

05/14/13 - Praise Him Regardless of Circumstances

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Psalm 96:1-13

"Sing to the Lord." "Declare his glory." "Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength." "Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness." All of these admonitions are just and right. What do we do, however, when circumstances are overwhelmingly difficult, the load is heavy, and emotions are low? Do we just whip-up emotions that are neither genuine nor authentic? I don't think so.

The Holy Spirit can help us move past our feelings. "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise?the fruit of lips that openly profess his name" (Heb. 13:15). "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thess. 5:18).

Let's admit it: often our predictable response to trials, crisis, and pain is to complain and feel sorry for ourselves. We have a choice. We can choose to praise God for who he is and his numerous attributes, regardless of our painful circumstances. Let's come to him with deep trust and solid confidence.

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