

PRAYING PSALM 113

“Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, Praise the name of the Lord (Psalm 113:1).

Psalm 113 to 118 are known as the Egyptian Hallel (praise) psalms (see Psalm 114). They were sung in connection with the Passover. This psalm is divided into two parts: 1. A CALL TO PRAISE (1-3). The Lord should be praised eternally. Yahweh (Jehovah) is transcendent – above everything. 2. THE GROUND OF PRAISE (4-6). Who is like the Lord? 3. THE OCCASIONS OF PRAISE (7-9). He raises the poor out of the dust. He gives the barren woman a home.

The psalm gives the most compelling reason for praising the Lord. He is above everything. No one is like Him. He blesses those who want a relationship with Him. The paradox of God is that He is transcendent (above everyone and everything), yet He is immanent (near). God is only a prayer away. He awaits your praise. He wants to hear from you. He desires to bless you. The reasons the Egyptian Hallel songs are sung at Passover is because the shedding of the blood purchased a people for God from the clutches of a world that was planned and promoted by demonic forces. The Passover is a type of Christ's sacrifice for us. Egypt is a type of the world of bondage Christ has delivered us from. Satan is the god of this world. As a Christian, you owe God praise for saving you from this present evil world. Your future is the Heavenly Jerusalem where you will reign with Christ. You are pre-registered in God's eternal home, not as a guest, but as just person made perfect (Hebrews 12:23). Praise the Lord!