# PRAISE IN A TIME LIKE THIS

**PSALMS 103** 

#### WHAT IS PRAISE?

- 'Yadah' (Hebrew) give thanks or confess, to honour and commend.
- joyful <u>recounting</u> of everything that God has done, and expression of <u>gratitude</u> and respect towards God, especially in a song.

### Recount and give thanks



#### HARD TO PRAISE GOD WHEN

- Time of loss / sickness
- Time of disaster / pandemic / MCO
- Time of economic and social troubles

#### PSALMS 103

- Salvation-hymn of praise
- Call to celebrate God's love and compassion towards His people
- Praise Him because:
  - His character
  - His benefits

#### 103:1 CALL TO PRAISE

- Praise the LORD, my soul,
   and all that is within me,
- praise his holy name!

- Love the Lord with all my heart, soul and mind (Deut 6:5)
- Whole person

- all that in me my memory, my will, my judgment, my intellect, my heart,
- the music must begin deep down in the centre of my being; it must be myself, my very self, that praises God' (Charles Spurgeon)

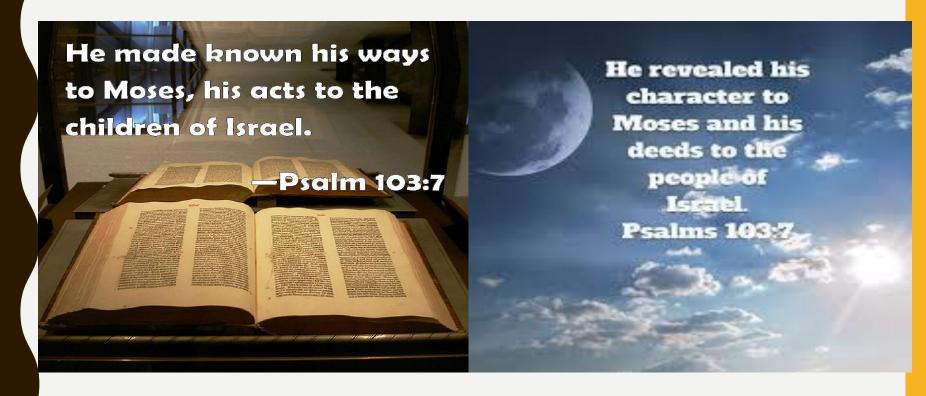
Whole being must praise.

#### 103:1 CALL TO PRAISE

- Praise the LORD, my soul,
   and all that is within me,
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Name – His character and ways

#### REVEALED HIS CHARACTER



**NLT** 

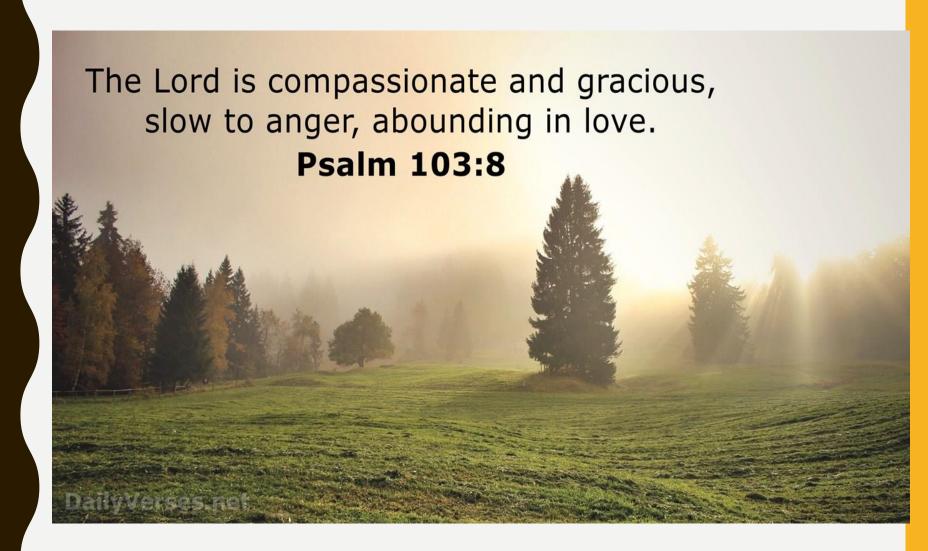
### His deeds to His people

#### HIS NAME

#### Exodus 3:14 NIV

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO
I AM. This is what you are to
say to the Israelites: 'I AM has
sent me to you."

- Name God wished to be known and worshipped in Israel.
- Name that expressed his character as the dependable and faithful God.



EXODUS 34:6-7 REVELATION TO MOSES (QUOTED- JOEL 2:13 / JONAH 4:2)

### 103:3-5 NOT FORGET HIS BENEFITS

and forget not all His benefits:-

<sup>3</sup>who <u>forgives</u> all your sins and <u>heals</u> all your diseases,

<sup>4</sup> who <u>redeems your life</u> from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

His deeds in response to the cry of help by the Israelites.

Because of his love and compassion

- '5who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.'
- 'good things' nothing satisfy us more than our redemption
  - 'Divine satisfaction is from the finished work of Christ' (Spurgeon)

### GOOD THINGS: HEBREWS 9:11-12

• 11 But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. 12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

#### Good things - redemption

#### HIS CHARACTER

- He is just and righteous.
- He is compassionate / merciful and gracious

#### HIS CHARACTER AND WAYS:

- He works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. v6
- He will not always accuse, nor will he harbour his anger forever v9
- He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. VIO
- He knows and cares for those who fear Him and keep His covenant vv13-18

### WORKS RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUSTICE



**BLACK LIFE MATTERS** 



Example of injustice

### PS RAYMOND KOH / AMRI CHE MAT



February 2017

November 2016

Suhakam report April 2019 point to state agency behind kidnapping but there is still no justice.

#### **PSALMS 96:10,13**

• Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns." The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity and righteousness.

# Judge with equity / righteousness

#### **PSALMS 75:4-7**

- To the arrogant I say, 'Boast no more,'
   and to the wicked, 'Do not lift up your horns.
  - <sup>5</sup> Do not lift your horns against heaven; do not speak so defiantly."
- 6 No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt themselves.
  - <sup>7</sup> It is <u>God who judges</u>:

    He brings one down, he exalts another.

The arrogant and wicked will receive due justice.

### DESERVE TO FACE HIS WRATH / PUNISHMENT FOR SINS

Because of His compassion and mercy:

- Spared His wrath, v9
- Spared punishment for our sins, vvll, 12

### HE IS SLOW TO ANGER/ DOES NOT HARBOUR ANGER

God is a righteous judge,
 a God who displays his wrath every day.
 (Ps 7:11)

He will not always accuse,
 nor will he harbor his anger forever, v9

#### DOES NOT HARBOUR ANGER:

 Because of the lord's great love we are <u>not</u> consumed, for His compassions never fail (Lamentations 3:22)

We are not consumed by His wrath because of His love and compassion.

#### EPHESIANS 2:3-5

• <sup>3</sup>Like the rest, we were by nature <u>deserving</u> of wrath. <sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were <u>dead</u> in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

### He saved us because of His love and mercy

# DOES NOT TREAT US AS OUR SINS DESERVE, V11

• as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us, Ps 103:12

• 'Blessed is one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered and .....whose sins the Lord does not count against them.' Ps 32:1-2

#### **EZEKIEL 20:44**

 You will know that I am the LORD, when I deal with you for my name's sake and not according to your evil ways and your corrupt practices, you people of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD.'

He spares us for His Name's sake.

### COMPASSION ON HIS CHILDREN

- <sup>13</sup>As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;
   <sup>14</sup> for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.
  - 15 The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field;
  - 16 the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.

### PSALMS 90:3,5-6

- You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."
  - <sup>5</sup>Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—they are like the new grass of the morning:
  - <sup>6</sup> In the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered

We are from dust and like grass

### LORD, YOU KNOW ME AND CARE FOR ME!

#### Psalm 139:1-3 NIV

You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

He is a caring Father.

#### MATTHEW 6:30



His attention is on us.

#### **MATTHEW 7:10-11**

• Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? <sup>11</sup> If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

### He is our best Heavenly Father

### HIS LOVE AND RULE IS EVERLASTING

- <sup>17</sup>But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children—
  - 18 with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.
- <sup>19</sup>The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

#### HIS LOVE IS EVERLASTING



And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.

Ephesians 3:17-18 (NIV)

#### HIS RULE IS EVERLASTING

But You, O Lord, Sit Enthroned Forever; Your Renown Endures Through All Generations.

Psalms 102-12

BibleWordings.com

#### THE JUDGMENT DAY



#### The Setting

#### Revelation 20:11 (NKJV)

"Then I saw a great
white throne and Him
who sat on it, from
whose face the earth and
the heaven fled away.
And there was found no
place for them.

#### He is enthroned forever

### TROUBLED TIMES, WE ASK..

• Where is God in a time like this?

He is on His throne.

### TROUBLED TIMES, WE ASK...

Where is God in a time like this?

He is on His throne.

Where is justice and righteousness?

He works justice / righteousness.

#### TROUBLED TIMES, WE ASK...

- Where is God in a time like this?
   He is on His throne.
- Where is justice and righteousness?
   He works justice/righteousness.
- Does God still care for us?
   He care for us more than we know.

#### **CALL TO PRAISE**

- whole heartedly and intelligently
- Praise Him for He deserves our praise:
  - His rule and love is forever
  - He is righteousness and just
  - He relents form wrath/anger
  - He forgives our sins and save us
  - He cares for us even though we are frail

# WHY DO I PRAISE IN A TIME LIKE THIS:

- Reset/realign my perception of God.
  - reminded of His character and benefits.

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- Reset/realign my perception of God.
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- Reaffirm my faith and hope in the Lord
  - assured in a time like this.

# WHY DO I PRAISE IN A TIME LIKE THIS:

- Reset/realign my perception of God.
  - reminded of His character and benefits.
- Reaffirm my faith and hope in the Lord
  - assured of His faithfulness.
- Renew my trust in the Lord
  - surrender my life into His care.

### ANGELS AND ALL CREATION PRAISE HIM

- <sup>20</sup> Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.
  - <sup>21</sup> Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.
  - <sup>22</sup> Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.
- Praise the LORD, my soul.