

Studying the Psalms
“Psalms of Praise”

Psalms 65

March 20, 2022

Psalms 65
Praise And Thanksgiving For God’s
Abundant Favor To Earth And Man

- Author: Likely David.
- Delitzch places it after Sennacherib’s invasion and destruction and now a crop has been gathered. This does not fit the time of David.
- Barnes and others defend David as the author.

Psalms 65
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Outline:

- God’s Concern for His people. Verses 1-4
 - As hearer of prayer. Verse 2
 - As one who forgives sin. Verse 3
 - As the giver of blessings. Verse 4
- God’s power at work on behalf of His people. Verses 5-8
 - He saves His people.
 - He gives confidence to His people.
 - He creates and controls nature.
- God’s provisions for His people. Verses 9-13

Psalms 65
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Psalms 65 also speaks of matters particularly close to the heart of David.

1. The importance of the house of God.
(verse 4; 1 Chronicles 28:1-29:22)
2. God’s choice of Zion as His dwelling place.
(verse 1; 1 Chronicles 21:15-26; 2 Chronicles 3:1)
3. The submission of the foreign nations to the God of Israel (verses 2, 5, 8; 1 Samuel 17:45-47).

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God’s Concern for His people. Verses 1-4

Psalms 65:1, “Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion; and unto thee shall the vow be performed.”

- God is not to be worshiped in any way that man pleases.
- Worship was to be offered only to Him, never to anyone or anything else (Deuteronomy 6:13-14; 10:20; Matthew 4:10); and it is to be offered only in the place He has appointed (Deuteronomy 12:5-27), in Zion (between the time of David and the time of Christ, the earthly Mount Zion).
- The reference here is likely to the vows or promises which the people had made in view of the manifest judgments of God and the proofs of His goodness. Psalms 132:13-14; cf. Psalms 22:25; 50:14; 56:12.
 - Those vows they were now ready to carry out in expressions of praise.

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God’s Concern for His people. Verses 1-4

Psalms 65:2, “O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.”

- Other gods cannot hear the appeals of their worshipers (cf. 1 Kings 18:29).
- Only the true God has the power to hear prayer and respond to it (cf. 1 Kings 18:37-39).
- NOTE: All flesh shall come to HIM. (Luke 2:30-32; Colossians 1:6, 23; Revelation 5:9; cf. Galatians 1:6-7)
- No other being can supply man’s needs.

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God’s Concern for His people. Verses 1-4

Psalms 65:3, *“Iniquities prevail against me: as for our transgressions, thou wilt forgive them.”*

- It is God who makes atonement for sin (Psalms 38:4 78:38; 79:9; Deuteronomy. 21:8; 32:43).
- Man cannot make provisions for his own atonement. cf. Psalms 51:2

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God’s Concern for His people. Verses 1-4

Psalms 65:4, *“Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach (unto thee), that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, Thy holy temple.”*

- Man shall be satisfied with the blessings of God. Ephesians 1:3-4; 1 Peter 1:2-3.
- Remember, under the new covenant, all whom God chooses are priests (Revelation 1:6; 5:10) and are themselves parts of God’s holy temple (1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:20-22; Revelation 3:12).

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God’s power at work on behalf of His people. Verses 5-8

Psalms 65:5, *“By terrible things thou wilt answer us in righteousness, Oh God of our salvation, Thou that art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea”*

- NOTE: God will hear His people’s prayers (verse 2) and answer them (Isaiah 65:24; cf. Matthew 7:7-8; 1 John 5:14-15) in righteousness (Psalms 103:6; Zephaniah 3:5). See also, 1 Peter 3:12
- All men can trust God (confidence) just as the seaman. cf. Psalms 107:23-30.

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Psalms 65:6-7, *“Who by his strength setteth fast the mountains, being girded about with might; Who stilleth the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the tumult of the peoples.”*

- See Psalms 93:1, 3-4
- His great power is visible to all. Romans 1:20; cf. Acts 14:16-17
- Note: Mark 4:39; cf. Psalms 107:29; Isaiah 17:12-13