



BARNES *on the Bay*

June 20, 2022

Just Praise the Lord!

SCRIPTURAL MEDITATION: Psalm 7:17

"I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high."

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT: "Just Praise the Lord"

In Psalm 7:17, David sings a mournful prayer about his enemies but ends it with confidence in God's handling of judgment, and he celebrates the goodness of the Lord.

There are some important things to realize. First, praise of God is fitting even when bad things happen. The context of David's song focuses on the evil intended by his adversaries. But that did not detract from the good God would do for David and against his enemies. Second, the level of praise worthy of the Lord corresponds to the height and depth of His righteousness. Holiness is God's nature, and His deeds performed through that holy nature are righteous. David is confident not only in what the Lord will do but why He will do it at all. The praise due to the Lord is limitless because His righteous deeds are all-encompassing.

Should this not put things in perspective for us? God is worthy of our praise in all things, not merely when things seem to be going right from our viewpoint. God is doing too many things on our behalf for us always to understand His purpose in every event. However, our trust in Him, especially during difficult times, will be for our good (Romans 8:28) and His glory. May we learn from David's example in Psalm 7 to "just praise the Lord."

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"Satan so hates the genuine praise of Christ that his fiery darts of discouragement are not effective against us when we respond in praise." -William Thrasher

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE:

Face the challenges of each day with confidence in God and praise on your lips. Such is not easy in the face of difficulties, but these are the times when praise and thankfulness are most needed.

More Inspirational Statements about Praise

"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!" - *Psalm 150:6*

"Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness, the nourishment of the mind with His truth, the purifying of the imagination of His beauty, the opening of the heart to His love, the surrender of the will to His purpose."

- *William Temple*

"Faith comes through God's Word and through praise. Faith grows as you praise the Lord."

- *Wesley L. Duewel*

"The climax of God's happiness is the delight He takes in the echoes of His excellence in the praises of His people." - *John Piper*

"Praise is the rehearsal of our eternal song. By grace we learn to sing, and in glory we continue to sing. What will some of you do when you get to heaven, if you go on grumbling all the way? Do not hope to get to heaven in that style. But now begin to bless the name of the Lord."

- *Charles Spurgeon*

"Let us ever remember that God recognizes every expression of praise and of His people's love. He knows so well what His love and grace are to us that He must expect us to praise Him."

- *G.V. Wigram*

"If we would talk more about the Lord and praise Him, we would have less time to talk about ourselves." - *M.R. DeHaan*

"Doth not all nature around me praise God? If I were silent, I should be an exception to the universe. Doth not the thunder praise Him as it rolls like drums in the march of the God of armies? Do not the mountains praise Him when the woods upon their summits wave in adoration? Doth not the lightning write His name in letters of fire? Hath not the whole earth a voice? And shall I, can I, silent be?" - *Charles Spurgeon*

"We would worry less if we praised more. Thanksgiving is the enemy of discontent and dissatisfaction." - *Harry Ironside*