

Ephesians Series

Lesson #242

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Dean Bible Ministries

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God's Pattern for Hymns
Ephesians 5:18–21; Colossians 3:16; Psalm 103



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

A Psalm of David.

Psa. 103:1, “Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!

Psa. 103:2, “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

Psa. 103:3, “Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,

Psa. 103:4, “Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,

Psa. 103:5, “Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”

Results of being filled by the Spirit:

Eph. 5:19, “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Eph. 5:20, “giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Eph. 5:21, “submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Eph. 5:22, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Results of the Word dwelling richly:

Col. 3:16b, “... teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Col. 3:17, “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, [by] giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Col. 3:18, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, [with the result that you are] teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom [wisely] in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, [by] singing with grace [gratitude] in your hearts to the Lord.

Col. 3:17, “And **whatever [all that] you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”**

Col. 3:17, “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

1 Cor. 6:20, “For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

1 Cor. 10:31, “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

To Glorify God

כָּבֵד (kābēd) verb: to be heavy, i.e., important, significant.

כְּבוֹד (kābôd) noun: glory, something great, magnificent, critically important. In reference to God, to show His centrality to everything.

Psa. 86:9, “All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name.”

Psa. 86:12, “I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify Your name forevermore.”

- 1. The focal point of whatever we do should be God; the focus shifts from me, my thoughts, my emotions, my ideas to putting God in the spotlight, to show that without God and apart from God there is no meaning, value, or significance to life.**
- 2. God then is not only the one we come to in times of difficulty, but He is the one we thank, the One we focus on in whatever we do.**

Standards:

1. The right question is not, “Is there something wrong with this music?”, but “Does this music bring glory to God?”

2. Does this song reflect the creative acts of God?

Planning, orderly, technically excellent, promote positive morality, purposeful.

Does it display simplicity and complexity (unity and harmony)?

3. Proportionality (symmetry, balance).

Standards:

4. Negatives:

**Unstructured, difficult to sing, unplanned, simplistic,
trivial or banal, trendy, mediocre.**

Psalm 103 Introduction

Psa. 103:1, “ Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!

Psa. 103:2, “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:”

Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

Wisdom is skill, another criterion.

Psalm 103 Introduction

Psa. 103:1, “Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!

Psa. 103:2, “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:”

Psalm 103 Conclusion

Psa. 103:19, “The LORD has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all.

Psa. 103:20, “Bless the LORD, you His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, heeding the voice of His word.

Psa. 103:21, “Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, you ministers of His, who do His pleasure.

Psa. 103:22, “Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!”

What Are the Benefits/Blessings of God?

Psa. 103:3,

**“Who forgives all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases,”**

1. He forgives our iniquities.

Psa. 103:10, “He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities.

Psa. 103:11, “For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;

Psa. 103:12, “As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.” [NKJV]

Psa. 103:3,

**“Who forgives all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases,”**

2. He heals our diseases.

Psa. 103:18, “To such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them.”

Ex. 15:26, “and said, ‘If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you.’ ”

Psa. 103:4, “Who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,”

3. He redeems, i.e., rescues our life from “the pit (literally)” i.e., *sheol*, rescues us from the grave, death, or eternal punishment.

“Healing” from vs. 3, is expanded to the rescue from physical death or worse.

Psa. 103:4, “Who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,”

4. Crowns, with His faithful loyal love and gracious benefits.

The idea is that God is preparing them to rule and reign in His future kingdom.

Psa. 103:5, “Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”

5. He provides us with the spiritual nourishment we need to be strengthened to face the challenges of life.

God provides what we need spiritually and physically to accomplish His mission for our lives.

Examples of contemporary praise hymns based on Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O My Soul (Psa. 103)

Andre Crouch version

**Bless the Lord, O My soul, and all that is within me, praise
His holy name.**

**Bless the Lord, O My soul, and all that is within me, praise
His holy name.**

He has done great things

He has done great things

He has done great things

Bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O My Soul (Psa. 103)

Myron Butler version

Bless the Lord

Oh my soul

And all that is within me (2×)

I will bless Your name (4×)

Bless the lord Oh my soul (4×)

For You are Holy (Holy)

Mighty (Mighty)

Righteous (Righteous)

Worthy (Worthy)

Bless the Lord

Oh my soul.

Bless the Lord, O My Soul (Psa 103)

Matt Redmond version

Bless the Lord, O my soul

O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before

O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord, O my soul

O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before

O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger

Your name is great, and Your heart is kind

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord, O my soul

O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before

O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing

The end draws near and my time has come

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord, O my soul

O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before

O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

Jesus, I'll worship Your holy name

Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

- 1. The lyrics reinforce and express sound biblical truth.**
- 2. The lyrics must follow the principles of superb poetry.**
- 3. The message of the music of previous generations connects us to others in the body of Christ who preceded us, prevents us from being overly impressed with the present generation, reminds us of our heritage, history, and doctrinal distinctives.**
- 4. Wonderful, beautiful music elevates our own appreciation for music.**

- 5. The timeless hymns help develop an atmosphere of majesty, splendor, and beauty to our worship.**
- 6. The enduring hymns deepen and enhance our spiritual lives.**
- 7. What we sing should elevate our thoughts toward God, His person, His work, His gracious provision for us, rather than elevate our emotions.**