

## **"I GOTTA PRAISE THE LORD!"**

**Psalm 135:1-3** - "Praise ye the Lord. Praise ye the name of the Lord, praise Him, O ye servants of the Lord. <sup>2</sup>Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God, <sup>3</sup>Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good: sing praises unto his name; for it is pleasant."



When you praise someone, you acknowledge who they are and what they've done. By giving someone praises, you are saying, "Yes, I have seen what you have done. I have read about what you have done. And/or I have heard about what you have done!" You can only praise someone if one or more of these elements are a part of your relationship with the person you are actually praising. (i.e., a good teacher praises students when they do well; likewise good parents praise their children when they do well.)

Let me assure you that it is impossible for you to praise the Lord without first having a personal relationship with Him. You had to have been told about Him; read about Him or had a personal encounter with Him in order to be truthful when you say that you know Him! At the exact moment of your conversion, you were instantly adopted into the royal family and became a joint heir with Christ. Your spiritual adoption took place and your personal relationship with the Lord began, with Him being your Lord and your Savior! I want to talk to you today about your **Responsibility**, your **Right** and your **Reason** to praise the Lord!

### **I. You have a Responsibility to praise the Lord!**

[reliability, trustworthiness, accountability]

In this verse, there is a command that is given. The **command** is specified three distinct times. You are told who to praise, what to praise and who to praise again. Why do you think the command is repeated three different times? This command is a reminder that praise is what you were created to do. Everything that God made, He made it for His glory! Everything God created, except man, does exactly what it was created to do without prompting, prodding or pulling. You have been drafted into the Lord's army and now have a **Responsibility** to praise the Lord!

### **II. You have a Right to praise the Lord**

[something to which one has a just claim as the power or privilege to which one is justly entitled]

In Verse 1, you are addressed as "servants of the lord." Are you a true servant or do you seek to be served? When you are a servant, you respect and honor your master. And if he is a good master, you don't mind telling others! If you are a blood-washed believer in the body of Christ, you ought to be one of the ones who faithfully enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise! You know Him and He knows you. You can brag about your master and how good He treats you. Because of your adoption into the royal family, you now have a **Right** to praise the Lord!

### **III. You have a Reason to praise the Lord!**

[justification, rational ground or motive, sufficient explanation or logical defense]

Verse 3 says you should praise the Lord for He is good and it is pleasant. Even when you're in pain, you still have a reason to praise the Lord! When you're disappointed with life's circumstances, you still have a reason to praise the Lord! When you have sleepless nights and dreary days, you still have a reason to praise the Lord! When your money is funny and your change is strange, you still have a reason to praise the Lord! Is there anybody other than me who can say, "God has been good to me?" Did He wake you up this morning and start you on your way? Has He made a way for you when you couldn't see no way? Has He ever healed your body? Has He ever opened up a closed door just for you? Has He been a friend when all your friends turned their backs on you? "God is good!" And because He is good to you, you have a **Reason** to praise the Lord!

**"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth!"**