

Psalm 1:1 “Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright”.

Theme: Because God is Creator, Lord, Savior, and Deliverer, he is worthy of our trust and praise. Because he is faithful and his Word is dependable, we can rejoice and sing, giving thanks and praise.

V. 2 Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings. V. 3 Sing unto him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise.

David, who some believe wrote this psalm, was an accomplished harpist (1 Samuel 16:15-23). His psalms frequently refer to musical instruments. He undoubtedly composed music for many of the psalms, and he commissioned musicians for Temple worship (1 Chronicles 25).

V. 4 For the Word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth. V.5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

All of God’s words are true and trustworthy. The Bible is reliable because, unlike people, God does not lie, change his words, or leave his promises unfulfilled. We can trust the Bible because it contains the words of a holy, trustworthy, and unchangeable God.

V. 6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. V. 7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together as a heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. V. 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. V.9 For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.

This is a poetic summary of the first chapter of Genesis. God is not just the coordinator of natural forces; he is the Lord of creation, the Almighty God. Because he is all-powerful, we should reverence him in all we do.

V. 10 The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. V.11 The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

God's plan stands forever! Are you frustrated with inconsistencies you see in others, or even in yourself? God is completely trustworthy, his intentions never change. The Bible promises that good and perfect gifts come to us from the creator who never changes (James 1:17). When you wonder if there is anyone whom you can trust, remember that God is completely consistent. Let him counsel you.

V. 12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he has chosen for his own inheritance. V. 13 The LORD looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. V.14 From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth. V.15 He fashioned their hearts alike, he considereth all their works.

God pays attention to those who call on him. Whether God offers escape from trouble or help in times of trouble, we can be certain that he always hears and acts on behalf of those who love him.

V. 16 There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength. V.17 An horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great strength.

The horse refers to military strength. Because God rules and overrules every nation, leaders should never put their trust in their physical power. Military might is not the ground of our hope. Our hope is in God and in his gracious offer to save us if we will trust in him.

V.18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy. V. 19 To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

This is not an iron clad guarantee that all believers will escape starvation or violent death. Thousands of Christian saints have been beaten to death, whipped, feed to lions, or executed (Romans 8:35-36; Hebrews 11:32-40). God can (and often does) miraculously deliver his followers from pain and death, though sometimes, for purposes known only to him, he chooses not to.

When faced with these harsh realities, we must focus on the wise judgments of God. David was pleading for God's watchful care and protection. In times of crisis, we can place our hope in God.

V. 20 Our soul waiteth for the LORD: HE IS OUR HELP AND SHEILD. V.21 For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name. V. 22 Let thy mercy, O LORD,, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.

