

# MIXTAPE ▶▶

HITS FROM THE HEART

Track 7. "Praise"



## Questions for Reflection: Psalm 150

1. What is more difficult for you, to give praise to other people or to receive praise from other people? Why is one more difficult for you than the other?
2. What are some of the ways that you have given praise to other people recently?
3. The Psalms are filled with the full range of human emotions – joy, anger, sorrow, fear, excitement, surprise – and then Psalms 146-150 all begin with “Praise the LORD” (hallelujah). Why is this a fitting conclusion to the Psalms?
4. The Hebrew opening to the Psalm is actually two words: hallelu – which is the plural command to praise; and JAH – which is a short form for God’s holy name. What might be the significance of this being a plural verb? Why is it a command to praise?
5. What does the Psalm tell us about where we should praise God? Why we should praise God? How and when we should praise God? Who should praise God? How do we apply these insights to our daily life in the modern world?
6. Megalomania is the delusion about one’s own power or importance. God seems to command our praise exclusively. Does this make God a megalomaniac? Why or why not?
7. Richard Dawkins, in his book *The God Delusion*, says, ““The God of the Old Testament is arguably the most unpleasant character in all fiction: jealous and proud of it; a petty, unjust, unforgiving control-freak; a vindictive, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser; a misogynistic, homophobic, racist, infanticidal, genocidal, filicidal, pestilential, megalomaniacal, sadomasochistic, capriciously malevolent bully.” How do you respond to such an accusation?
8. The Westminster Shorter Catechism states that the primary purpose (chief end) of humanity is to “glorify God and enjoy him forever”. How do we glorify God? How do we enjoy God?
9. Spend time in prayer giving praise to God for both his character and his actions.