלָיו וְכֵן תַּעֲשֶׂה:** (*Shemot / Exodus 25:9, 1 Chronicles 28:10*). The verb **מְרַאֶה** *mareh*, “showing” implies that God allowed Moses to see in a real image of what He was to build, or to see the original version (27:8). *1 Chronicles 28:11-12* writes, “Then, David gave to Solomon, his son the plan of the porch and its houses, and its treasuries, and its upper rooms, and its inner chambers, and the room of atonement. In addition, the entire plan he had by the spirit with him concerning the courts of the house of God and for all the surrounding chambers: the treasuries of God’s house, and the treasuries of the votive offerings” The basic conclusion is that Moshe was shown a pattern

from which he was to make a copy of what was in heaven (*Shemot / Exodus 25:9, 1 Chronicles 28:11-19*). With this understanding of Moshe making a copy, a replica, a reproduction of what he had seen, we can interpret this for example as the author of the book of Hebrews states, the earthly sanctuary being a pattern of the heavenly sanctuary. Indeed, *Shemot / Exodus 25 and 1 Chronicles 28* indicate that the heavenly temple provided a pattern for the earthly one. While God was the Designer and Originator of the sanctuary, Moses, David, and Solomon were only persons who were called to build these places. The reason the Lord God desired to dwell among His people, was to accomplish His covenant agreement and to have a relationship with His people. The earthly Tabernacle associates God's people to the heavenly one. This connection between the heavenly and the earthly tabernacles, was necessary to help us understand God's plan for salvation, the gospel message, and to demonstrate mankind's difficulties with sin. In addition, the manner in which the Lord God Almighty had planned for His Spirit to dwell in our hearts and to empower us to overcome sin in our lives. The heavenly sanctuary is the conceptual entity from which the earthly sanctuary draws its function and upon which it depends for its significance. Ultimately this is the power of God in our lives and having the Lord God Almighty dwelling in our midst, in our hearts, we are called to obediences as well.

The psalmist continues saying, הַלְלוּהוּ בְּגִבּוֹרָתוֹ הַלְלוּהוּ כְּרֹב גְּדָלוֹ: *150:2 Praise Him for His mighty deeds; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. (NASB)* The great deeds the Lord is praised for, are these a reference to His miracles, to his creation, or to the way he works in our lives? Note something that Paul wrote to Titus saying,

Titus 3:14

3:14 Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives. (NASB)

Paul speaks of the need to learn to devote ourselves to doing what is good. He connects this to being able to provide for the daily necessities and for not living unproductive lives. Paul is referring to working at an honest job, to obeying God's commands, and taking care of (providing for) our families, and it is within these things the Lord God is pleased. The greatness of God working in our lives is found within these things, the Lord blesses us and we can glorify the Lord in all that we do. Every day the Lord God provides for us, even in the most extraordinary and difficult circumstances. The Lord God also changes our hearts. The Lord changes our hearts so that we can accomplish His will in our lives, to live according to His Word, to bear His testimony, and to serve Him. We read Solomon saying in *Mishley / Proverbs 21:2* “*The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord. Like the rivers of water, He turns it wherever He wishes.*” (NKJV) Solomon claims the Lord God directs the king's heart. This is important as it relates to the Lord guiding and directing our leadership and provides all the more reasons for praying for our leaders.

Additionally, reasons to praise the Lord is in how He protects His people. Not just in times of the enemy coming against us, but also in times of hardship. The Lord God Almighty protects us and we don't always know how or what He does until much later. This is how the Lord God empowers us by taking us through these challenging events in our lives. The Lord said, *Devarim / Deuteronomy 31:6* *Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the Lord your God is the one who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. (NASB)* The Lord God gives us the greatest amount of His power and strength when life is in its darkest hours. The Lord also works in the hearts and minds of the enemy such that justice reigns found in his ability to confound the works of the unrighteous person. Remember the phrase, “*Whatever doesn't kill us will make us stronger.*” That quote is attributed to the German philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche. He said it much more eloquently saying, “*That which does not kill us, makes us stronger.*” It turns out that he was right. The Lord God uses adversity to make us stronger, to build our faith, so that we will trust in Him. The key to this aspect is to run towards the Lord God and not away from Him during times of trial. The Lord God uses trials to do many things. It was through trials that this ministry got started and I am thankful that I did not turn my back on the Lord when times got tough. It is in these things that the Lord builds our character and who we are at the inner most being. Just as the Lord God allowed Lazarus to die so that He could demonstrate His power over death by raising him back to life (see *John 11*), at times the

Lord God also allows us physical illness so that He can heal us for His glory. He is the Great Physician and has the ability to heal and He does so in ways that reveal how He is completely in control. It is also through these dark times that the Lord develops our wisdom in life. The Lord also gives us direction and purpose during these times, leading us on the path that draws us nearer to Him.

The method in which the psalmist speaks of to bring praises to the Lord, he says, הַלְלוּהוּ בְּתִקְעַ שׁוֹפָר, ג הַלְלוּהוּ בְּנִבְלָ וְכִנּוֹר: ד הַלְלוּהוּ בַתֶּף וּמְחֹל הַלְלוּהוּ בְּמִנְיִם וְעוּגָב: ה הַלְלוּהוּ בְּצִלְצְלִי-שִׁמְעַ הַלְלוּהוּ בְּצִלְצְלִי תְרוּ-
:עָה 150:3 Praise Him with trumpet sound; Praise Him with harp and lyre. 150:4 Praise Him with timbrel and dancing; Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe. 150:5 Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals. (NASB) The ancient way to praise the Lord is in singing. This is illustrated by the Psalmists statements to praise God with the harp, lyre, timbrel, stringed instruments, pipe, and cymbals. He also refers to dancing which provides an illustration of how one lives his life. In *Tehillim / Psalms 144:9* the psalmist states “*I will sing a new song to you, O God!*” It is a joyous time when we have a new song because we hear how the Lord God has worked on the person’s heart to write the song. This is to glorify God by music. God is glorified when we sing praises to Him. The Lord also loves to hear His children sing. In *Tehillim / Psalms 147:7* the psalmist states, “*Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving!*” In the song of thanksgiving, we are recognizing how much we love and are thankful for what the Lord has done for us. This is related to what the Lord has done for us in the past. We can praise the Lord for His powerful deliverance of His people in the Scriptures, and we look forward to His doing so for us as well. We praise the Lord in the good times, as James writes in *James 5:13* “*Is anyone among you suffering? Then he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises.*” There are many things we can be thankful for, a new birth, a job, a wedding, food on the table, and a roof over our heads. The Scriptures also show David for example of praising the Lord even during difficult times. When difficult times come, it is a natural response to get mad and discouraged. Because of our relationship with the Lord and His Messiah Yeshua, we know that difficult times do not last forever. This causes us to have hope. One example of having a future hope was when Paul and Silas were beaten in *Acts 16:22-25*.

Acts 16:17-33

16:17 Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, ‘These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation.’ 16:18 She continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, ‘I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!’ And it came out at that very moment. 16:19 But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the authorities, 16:20 and when they had brought them to the chief magistrates, they said, ‘These men are throwing our city into confusion, being Jews, 16:21 and are proclaiming customs which it is not lawful for us to accept or to observe, being Romans.’ 16:22 The crowd rose up together against them, and the chief magistrates tore their robes off them and proceeded to order them to be beaten with rods. 16:23 When they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely; 16:24 and he, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. 16:25 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them; 16:26 and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. 16:27 When the jailer awoke and saw the prison doors opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. 16:28 But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, ‘Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!’ 16:29 And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, 16:30 and after he brought them out, he said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ 16:31 They said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved,

you and your household.’ 16:32 And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house. 16:33 And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds, and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household. (NASB)

Paul and Silas had been accused and beaten with many blows (16:23) and then thrown in prison. Paul and Silas while in jail were praying and singing songs of joy to the Lord. The Scriptures say that the Lord heard their prayers and their praise and the foundations shook, there was an earthquake so that all of the doors were opened. The Jailer woke seeing all of the doors open and he was going to kill himself. But Paul delivered him telling him that no one had left (escaped) and then told him about Yeshua the Messiah. He and his whole household were saved. This illustrates how troubling times are passing. The peace that Paul and Silas had in their hearts was made known by their faithful prayers and singing unto the Lord. They knew that God was their reward and knowing the Lord was worth the price of being beaten, and even of death. They demonstrate that having this kind of mindset, we as believers can make it through any hard time and God will always be glorified when we sing praises even in the hard times.

The Psalm concludes saying, פֶּלַל הַנְּשָׁמָה תְהַלֵּל יְהוָה הַלְלוּיָהּ: 150:6 *Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord! (NASB)* This statement refers to the created creature, all those who live on earth, both man and beast, birds and creeping things, as well as those created things in heaven, from plant life to the angels. We are thankful and give praise to the Lord for all that He has done! 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!

הללויה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:
Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,
“Yeshua” King Messiah forever and ever

Notes