

**=Story Behind the Psalm=
Hallelujah psalms**

NOTE: *These lessons are designed simply as a guideline. As a Sunday School teacher part of your job is to study the lesson and develop it for the pupils in your class according to their age and spiritual development.*

Scripture Reference: Psalm 104, 105, 106, 111, 112, 113, 135, 146, 147, 148, 148, 150

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146, 147, 148, 149, 150**

AUTHORS:

These Psalms were written by various authors, predominately David.

The Story Behind the Psalms

These form a new group of Psalms called the "Hallelujah Psalms." Hallelujah means "Praise ye Jah," or "Praise ye Jehovah." An interesting thing about the word "hallelujah" is that it is the same in every language. It is the one word in all languages that becomes the common denominator. We cannot all speak the same language about most subjects, but when it comes to praising the Lord, we all speak the same language.

These Psalms are divided into three groups—group one ends with hallelujah. In this group are Psalms 104 and 105. Group two begins with hallelujah. This includes Psalms 111 and 112. Group three both begins and ends with hallelujah. Included are Psalms 106, 113, 135, and 146 through 150.

It is interesting that with the passing of the years David's praise becomes greater. The term, "Praise ye the Lord," is included more and more in the Psalms written near the end of David's life. He once said, "I will praise Him more and more," and so he did. As these Psalms are read, the reader should picture an aged David lifting his hands and voice Heavenward thanking God for His grace, for His mercy, for His lovingkindness and for His faithfulness.

The Way They Were Used by God's People

The Jews would use these as doxology Psalms when they wanted to praise the Lord. They were used at any time. They were much like our songs, "Praise Him, Praise Him, Jesus Our Blessed Redeemer," "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," etc. In other words, they were general songs of praise used at any occasion the heart leaped with joy.

Lesson:

1. When should we praise Him?

- a. In the evening.
- b. in the morning
- c. and at noon.

In the Jewish day it starts at six at night then 24 hours goes by then it ends and 6 again. So the day would start from evening then the morning then noon. That's why that psalm is written that way.

2. How shall we praise Him.

- a. through our mouths confessing. (God wants us to talk to Him)
- b. through a new song. (sing a new song unto the Lord)
- c. through action. (If your mouth gives praise then your actions speak different, it is in vain)

3. What should we praise Him for.

- a. what He's done for you. (recall back to the times you really needed Him, and He came through)
- b. Praise for the trials that he gives you. (the reason why you have trials is because God wants to use you in a greater capacity.)
- c. For His Son, dying on the cross. (Without Jesus we would have no salvation, we would have no heaven to go to, and most importantly we would have no hope. So we must thank God for Jesus dying on the cross on a regular basis)

Memory Verse: *Praise ye the LORD: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely.* **Psalm 147:1**