

## Our Forever King

“Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.”

**Psalm 146:1-2**

Tony Merida writes,

“The psalm begins literally, ‘Praise Yah,’ a word in Hebrew that uses a shortened form of the Lord’s divine name (Yahweh). It is pronounced hallelujah. The psalmist vows to praise the Lord ‘all [his] life’ and ‘as long as [he lives].’ **‘Lord’ appears 11 times in this psalm** (counting the occurrences in the word ‘Hallelujah’), and **‘God’ appears four times**—a total of 15 references to God in 10 verses. **A joyful life will be a theocentric life, a God-centered, God-focused, God-intoxicated life.”** (Tony Merida)

### I. A Word of Commitment - Psalm 146:1-2

“Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.”

**Psalm 146:1-2**

- Praise is a Decisive Choice of Focus

“All the powers of the soul must be stirred up; the mind, to meditate; the memory, to bring forth former observations; the heart and affections, for discharging the duty of praise in the best manner.” **David Dickson**

“For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.” **Romans 8:5**

- Praise is a Chosen Way of Life

“About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.”

**Acts 16:24**

“Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.”

**Hebrews 13:15**

## II. A Word of Caution - Psalm 146:3-4

“Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that day his plans perish.”

**Psalm 146:3-4**

“Sadly, many put more hope in Capitol Hill than Calvary’s hill! They put more hope in a government than they do in God!” **Tony Merida**

“Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

‘Never will I leave you;  
never will I forsake you.’”

**Hebrews 13:5**

## III. A Word of Comfort - Psalm 146:5-9

“Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God...” **Psalm 146:5**

The God of Jacob: “Behold, I am with you and will keep you where you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

**Genesis 28:15**

- **The Lord is the Creator King** - “who made the heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.”
- **The Lord is the Covenant-keeping King** - “who keeps faith forever.”
- **The Lord is the Compassion-showing King**- “who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.”

“Jesus said to the, ‘I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.’” **John 6:35**

- **The Lord is the Captive-freeing King** - “The Lord sets the prisoners free;”
- **The Lord is the Sight-restoring King** - “The Lord opens the eyes of the blind.”
- **The Lord is the Hope-restoring King** - “The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.”

“Remember my affliction and my wanderings,  
the wormwood and the gall!

My soul continually remembers it  
**and is bowed down within** me.

But this I call to mind,  
and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.”

### **Lamentations 3:19-23**

- **The Lord is the Righteous-loving King** - “The Lord loves the righteous.”
- **The Lord is vulnerable-sheltering King**  
“The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.”

Yahweh is never absent. Yahweh is never neglectful. Yahweh isn't blind or unjust. He is patient. He is present and He works things according to His perfect wisdom and love for the good of His people.

## **IV. A Word of Confidence**

“The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!”

### **Psalm 146:10**

“For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to our God, that is, the fruit of lips that praise His name.”

### **Hebrews 13:14-15**

### **1 Peter 1:3-9**

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold

that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”