

Jan 29, 2017



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Class Leaders:

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

When we find Christ we offer our worship

COMMENT FOR THE WEEK:

God is with us in every season (Matt. 1:23). He has promised to be with us "always" (Matt. 28:20). Because He is always with us, we can worship Him in our hearts every day

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

(Ps 95:6 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Jan 6, 2017)

Series: Creation & Salvation

UNIT: The Church Is Born

NEXT WEEK

Heirs of the Promise

(Gal 3:26-4:7)

Praise God with All Creation Ps 148:1-14

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson examines the full meaning of scriptural encouragement to **Praise God with All Creation**. The **study's aim** is to see that all of God's creation is to bring Him praise. The **study's application** is to teach that the most important activity in which we can engage is to praise the Lord Jesus.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

Throughout the text it speaks of God's creation, and we have seen that the knowledge of the creation and its Creator logically leads us to worship. One cannot encounter and embrace the immensity of creation without turning in worship to the Creator. This text tells us the who, what, and why about praising the Lord for His creation. Who should praise the Lord? Our text simply says "them." Who does this refer to? It is everything in creation. The list is impressive, given to us in verses 1-4 and 7-12. That which is above should praise Him: the heavens should sound forth His greatness. Angels should join in, as well as the host of heaven—including the sun, moon, and stars. The heaven of heavens and the waters above the heavens should praise Him. Also joining in on the praise should be what is on the earth and in the earth. The dragons and the depths should praise Him. Fire, hail, snow, and wind should extol Him as well. Along with the mountains, the hills, and the trees, all the beasts—from cattle to creeping things and all fowl—should call out with joy. And finally, all people, including kings and rulers, the young and the old, should glorify the Lord. Obviously, this is meant to speak comprehensively. Nothing God has made should refrain from praising Him. He is worthy of such honor as the Creator of all things. So we see who should be rendering praise—everything and everyone. Now let us ask, what should be praised? This question is answered with the phrase "the name of the Lord." His name stands for His character and His attributes. What are some of the attributes of God that come to mind when you ponder His creative power? If I were teaching a class, I would ask students to take some time and make a list. All of God's attributes should be extolled. God is to be praised for who He is, based on what He has done in creation. Now let us ask the final question: Why should God be praised in His creation? The answer is twofold. First, we praise God because of His primacy. He commanded that all things come into existence. He is the first cause and the reason for all things. He is Lord of all creation. We all owe our existence to His glorious power and love. So it is only right to return thanks and praise to Him, extolling all of His glorious attributes. Praise and worship is the right response when there is a firm conviction that God is the center of life. Second, we render praise to God because it is spiritually profitable and beneficial for us to do so. It aligns us with God. It causes worship and submission and love. God's love comes to us in creation, and our love returns to Him in praise. Psalm 148:14 also reflects on this truth. Scripture strengthens us to praise God and helps us to stay near to Him. Sometimes the most thrilling things in life are the simplest. We take a walk outside and see the sky above, or a sunset, or a hill or mountain or tree, or an animal—something that God has created and designed. We are able to see His handiwork. That observation becomes a blessing and leads us to worship. All creation points to God and calls for us to praise Him.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Praise God from the Heavens (Ps 148:1-6)

From the heavenly beings (1-2)

Praise God with joy (Job 38:7)

Praise God for allowing His servants to do His bidding (Ps 103:20-21)

Praise God for His holiness (Isa 6:2-4)

Praise God for His glory (Ezek 3:12)

Praise God because He is worthy (Rev 5:11-12)

From the heavenly bodies (3-4)

Praise God for the works of His hands (Ps 19:1-2)

Praise God with songs of joy (Ps 65:8)

God is praised from His dominion (Ps 103:22)

Praise God for the heavenly splendor (1 Cor 15:41)

Reasons for the praise (5-6)

Praise God because He created the heavens (Ps 33:6)

Praise God because He created the seas (Ps 95:5)

Praise God because He created the earth (Jer 10:12)

Praise God because He established the moons (Ps 89:37)

Praise God because He established the earth (Ps 119:90)

Praise God from the Earth (Ps 148:7-12)

From the non-human elements (7-10)

They praise God for food (Ps 104:25-27)

They praise God for a fruitful vineyard (Isa 27:1-2)

They praise God for water to drink (Isa 43:20)

They praise God for a road in the sea for travel (Isa 51:9-10)

From the human elements (11-12)

Praise God for keeping us alive (Ps 22:29)

Praise God for His awesome power and deeds (Ps 66:2-4)

Praise God for His glorious Name (Ps 86:9)

Praise God for His ways (Ps 138:4-5)

Praise God from the Chosen (Ps 148:13-14)

Praise God for His Name (13)

Praise God's name because it is majestic (Ps 8:1)

Praise God's name because it is awesome (Ps 99:3)

Praise God's name because it is known and exalted (Isa 12:4)

Praise God's name because it is great (Ps 76:1)

Praise God's name because it is due glory (Ps 96:8)

Praise God because we are His people (14)

Praise God because He has brought us near Him (Eph 2:13)

Praise God because we are citizens of His kingdom (Eph 2:19)

Praise God because we are a people belonging to Him (1 Peter 2:9-10)

Praise God because He is a light to the Gentiles (Luke 2:32)