

## Psalm 145 • The Cycle of Praise

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1. (v.1-7) Praise begins with a **single, sincere heart** which grows into ever-expanding circles gathering others along the way.
2. Biblical praise is the contrast of our inferior **nature** to God's exceedingly superior **character**.
3. Biblical praise doesn't just expand from the individual to the group, but from one **generation** to the next.
4. (v.8-9) We are supposed to remain aware of God's character at work across **all boundaries of time** from before we were born, in the course of this present life, and to the generations to follow.
5. (v.10-13) Praise is the exclusive expression of **those belonging** to Him.
6. One of the primary purposes of praise is to take our focus off the finiteness of **THIS life**.
7. (v.14-21) Praise is supposed to be the natural by-product of bringing people through life's difficulties who...
  - a. **Call upon Him in truth.** (v.18)
  - b. **Fear Him.** (v.19)
  - c. **Love Him.** (v.20)
8. The reason praise is so precious to God is because it comes from those who love, fear, and obey Him to begin with who are, in effect, returning **affection** for **affection**.