

Psalm 111: God's Marvelous Works.

Some suggest that this Psalm was written in the time of Haggai and Zechariah.

1-3: A vow to praise the LORD wholeheartedly in an assembly of the saints. He said he would praise the LORD for His marvelous works and deeds that are remembered by those who enjoy them and the benefits they bring.

4-9: The marvels of God's works: He gives food to those who fear Him; He faithfully keeps His promises: in the Conquest He gave His people the lands He promised. He establishes truth, justice and eternal redemption.

10: The conclusion that the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. People who follow Him and His standards have good understanding. Worship and obedience will then be accompanied by praise that belongs to Him.

Proverbs 1:7 - *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

Psalm 112: Blessed.

This psalm enumerates some of the blessings enjoyed by a person who fears the Lord. Then it anticipates the exaltation of the righteous and the grievous destruction of the wicked.

1: One who fears the LORD and delights in His Law is blessed.

2-9: Five blessings that come to one who fears God are enumerated:

- (1) He is blessed with physical and material prosperity because He is righteous.
- (2) Light is given even in darkness for the upright.
- (3) He receives goodness in return for being generous and just.
- (4) He will be firmly established in his faith, unshakable, not fearful, but full of faith.
- (5) Because he gives to the poor his horn, will be lifted up, that is, he will be made strong and honorable by the LORD.

10: In contrast with the blessings of God-fearers, the wicked will be filled with anxiety over God's goodness to the righteous. The wicked, who are about to perish (waste away), will be powerless over the righteous.

Blessed is one who is forgiven, who walks in righteousness, who delights in the WORD of God, who trusts the LORD, whose strength is in the LORD, who listens to the LORD or endures temptation.

Psalm 113: Exalted God.

Psalms 113-118 form the Hallel, a collection of songs sung at the great festivals of Israel - Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles - as well as on other holy days. At Passover, for example, Psalms 113-114 were sung before the meal, and 115-118 after it.

1-3: Begins and ends with the words Praise the LORD (halelûyah). The Psalmist summoned the servants of the LORD to praise His name, for it is worthy of praise at all times. The name of the LORD (His revealed attributes) deserves praise in all the world - from east to west.

4-9: Believers should praise the Lord because of His greatness (4-5) and His grace (6-9).

4-5: He is incomparable - no one is like Him, for He sits enthroned on high.

6-9: God's greatness is not something He clings to; rather, He comes down to see what is in the heavens and on the earth. He condescends to intervene graciously in human affairs.

Mark 10:45 - *“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”*

John 1:10 - *He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.*

Proverbs 3:34 - *Surely He scorns the scornful, but gives grace to the humble.*