

Praise-fest

This is the last of the “Hallelujah Psalms” (Psalms 146 – 150 all start with that word). And it’s also the end of the whole book of Psalms.

And Psalm 150 provides us with a fitting summary of Where, Why and How we should praise the Lord.

Where?

Read Psalm 150 v 1

The sanctuary here is God’s temple, which symbolised God’s presence among his people.

- ❓ *How would you apply what this verse says today?*

If you said that God should be praised in church (sanctuary) or in the world (eg: by singing in the open air)... then sorry, but you get no points. Because the New Testament equivalent of the temple of God is not the church building, but the people of God.

Read 1 Corinthians 6 v 19-20. God now dwells in his people—who are themselves the temple of God. The real implication for us is that God’s praise should be real, internal and meaningful—irrespective of how we express it outwardly.

TIME OUT

Read Ephesians 5 v 19

- ❓ *How does this make the same point?*
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And praising God in the world isn’t about singing hymns in the town centre—it’s about making his person, character and

works known to those who have not heard about him.

Why?

Read Psalm 150 v 1-2

- ❓ *Verse 2 gives us two reasons why we should praise God. What are they?*

How?

Read Psalm 150 v 3-6

Actually this is the least important question, although the list given here should liberate us in how we view what “praising the Lord” can encompass.

- ❓ *What and who are called on to praise God in these verses?*
- ❓ *What does the range of instruments tell us about “Christian music”?*

There is, of course, nothing wrong with an organ! But there is something wrong if we insist on only an organ (or an amplified band, or any particular type of music).

Pray

- ❓ *From this psalm and from what’s going on in your life, what do you want to praise God for?*

Do it now! And do it all week!