

Redeemer C.S.I. Church Kansas Bible study

“Praise the Lord-Worship”

on 02/06/2025 (7 P.m. to 8 P.m.) Rev. SureshKumar Nelson

Praising the Lord is essential to Christian faith and worship because God is the sovereign provider of everything in the world—including blessings, challenges, and even our enemies. The Bible gives many reasons why we should continually praise Him.

1. God is Worthy of Praise Because He Created and Sustains Everything

- Revelation 4:11 – “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”
- God is the Creator and sustainer of the universe. Everything in existence—both good and bad—is under His authority.

2. God Provides Both Good Times and Challenges for His Purpose

- Ecclesiastes 7:14 – “When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider this: God has made the one as well as the other. Therefore, no one can discover anything about their future.”
- Life’s ups and downs are in God’s hands, and He uses both to teach, refine, and guide us.

3. God is in Control Even Over Our Enemies

- Exodus 14:14 – “The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”
- Proverbs 16:7 – “When the Lord takes pleasure in anyone’s way, He causes their enemies to make peace with them.”
- Even our enemies are part of God’s plan. He allows opposition to shape our character, test our faith, and ultimately bring victory through His power.

A. God Allows Enemies for His Purpose

- Proverbs 16:7 – “When the Lord takes pleasure in anyone’s way, He causes their enemies to make peace with them.”
- Exodus 9:16 – “But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.”
- Sometimes, God allows enemies to exist to demonstrate His power and glory.

B. God Fights for His People Against Their Enemies

- Exodus 14:14 – “The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”
- Deuteronomy 28:7 – “The Lord will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.”
- God is the protector of His people and ensures that enemies do not prevail.

C. Enemies Can Be Used to Strengthen Us

- Psalm 23:5 – “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.”
- Romans 8:28 – “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”
- Even in the presence of enemies, God blesses and elevates His people.

D. We Must Love and Pray for Our Enemies

- Matthew 5:44 – “But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”
- Romans 12:20 – “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.”
- Jesus teaches us to respond to enemies with love, trusting God for justice.

E. God Brings Justice Against Wicked Enemies

- Psalm 37:1-2 – “Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.”
- Nahum 1:2 – “The Lord is a jealous and avenging God; the Lord takes vengeance and is filled with wrath. The Lord takes vengeance on his foes and vents his wrath against his enemies.”
- God ensures that evil does not go unpunished.

Enemies are part of the world, but God is sovereign over them. He uses them for His purposes, protects His people, strengthens them through trials, and ultimately brings justice. As believers, we are called to trust in God’s plan, respond with love, and praise Him in all circumstances.

4. Praise Glorifies God and Acknowledges His Sovereignty

- Psalm 50:23 – “Whoever offers praise glorifies Me, and to him who orders his conduct aright I will show the salvation of God.”
- Praising God acknowledges that He controls every aspect of our lives.

5. Praise Draws Us Closer to God

- Psalm 22:3 – “But You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel.”
- When we praise, we invite God’s presence into our lives, strengthening our relationship with Him.

6. Praise Strengthens Our Faith During Trials

- Job 1:21 – “The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.”
- Habakkuk 3:17-18 – “Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines... yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.”
- Even in hardships, we praise God because He is in control and has a greater purpose.

7. Praise Leads to Victory Over Enemies and Challenges

- 2 Chronicles 20:22 – “As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated.”
- Praise is a powerful weapon against the enemy, bringing divine intervention and victory.

8. Praise Brings Peace and Joy Amid Struggles

- Isaiah 61:3 – “To bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.”
- When we praise God, He replaces our sorrow with His joy and peace, even in difficult times.

9. Praise is an Expression of Gratitude for All That God Provides

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 – “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
- Whether in blessings or hardships, we must praise God, knowing He provides what is best for us.

10. Praise is an Eternal Duty Because God Reigns Over All

- Psalm 146:2 – “I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.”
- God’s rule is eternal, and He remains in control of all things forever. We should continually praise the Lord because He is the provider of everything—both blessings and trials. He allows challenges, controls our enemies, and uses all circumstances for His divine purpose. Whether in joy or struggle, praise acknowledges His sovereignty, brings us closer to Him, strengthens our faith, and leads to ultimate victory. Let us always praise God, knowing He is in control of everything in the world!