

# EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

Text: 1 Chronicles 16:7-13

Introduction:

1. This psalm was written by David when the Ark of God was brought safely to Jerusalem (vs. 1).
2. David appointed certain of the Levites to serve as ministers before the Ark (vs. 4).
  - a. They were to “record” – meaning, to celebrate (ASV), invoke (ESV), or mention God.
  - b. They were to “thank” God.
  - c. They were to “praise” God.
3. This was to continue regularly before the Ark of the Covenant (vs. 6).
4. This psalm was given to these men to be used in this context with the purpose of expressing gratitude to the Lord.
  1. This song seems to be an amalgam of three other psalms (Psalm 105:1-15; 96:1-13; 106).
  2. Perhaps those psalms were taken from this one psalm divided into three parts.
5. From this psalm, one may learn how to express one’s gratitude to the Lord...

## I. “GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD”

- A. Gratitude is expressed by simply saying, “Thank you.”
- B. In some ways, it is the least that one can do (cf. Luke 17:15-17; John 6:11, 23).
- C. The Christian should be thankful to God in all situations (Hebrews 13:15).

## II. “CALL UPON HIS NAME”

- A. To call upon the name of God is to honor Him as the object of worship, devotion, and prayer (cf. Genesis 4:26; Acts 9:14; 22:16).
- B. One expresses gratitude to God by worshipping Him acceptably (John 4:24).
- C. One expresses gratitude to God by praying to Him reverently (Matthew 6:9).
- D. One expresses gratitude to God by obeying Him humbly (Romans 1:21).

## III. “MAKE KNOWN HIS DEEDS”

- A. It is an expression of gratitude to tell others about the mighty works of God.
  1. In Creation (Genesis 1)
  2. In History (Daniel 2; etc.)
  3. In Salvation (John 3:16)
- B. When God is removed from history, science, and the public consciousness, it is a declaration of ingratitude and disrespect.

## IV. “SING UNTO HIM”

- A. A powerful and beautiful expression of gratitude is singing praises unto God.
- B. This is the theme and purpose of the psalms (33:1-3; 95:1-2; etc.).
- C. It is the joy of the Christian (Matt. 26:30; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; James 5:13).

## V. “TALK OF HIS WONDROUS WORKS”

- A. To show gratitude to God, He should be the subject of conversation.
  1. In the home (Deuteronomy 6:7; Ephesians 6:4)
  2. In the world (Psalm 145:4-6, 12)
  3. Among the faithful (Psalm 40:10)
  4. To the lost (Mark 16:15-16)
- B. The word for “talk” also refers to pondering or meditating upon something.
- C. Thus, one must talk about God to himself.

VI. "GLORY IN HIS HOLY NAME"

- A. It is an expression of gratitude to glory in the holy name of God.
  - 1. The word for "glory" originally referred to clarity of sound.
  - 2. It came to be used primarily for clarity of color or light, referring to shine.
  - 3. When applied to people, it meant to boast, celebrate, or praise.
  - 4. It can also mean, "To make a fool of" or "To act madly."
- B. The Christian does not glory in himself, but in God (Jeremiah 9:23-24; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Galatians 6:14).
- C. One way to glory in the Lord is to have a heart full of joy and life filled with rejoicing (John 10:10; Philippians 4:4)!

VII. "SEEK THE LORD CONTINUALLY"

- A. To seek is to frequent or to follow, then to ask or enquire.
- B. It is an expression of gratitude to seek to be where the Lord is.
- C. It also expresses gratitude to seek to know Him better each day.

VIII. "REMEMBER"

- A. To remember is to mark something as significant and call it to mind.
- B. Of course, this also requires not forgetting.
- C. It is an expression of gratitude to call to mind the God of Heaven.
  - 1. His works
  - 2. His wonders
  - 3. His judgments
- D. It honors God to remember Him.

Conclusion:

- 1. God remembered – and remembers – man (cf. Luke 23:42-43; Hebrews 8:12).
- 2. Thus, He deserves gratitude and thanksgiving.