

PSALM 135

This psalm has no title heading and mainly consists of selections from other psalms, and so it may be referred to as a mosaic. Maclaren says, "The flowers are arranged in a new bouquet, because the poet had long delighted in their fragrance."

- 1 Praise YAHWEH! Praise the name of YAHWEH; praise *Him*, O servants of YAHWEH,
- 2 you who stand in the house of YAHWEH, in the courts of the house of our God!
- 3 Praise YAHWEH, for YAHWEH is good; sing praises to His name, for it is lovely.
- 4 For YAHWEH has chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His own possession.

- 5 For I know that YAHWEH is great and that our Lord is above all gods.
- 6 Whatever YAHWEH pleases, He does, in heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps.
- 7 He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth;
who makes lightnings for the rain, who brings forth the wind from His treasures.

- 8 He smote the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and beast.
- 9 He sent signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt, upon Pharaoh and all his servants.
- 10 He smote many nations and slew mighty kings,
- 11 Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan;
- 12 and He gave their land as a heritage, a heritage to Israel His people.
- 13 Your name, O YAHWEH, is everlasting,
Your remembrance, O YAHWEH, throughout all generations.
- 14 For YAHWEH will judge His people and will have compassion on His servants.
- 15 The idols of the nations are *but* silver and gold, the work of man's hands.
- 16 They have mouths, but they do not speak; they have eyes, but they do not see;
- 17 They have ears, but they do not hear, nor is there any breath at all in their mouths.
- 18 Those who make them will be like them, *yes*, everyone who trusts in them.

- 19 O house of Israel, bless YAHWEH; O house of Aaron, bless YAHWEH;
- 20 O house of Levi, bless YAHWEH; you who revere YAHWEH, bless YAHWEH.
- 21 Blessed be YAHWEH from Zion, who dwells in Jerusalem. Praise YAHWEH!

PRAYER

Almighty Yahweh, you who are above all gods in mighty power, you raise up one man and put down another. It was clearly demonstrated to all the nations of old that you chose Jacob for yourself and Israel for your own possession. Keep them, we pray, as the apple of your eye. And accept our gratitude that you have chosen us also to be your own. May we, who are yours by adoption, bend our knees in humble love and gratitude for your mercy and grace, through Christ our Lord. Amen.