WINTER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2016-2017
THEME: CREATION AND SALVATION
UNIT TWO – ALL CREATION PRAISES GOD

“LET EVERYTHING IN CREATION PRAISE THE LORD…Hallelujah!”

Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Psalm 148:1-14 (NLT)
Required Reading: Psalm 148 – 150
Motto Texts: Psalm 148:5 (NLT), “Let every created thing give praise to the Lord, for he issued his command, and they came into being.”
Reliable Resources: The John Phillips Commentary Series; Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; The Treasury of David by C. H. Spurgeon; Standard Lesson Commentary; Understanding the 66 Books of the Bible by Dr. David Jeremiah; Precepts for Living (UMI); Word Search 10 Electronic Library; Bible Exposition Commentary; Logos Bible Software

INTRODUCTION
Beloved, the last five Psalms all begin and end with a Hallelujah! This word in the Hebrew means “Praise Ye the Lord!” But what does that earnestly mean? Quoting the Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator in Heart of the Lesson: “Praise the Lord! Sometimes it is spoken as a command. Sometimes it is spoken as a response to what God has done. But what does it mean to praise the Lord? When we praise the Lord, we give Him the glory and honor He deserves; we exalt His name.”

Beloved, let us end the five praise lessons from the Psalms with a hearty Hallelujah! or “Praise Ye the Lord!” Now with the influence of Dr. John Phillips I present the message “Let Everything in Creation Praise the Lord…Hallelujah!”

Anticipated Power Points:
- Praise our God Celestially. Psalm 148:1-6
- Praise our God Terrestrially. Psalm 148:7-14

“Let Everything in Creation Praise the Lord…Hallelujah!”
I. Praise our God Celestially. Psalm 148:1-6

Beloved, Dr. John Phillips declares: “This Psalm is pure praise. It contains not a single prayer, plea, or petition, only praise. The Psalmist warms to his theme. His vision is expanded, his soul soars skyward, he mounts up on eagle’s wings. He calls on all those high in glory to praise the Lord...animate and inanimate, pure spirit and human being, all alike are summoned to sing.”

A. Let God be forever worshipped and praised! vss. 1-4

1. By all the visible attributes of the sky and space. vs. 1
2. By all the angels, seraphim, cherubim and all heavenly creatures unknown to man. vs. 2
   Job 38:7(NLT), “as the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?”
3. God is worshipped by the billions of stars, moons and planets in and out of our solar system! Our God is awesome! There is a praise from every area of the atmosphere. From the highest level to its lowest; from the unseen waters above to the oceans below, all give praise to our God! (Genesis 1:7)

B. Let God be praised! vss. 5-6

Why? vs. 5 – Because He created everything! Not only did God create but He maintains everything to continue to do what it was created for.

Vs. 6 helps us to truly see the magnitude of God’s work. He controls everything. “By an unalterable decree, He has ‘permanently ordered and regulated the world of nature.’” (Barker and Kohlenberger, eds., The Expositor’s Bible Commentary Abridged, Zondervan).

II. Praise our God Terrestrially. Psalm 148:7-14

Now the Psalm writer peruses the terrestrial or earthly influence of our God and earth’s relationship to His awesome power, might, and authority.

Note the Bible Knowledge Commentary: “148:7-12, The psalmist summoned all earthly hosts to praise the Lord. Sea creatures, elements of nature. Psalm 147:15-18(NLT), ‘He sends his orders to the world-how swiftly his word flies! He sends the snow like white wool; he scatters frost upon the ground like ashes. Who can stand against his freezing cold? Then, at his command, it all melts. He sends his winds, and the ice thaws.’”

John Phillips declares that fire, hail, snow, hurricanes, typhoons, fog, tornadoes, etc. “all give voice to their Creator.” Beloved, everything terrestrial gives all of its honor and praise when called upon by our Creator. Mountains, as they point their peaks toward Him; volcanoes, as they send the towering smoke towards Him! The bowing down of fruit trees laden with their produce. The beauty of the fine trees used to build and decorate homes and furniture all praise God in their use. The flying birds, cattle on a thousand hills, fishes of the sea – all shout Hallelujah! towards our God, because He created all for His glory. Hallelujah!

The many peoples at every rank and file are created to bring glory, honor, worship and praise unto the Great God and Creator of the entire universe. Note verses 13-14 of the Psalm: “One reason they should praise is that His name is glorious. As Creator, His own splendor is greater than that of all His creation. Also, He had raised up...a horn (a strong one, i.e., a king; 89:17; 132:17) for His beloved Israel. So again the psalmist summoned the people’s praise (Hallelujah) for God’s word and His work in Israel.”

CLOSING

I close with the lyrics of a great hymn by Mrs. C. H. Morris: “O magnify the Lord with me, Ye people of His choice. Let all to whom He lendeth breath Now in His name rejoice. For love’s blest revelation, For rest from condemnation, For uttermost salvation, To Him give thanks. Refrain: Let all the people praise Thee. Let all the people praise Thy name, Forever and forevermore.”

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Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway as Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School lesson.