

OUR RESPONSE: PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Ps. 138:1-8

1. The Lord deserves all of our praise and thanksgiving. Ps. 138:1; Dan. 4:34-35; Deut. 6:4-5; 1 Tim. 1:17; Exo. 3:14; Isa. 42:8; Jas. 4:4-5, 8

give thanks = yadah = to use (i.e. hold out) the hand; especially to revere or worship (with extended hands)

heart = leb = the heart; also used (fig.) very widely for the feelings, the will and even the intellect; likewise for the [control] center of anything

I AM = Yahweh, Jehovah = covenant name for God: the Self-Existent, Eternal God

2. We praise God for His character (Who He is). Ps. 138:2a; Exo. 34:6-7; Lam. 3:21-26; Phil. 4:6-7; Jas. 1:17; Job13:15; John 1:14; 14:9

name = shem = through the idea of definite and conspicuous position; an appellation, as a mark or memorial of individuality; by implication honor, authority, character, nature, ways

lovingkindness = checed = covenant love, steadfast and merciful

truth = 'emeth = stability; figurative certainty, truth, trustworthiness

prayer = proseuche = to look at God as He is

3. We thank and praise God for His Word. Ps. 138:2b; Jer. 1:12; Isa. 55:11; 2 Cor. 1:20; 2 Tim. 3:16; John 6:63; 1:1-2, 14

magnified = gadal = to grow up, become great

inspired = theopneustos = God-breathed

4. We thank God for what He does (His actions on our behalf). Ps. 138:3; 1 Thess. 5:18; Phil. 4:6-7; 2 Chron. 20:7-8

5. The Lord is greater than anything on earth. He is Lord of all and deserves to be worshipped as such. Ps.138:4-5; 22:27-28; 2 Chron. 20:12; Isa. 41:10; Phil. 2:9-11

6. We should praise and thank the Lord that though He is greater than all, He receives anyone who humbly comes to Him. Ps. 138:6; 2 Sam. 7:18; Heb. 11:6; Jas. 4:6; Matt. 11:28-30

7. We should praise and thank the Lord because He uses His mighty power to protect and save us. Ps. 138:7; 139:5; 23:4-5a; 121; Jer. 17:14; Matt. 1:21

keep, protect, guard = shamar = to hedge about as with thorns; i.e. guard, protect, attend to, keep, watch, preserve

Jesus = the LORD saves

8. We should praise and thank the Lord because He has a beautiful purpose for each of our lives. Ps. 138:8; 139:13-14; Phil. 1:6; Eph. 2:10; Acts 13:36; Job 23:10; Rom. 8:28-29; Col. 1:27

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. *Does the Lord Jesus have the first and foremost place in my heart? Does He have control there through His Spirit? Does He receive the praise and thanksgiving—the worship—of my life?*
2. *What do I know about God's character? What attribute of His character do I need to praise in my current circumstances? Do I trust God's character, nature, and ways?*
3. *Am I in the Word of God to better know the God of the Word? Do I thank God for keeping His promises in His Word? Do I rely on the Word because I know and praise the nature of the One who wrote it?*
4. *What is my history with God? What has He done on my behalf? What is He doing now? Will I thank Him for all He has done and is doing for me?*
5. *Do I see and worship Jesus as greater than anything on earth? Do I worship Him as Lord of all? Will I worship Him today?*
6. *Have I humbly come to Jesus to receive Him as my Lord and Savior? If so, will I praise and thank Him for receiving me?*
7. *Will I thank and praise the Lord for saving me when I couldn't save myself? Will I meditate today on what Jesus did to save me?*
8. *Will I praise and thank the Lord for the beautiful purpose He has for my life? Will I allow Him to work out His purposes for me, knowing that they will bring Him further thanks and praise?*