

The SONGS OF ZION

DISCUSSION

PSALM 146, ALONG WITH THE REMAINING SONGS OF THE PSALTER "ARE A SHORT COURSE IN WORSHIP, AND GOD'S PEOPLE TODAY WOULD DO WELL TO HEED THEIR MESSAGE."

-WARREN WIERSBE

1. What is the point (or theme) of this psalm?
2. The opening verses can be translated as "hallelujah". To shout hallelujah or praises to God is essential in the Christian's life. How do we as a church praise God most regularly? How do you connect with it? How do you most regularly find yourself praising God outside of Sunday? How have you praised God this week?
(*"Psalms 146–150 constitute the last Hallel ('praise') collection. These five Hallelujah psalms have the characteristic genre of the hymn of descriptive praise. These psalms were used at some point as a part of the daily prayers in the synagogue worship."*
- Dr. Willem A. VanGemeren)
3. What does it mean to praise God as long as you live? How have you seen others live in this way? What steps are you taking now to cultivate this lifestyle?
4. In verses 7-10, the author of this psalm cites NINE examples of God's power and faithfulness. What are those nine examples? Of those nine, what stands out to you the most and why? Which one are you deeply desiring to see God do right now? Why is that?
5. The psalmist concludes with the promise/reassurance that God will reign forever. How is this a comfort to those who love God? What does this reassurance evoke in your soul?
6. Is there anything else that stands out to you in this psalm that you would like to discuss?

PSALM 146 {ESV}

- 1 PRAISE THE LORD! PRAISE THE LORD, O MY SOUL!
- 2 I WILL PRAISE THE LORD AS LONG AS I LIVE; I WILL SING PRAISES TO MY GOD WHILE I HAVE MY BEING.
- 3 PUT NOT YOUR TRUST IN PRINCES, IN A SON OF MAN, IN WHOM THERE IS NO SALVATION.
- 4 WHEN HIS BREATH DEPARTS, HE RETURNS TO THE EARTH; ON THAT VERY DAY HIS PLANS PERISH.
- 5 BLESSED IS HE WHOSE HELP IS THE GOD OF JACOB, WHOSE HOPE IS IN THE LORD HIS GOD,
- 6 WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH, THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM, WHO KEEPS FAITH FOREVER;
- 7 WHO EXECUTES JUSTICE FOR THE OPPRESSED, WHO GIVES FOOD TO THE HUNGRY. THE LORD SETS THE PRISONERS FREE;
- 8 THE LORD OPENS THE EYES OF THE BLIND. THE LORD LIFTS UP THOSE WHO ARE BOWED DOWN; THE LORD LOVES THE RIGHTEOUS.
- 9 THE LORD WATCHES OVER THE SOJOURNERS; HE UPHOLDS THE WIDOW AND THE FATHERLESS, BUT THE WAY OF THE WICKED HE BRINGS TO RUIN.
- 10 THE LORD WILL REIGN FOREVER, YOUR GOD, O ZION, TO ALL GENERATIONS. PRAISE THE LORD!