Psalms of His Splendor

Prayers, reflections, new hymns, and scripture for public worship and personal devotions

from the series:
Fresh Views of
Timeless Truths

Ken Bible

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(NASB)

O Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens! From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength

Because of Your adversaries,

To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained; What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him? Yet You have made him a little lower than God, And You crown him with glory and majesty! You make him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, All sheep and oxen, And also the beasts of the field, The birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea,

O Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth!

Whatever passes through the paths of the seas.

Reflection on Psalm 8

Father, Your greatness shines all around me!
All the earth radiates
Your splendor,
Your glory,
Your might and majesty.

But You don't need spectacular displays to prove Your power.
It is so woven through the fabric of reality that

Creator, in Your humility,
You even display Your glory through us.

who You are.

sea.

mere children speak the awesome truth of

When I look up at the clear night sky and see the vastness of time and space,
I am gripped by how very small and unworthy we are.
I wonder why You take any notice of us at all.
Yet You make us lesser versions of Yourself and surround us with Your magnificence.
You entrust Your own creations to us — all the varied creatures of land, sky, and

Your condescension to us is yet another of Your marvelous, amazing works.

O my God, how glorious is Your name in all the earth!

Hymn recording: Psalm 8

TUNE: The Lord's My Shepherd (CRIMOND)



Alt. Tunes: AZMON; ST. ANNE
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CCLI Song #7112887. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

(NASB)

In the Lord I take refuge;
How can you say to my soul, "Flee as a bird to your mountain;
For, behold, the wicked bend the bow,
They make ready their arrow upon the string
To shoot in darkness at the upright in heart.
If the foundations are destroyed,
What can the righteous do?"

The Lord is in His holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men. The Lord tests the righteous and the wicked, And the one who loves violence His soul hates. Upon the wicked He will rain snares; Fire and brimstone and burning wind will be the portion of their cup. For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; The upright will behold His face.

God Is in His Temple and on His Throne

Father, when life seems hopelessly unjust, You remind us:

The Lord is in His holy temple.

Let all the earth be silent before Him. (Habakkuk 2:20, NASB)

Your temple reminds us that You are holy – perfect in all Your words,

Your actions.

Your wisdom,

Your timing.

Your temple reminds us of Your presence

with us and

in us.

We **are** Your temple.

No matter how viciously evil threatens us, Almighty God, You never leave us alone.

So even when our world seems so very wrong, we remember:

The Lord is in His holy temple.

When our lives fill with problems and turmoil, Father, You remind us:

The Lord has established His throne in the heavens,

And His sovereignty rules over all. (Psalm 103:19, NASB)

Your throne suggests

Your power,

Your control,

Your unfailing goodness.

You are our stability.

You are our unshakable certainty

in this sea of change.

You are perfect strength

in all our weakness.

All reality bows to You, our Savior, our King, our loving Father.

So in this wicked, unstable world, we look to You and remember:

The Lord is in His holy temple;

the Lord's throne is in heaven. (Psalm 11:4, NASB)

Hymn recording: God Is in His Temple

God Is in His Temple



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(NASB)

The heavens are telling of the glory of God;

And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

Day to day pours forth speech,

And night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words;

Their voice is not heard.

Their line has gone out through all the earth,

And their utterances to the end of the world.

In them He has placed a tent for the sun,

Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber;

It rejoices as a strong man to run his course.

Its rising is from one end of the heavens,

And its circuit to the other end of them;

And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul;

The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;

The judgments of the Lord are true; they are righteous altogether.

They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;

Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover, by them Your servant is warned;

In keeping them there is great reward.

Who can discern his errors?

Acquit me of hidden faults.

Also keep back Your servant from presumptuous sins;

Let them not rule over me:

Then I will be blameless,

And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

Be acceptable in Your sight,

O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Reflection on Psalm 19

```
O Father, sovereign Creator, the heavens proclaim Your glory –
      Your greatness,
      Your goodness,
      Your unfailing presence with us.
Day after day,
night after night they
      speak of You and
      sing of You.
Without a word,
without a sound they
      fill the whole earth with
      the wonders of Your wisdom.
Father, You also share this wonderful wisdom
      through Your written Word.
Your Word is
      perfect,
      right,
      clean, and
      true.
It turns us to You, bringing
      light to our eyes and
      joy to our hearts.
Endless gold is worthless
      compared to its treasures.
Father, apply its precious truths to my life.
Point out my hidden faults, I pray.
Guard me from the approach of sin, whether
      subtle or
      aggressive.
May every word from my mouth and
      every murmur of my heart
be pleasing to You,
      my Creator and
      my Redeemer.
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 19

TUNE: Christ Is Alive (TRURO, alt.)



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L.M.

MUSIC: Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789, and Ken Bible

CCLI Song #7112295. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

(NASB)

The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains,
The world, and those who dwell in it.
For He has founded it upon the seas
And established it upon the rivers.
Wo may ascend into the hill of the Lord?
And who may stand in His holy place?
He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood
And has not sworn deceitfully.
He shall receive a blessing from the Lord
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.
This is the generation of those who seek Him,
Who seek Your face – even Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates,
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may come in!
Who is the King of glory?
The Lord strong and mighty,
The Lord mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O gates,
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may come in!
Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
He is the King of glory.

Reflection on Psalm 24

```
Father, all that is
      is Yours -
the world,
      all that fills it,
      everything that shares Your breath.
We were all created
      by You and
      for You,
to display
      Your greatness,
      Your goodness, and
      Your marvelous presence.
But who of us is worthy to even enter Your presence?
Only the one who is innocent in all his doings.
Only one the one who is pure in all his desires.
Only the one who is absolutely true in all his
      thoughts,
      words, and
      deeds.
Only Your pure and perfect Son,
      Jesus Christ, and
all who trust in Him and
      live in Him and
      approach You in Him.
So come, King of Glory, Almighty Lord,
      we welcome You!
We receive You joyfully
      with songs of praise!
Your throne awaits You!
Come, Lord Jesus!
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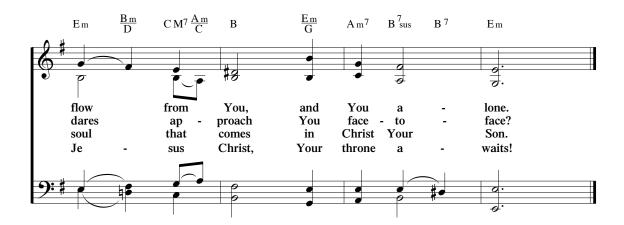
Hymn recording: Psalm 24



WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Jeremiah Clark (ca. 1673-1707); arr. rev. by Ken Bible

UFFINGHAM
L.M.

Alt. Tune: DUKE STREET
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(NASB)

Sing for joy in the Lord, O you righteous ones;

Praise is becoming to the upright.

Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre;

Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.

Sing to Him a new song;

Play skillfully with a shout of joy,

For the word of the Lord is upright,

And all His work is done in faithfulness.

He loves righteousness and justice;

The earth is full of the lovingkindness of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,

And by the breath of His mouth all their host.

He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap;

He lays up the deeps in storehouses.

Let all the earth fear the Lord;

Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

For He spoke, and it was done;

He commanded, and it stood fast.

The Lord nullifies the counsel of the nations;

He frustrates the plans of the peoples.

The counsel of the Lord stands forever,

The plans of His heart from generation to generation.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

The Lord looks from heaven:

He sees all the sons of men:

From His dwelling place He looks out

On all the inhabitants of the earth.

He who fashions the hearts of them all,

He who understands all their works.

The king is not saved by a mighty army;

A warrior is not delivered by great strength.

A horse is a false hope for victory:

Nor does it deliver anyone by its great strength.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, On those who hope for His lovingkindness, To deliver their soul from death
And to keep them alive in famine.
Our soul waits for the Lord;
He is our help and our shield.
For our heart rejoices in Him,
Because we trust in His holy name.
Let Your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,
According as we have hoped in You.

Reflection on Psalm 33

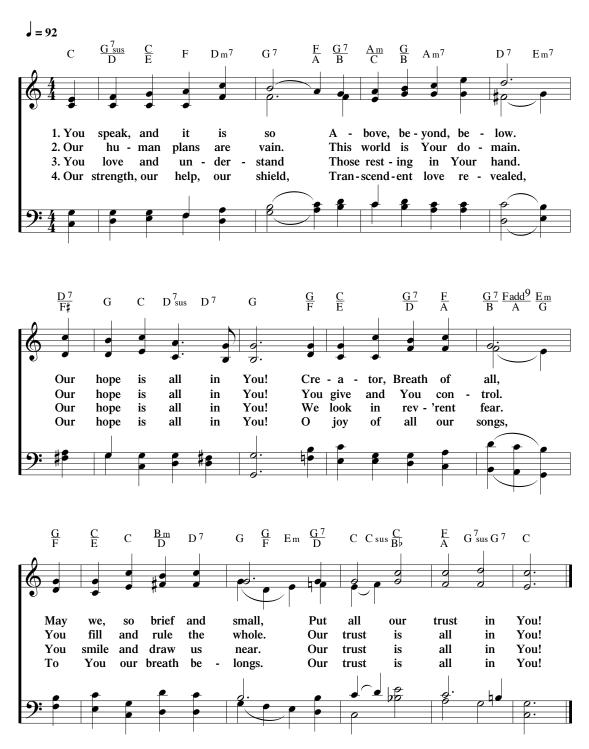
Everything that exists, seen and unseen, exists because You spoke it into being. Your Word is creative and sovereign. Human words are empty and powerless. We put all our trust and hope in You. When You purpose to do something, You do it, surely, completely, no matter what it takes. What You plan, You accomplish. What You start, You finish. Human plans are weak and unreliable. Our plans are as temporary as the breath in our nostrils. We put all our trust and hope in You. In the end, those who succeed, those whose work endures, are not the powerful or the ambitious. Those who succeed and endure are those You bless. And You bless those who fear You, those who put all the trust and hope in You.

You speak, and it is so.

Hymn recording: Our Hope Is All in You

Our Hope Is All in You

TUNE: When Morning Gilds the Skies (LAUDES DOMINI) Psalm 33



WORDS: Ken Bible LAUDES DOMINI MUSIC: Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)

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6.6.6.6.6.

(NASB)

Transgression speaks to the ungodly within his heart;

There is no fear of God before his eyes.

For it flatters him in his own eyes

Concerning the discovery of his iniquity and the hatred of it.

The words of his mouth are wickedness and deceit:

He has ceased to be wise and to do good.

He plans wickedness upon his bed;

He sets himself on a path that is not good;

He does not despise evil.

Your lovingkindness, O Lord, extends to the heavens,

Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;

Your judgments are like a great deep.

O Lord, You preserve man and beast.

How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God!

And the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.

They drink their fill of the abundance of Your house;

And You give them to drink of the river of Your delights.

For with You is the fountain of life;

In Your light we see light.

O continue Your lovingkindness to those who know You,

And Your righteousness to the upright in heart.

Let not the foot of pride come upon me,

And let not the hand of the wicked drive me away.

There the doers of iniquity have fallen;

They have been thrust down and cannot rise.

Reflection on Psalm 36

When we are wrapped up in ourselves, God,

You rarely cross our minds.

Our wrongness flatters us and

keeps us blind to

how deceived we really are.

We become the center of our own tiny universe.

"Truth" and "right" are flexible terms which

we bend for our own convenience.

But God, Your love and Your truth are

unchanging.

They are as vast and immeasurable as the heavens themselves.

Your justice and rightness are a bottomless abyss.

You are so good to all!

Like a mother bird,

You hide us under Your wings.

You let us drink freely from Your goodness, which is

a mighty river,

full of delights.

You are the fountain of all life.

And only in Your light can

we see reality clearly.

You, Creator -

You are what we need!

You are all that is

lovely and good,

right and noble.

Only as our relationship with You is right

can we be right and true and good again.

Forgive us, Father.

We turn to You.

We ask You.

We trust You now.

Hymn recording: Psalm 36



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Appalachian Folk Tune and Ken Bible PSALM 36 11.11.11.11.

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(NASB)

God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change
And though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea;
Though its waters roar and foam,
Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, The holy dwelling places of the Most High. God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered; He raised His voice, the earth melted. The Lord of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come, behold the works of the Lord,
Who has wrought desolations in the earth.
He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth;
He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two;
He burns the chariots with fire.
Cease striving and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

God Will Be Exalted

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. (Psalm 46:10, NIV)

Though the mountains collapse into the sea, though the earth goes up in flame and the sun shines no more, we need not fear, for God will be exalted.

Though our personal world collapses, though others abandon us and our body decays, we will lift our eyes, for God will be exalted.

This will be our joy, our peace, and our security:

God will be exalted.

Whatever happens or doesn't happen to us, this is our goal, this is our prayer, this is our one concern, that

God will be exalted.

Hymn recording: God Will Be Exalted

God Will Be Exalted



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(NASB)

Be gracious to me, O God, be gracious to me; For my soul takes refuge in You; And in the shadow of Your wings I will take refuge Until destruction passes by. I will cry to God Most High, To God who accomplishes all things for me. He will send from heaven and save me:

He reproaches him who tramples upon me.

God will send forth His lovingkindness and His truth.

My soul is among lions;

I must lie among those who breathe forth fire,

Even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows

And their tongue a sharp sword.

Be exalted above the heavens, O God:

Let Your glory be above all the earth.

They have prepared a net for my steps;

My soul is bowed down;

They dug a pit before me;

They themselves have fallen into the midst of it.

My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast;

I will sing, yes, I will sing praises!

Awake, my glory!

Awake, harp and lyre!

I will awaken the dawn.

I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples;

I will sing praises to You among the nations.

For Your lovingkindness is great to the heavens

And Your truth to the clouds.

Be exalted above the heavens, O God;

Let Your glory be above all the earth.

Reflection on Psalm 57

Your goodness, and Your greatness. As I see Your glory, it helps me trust You. When evil turns vicious and concerns encircle me, I take refuge in You. I find shelter in the shadow of Your wings. I hide myself in You, O my God. As I see Your glory, it helps me fix my heart on You. O Father, keep my heart prepared and purified, fixed and focused. turned to You alone. As I see Your glory, it prompts me to praise You! Loving Father, may I rise early to praise You! Fill all my thoughts and motives, my deeds and days. Fill them with Your praise from beginning to end! May I praise You in private. May I praise You among my friends and family. May I praise You to everyone I meet! Almighty God, how great You are! Your glory fills the earth and heavens!

Father, in this world I am surrounded by Your glory.

Everywhere I look, I see the glow of

Your presence,

Hymn recording: Psalm 57

Tune: He Is Born (IL EST NE)



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(NASB)

There will be silence before You, and praise in Zion, O God,

And to You the vow will be performed.

O You who hear prayer,

To You all men come.

Iniquities prevail against me;

As for our transgressions, You forgive them.

How blessed is the one whom You choose and bring near to You

To dwell in Your courts.

We will be satisfied with the goodness of Your house,

Your holy temple.

By awesome deeds You answer us in righteousness,

O God of our salvation,

You who are the trust of the ends of the earth and of the farthest sea:

Who establishes the mountains by His strength,

Being girded with might;

Who stills the roaring of the seas,

The roaring of the waves,

And the tumult of the peoples.

They who dwell in the ends of the earth stand in awe of Your signs;

You make the dawn and the sunset shout for joy.

You visit the earth and cause it to overflow;

You greatly enrich it:

The stream of God is full of water:

You prepare their grain, for thus You prepare the earth.

You water its furrows abundantly,

You settle its ridges,

You soften it with showers.

You bless its growth.

You have crowned the year with Your bounty,

And Your paths drip with fatness.

The pastures of the wilderness drip,

And the hills gird themselves with rejoicing.

The meadows are clothed with flocks

And the valleys are covered with grain:

They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

Creation's Prayer

All you have made will praise you, O Lord. (Psalm 145:10, NIV)

On a Saturday morning in spring

I was trekking through woods near my home.

At one point, a dead tree caught my eye.

It was taller than the green trees around it, and

its branches were

high,

close to the trunk and

pointing upward.

Against the clear blue sky,

the tree seemed to stand in solemn silence,

lifting praise to God in an endless liturgy.

That one glimpse helped me see again that

all creation is God's temple,

quietly but constantly reminding us that

He is here:

He is great, beyond our imaginations;

He is love.

He lavishes Himself upon us,

holding nothing back.

When I look at creation and

believe that He shaped it all for His purposes,

I realize I am surrounded by many liturgies to God.

Each tells us about Him in ways that are

more universal.

more lasting, and

more tangible than human language.

I look into the night sky and am

awestruck by His vastness.

I swing through the round of

day and night,

season after season, and

experience His unchanging faithfulness.

The incredible network of life that packs every layer of our world,

from water drops to

endless oceans,

paints Him as a fountain of rich, unbounded life.

And every breath I take reminds me that

He shares His eternal life -

He shares Himself -

with me.

I live in a natural world that stands in a constant attitude of prayer to God. Its attitude is dependence:

All look to you to give them their food at the proper time... When you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things. (Psalm 104:27-28, NIV)

Creation's attitude is praise:

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. (Psalm 19:1, NIV)

Creation reminds me that

the purest faith,

the most profound prayer,

the deepest worship we offer God

is not expressed in words.

Such worship is expressed in

being and

doing.

It is not heard in church services or

read in books.

It is seen in the faithful lives of His people, living

to God and

for God and

in God,

day after day,

age after age.

I want to be part of that worship.

I want my whole life to sing

trust and

praise and

love to Him,

faithfully and constantly,

forever and ever.

Hymn recording: When Morning Dawns and Evening Fades

When Morning Dawns and Evening Fades

TUNE: I Sing the Mighty Power of God (ELLACOMBE)

Psalm 65:8-13



Alt. Tune: FOREST GREEN
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(NASB)

Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

You turn man back into dust
And say, "Return, O children of men."
For a thousand years in Your sight
Are like yesterday when it passes by,
Or as a watch in the night.
You have swept them away like a flood, they fall asleep.
In the morning they are like grass which sprouts anew.
In the morning it flourishes and sprouts anew;
Toward evening it fades and withers away.

For we have been consumed by Your anger and by Your wrath we have been dismayed. You have placed our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your presence. For all our days have declined in Your fury; We have finished our years like a sigh. As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away. Who understands the power of Your anger And Your fury, according to the fear that is due You? So teach us to number our days, That we may present to You a heart of wisdom.

Do return, O Lord; how long will it be?
And be sorry for Your servants.
O satisfy us in the morning with Your lovingkindness,
That we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.
Make us glad according to the days You have afflicted us,
And the years we have seen evil.
Let Your work appear to Your servants
And Your majesty to their children.
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us;
And confirm for us the work of our hands:

Yes, confirm the work of our hands.

You Are My Home

Father, the body I inhabit is destined to die, and probably not without pain. Sooner or later, I will lose my battle for comfort, health, and physical life. But as I look up into the clear night sky, I realize that my home is not this frail body. Neither is it this tiny, ingrown world in which my mind lives most of the time. My home is not this house. this neighborhood, or any of the physical surroundings in which I spend my days.

My home is all eternity. My home is Your entire reality, O Omnipotent Father! My home is everywhere You are!

You are my home! My home is Your heart. My walls are Your power. My roof is Your transcendent magnificence. My future is the farthest reaches of Your boundless life and unfailing love.

O Lord, my God, my world will be filled with knowing You completely, intimately, constantly. That is where I want to live.

That is where I will live.

And that eternity has already begun.

The Sun of Righteousness

has dawned in me.

The light is growing, and

the darkness is receding.

```
I stand on the rim of this planet and lift my hands and say,
"I love You,
Almighty Creator,
Exalted Father,
my Source and
my Goal!
You are my home,
now and
forever!"
```

Hymn recording: Lord, You Are My Home

Lord, You Are My Home

Psalm 90



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WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

HOME Irregular



(NASB)

Bless the Lord, O my soul!
O Lord my God, You are very great;
You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
Covering Yourself with light as with a cloak,
Stretching out heaven like a tent curtain.
He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters;
He makes the clouds His chariot;
He walks upon the wings of the wind;
He makes the winds His messengers,
Flaming fire His ministers.

He established the earth upon its foundations,
So that it will not totter forever and ever.
You covered it with the deep as with a garment;
The waters were standing above the mountains.
At Your rebuke they fled,
At the sound of Your thunder they hurried away.
The mountains rose; the valleys sank down
To the place which You established for them.
You set a boundary that they may not pass over,
So that they will not return to cover the earth.

He sends forth springs in the valleys;
They flow between the mountains;
They give drink to every beast of the field;
The wild donkeys quench their thirst.
Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell;
They lift up their voices among the branches.
He waters the mountains from His upper chambers;
The earth is satisfied with the fruit of His works.

He causes the grass to grow for the cattle,
And vegetation for the labor of man,
So that he may bring forth food from the earth,
And wine which makes man's heart glad,
So that he may make his face glisten with oil,
And food which sustains man's heart.
The trees of the Lord drink their fill,
The cedars of Lebanon which He planted,
Where the birds build their nests,

And the stork, whose home is the fir trees.

The high mountains are for the wild goats;
The cliffs are a refuge for the shephanim.
He made the moon for the seasons;
The sun knows the place of its setting.
You appoint darkness and it becomes night,
In which all the beasts of the forest prowl about.
The young lions roar after their prey
And seek their food from God.
When the sun rises they withdraw
And lie down in their dens.
Man goes forth to his work
And to his labor until evening.

O Lord, how many are Your works!
In wisdom You have made them all;
The earth is full of Your possessions.
There is the sea, great and broad,
In which are swarms without number,
Animals both small and great.
There the ships move along,
And Leviathan, which You have formed to sport in it.

They all wait for You
To give them their food in due season.
You give to them, they gather it up;
You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good.
You hide Your face, they are dismayed;
You take away their spirit, they expire
And return to their dust.
You send forth Your Spirit, they are created;
And You renew the face of the ground.

Let the glory of the Lord endure forever;
Let the Lord be glad in His works;
He looks at the earth, and it trembles;
He touches the mountains, and they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.
Let my meditation be pleasing to Him;
As for me, I shall be glad in the Lord.
Let sinners be consumed from the earth

And let the wicked be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

Know Your Creator

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. (Psalm 19:1, NIV)

God is an all-powerful Spirit Being. He created us as physical beings. How could He reveal Himself to us in a way we could understand? How could He show Himself to each of us in a way that is unlimited by language and culture and that is undiminished by all the changes that swirl around us?

He reveals Himself by the physical world of which we are a part.

What may be known about God is plain...For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. (Romans 1:19-20, NIV)

Any open-minded view of our physical world tells us about God. But we observe and experience His creation without knowing Him, even though He has made Himself plain. How does this happen?

We intentionally suppress the truth (Romans 1:18). We refuse to accept Him as Creator. We work to write Him out of our story. We insist on making this physical world our ultimate reality, though actually it is but a small part of a much greater reality. We crown ourselves as the gods of our own lives and destinies, even though our smallness and weakness is inescapably obvious.

Meanwhile, God's glorious revelations of Himself go on speaking to all who will hear.

Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. (Psalm 19:2-4, NIV)

Observe our world and experience it with an open mind. See and feel the order, the pleasure, the beauty, the mystery, the power, and the infinite wisdom that connects it all. All this is only the faintest whisper of the magnificent Being that He is (Job 26:14). He wants you to know Him, to trust Him more completely, and to experience life more fully in Him.

Hymn recording: Psalm 104



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(NASB)

Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart,

In the company of the upright and in the assembly.

Great are the works of the Lord:

They are studied by all who delight in them.

Splendid and majestic is His work,

And His righteousness endures forever.

He has made His wonders to be remembered;

The Lord is gracious and compassionate.

He has given food to those who fear Him;

He will remember His covenant forever.

He has made known to His people the power of His works,

In giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of His hands are truth and justice;

All His precepts are sure.

They are upheld forever and ever;

They are performed in truth and uprightness.

He has sent redemption to His people;

He has ordained His covenant forever;

Holy and awesome is His name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

A good understanding have all those who do His commandments;

His praise endures forever.

Reflection on Psalm 111

```
O wonderful God,
      my Father,
send Your faithful Spirit to help
      my mind to recall and
      my heart to savor
all the wonders of Your power,
      all the depths of Your wisdom, and
      all the riches of Your love.
You are just and true,
      gracious and compassionate,
      wholeheartedly generous, and
      deeply, unfailingly good.
Today,
help me to
      remember,
      rejoice, and
      truly worship You,
O glorious God!
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Hymn recording: Psalm 111

ALT. TUNE: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (OLD 100TH)

See also the hymn "Psalm 112," written as an optional sequel to this hymn, sung to the same tune.



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Ken Bible, inspired by *The Sacred Harp*, 1844

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EALES

L.M.

(NASB)

Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
Praise Him in the heights!
Praise Him, all His angels;
Praise Him, all His hosts!
Praise Him, sun and moon;
Praise Him, all stars of light!
Praise Him, highest heavens,
And the waters that are above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,
For He commanded and they were created.
He has also established them forever and ever;
He has made a decree which will not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
Sea monsters and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and clouds;
Stormy wind, fulfilling His word;
Mountains and all hills;
Fruit trees and all cedars;
Beasts and all cattle;
Creeping things and winged fowl;
Kings of the earth and all peoples;
Princes and all judges of the earth;
Both young men and virgins;
Old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
For His name alone is exalted;
His glory is above earth and heaven.
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!

Praise

The more I know God, the more I realize that my response to Him is cold and inadequate. He is the Sovereign God, the Creator who overflows our sprawling universe, the One who holds insignificant me in His hand and in His heart, who constantly lavishes on me His attention and His most tender love and care, the One who poured Himself out and groaned and bled and died for me. Yet my response to Him is so occasional, so shallow, so distracted, so half-hearted.

I don't necessarily want more emotion in my worship. I want to be more aware of God...to always be centered on Him...to have an open line of communication between us every moment...to trust Him simply and constantly. I want to spend less time longing for what I don't have and more time thanking and praising Him for all that He constantly gives me. I want a living praise, a continual response to His presence.

The Psalms prod me toward such praise:

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Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. (103:1, NIV)
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I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. (146:2, NIV)

I have no hope that I can give Almighty God adequate praise. But His Spirit is faithfully drawing me to Him. The closer I live to Him, the more natural and heartfelt praise becomes. Read Isaiah 6 and Revelation 5. Those who stand before God's throne need no prodding to praise Him. How can they possibly do anything else?

That is my destiny. That is the destiny of all who trust Him. We will live in His immediate presence together, forever, responding to Who He is:

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, NIV)

Hymn recording: Psalm 148

TUNE: House of the Rising Sun



Alt. Tunes: CORONATION, MAITLAND, ST. ANNE, AMAZING GRACE, AZMON

C.M.

MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible

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