

Let Everything Praise The Lord

Psalm 103

Simply titled “a psalm of David” doesn’t mean that it was written by David. This hymn is one of the greatest praise psalms in the entire collection. The first section (verses 1-5), finds the psalmist expressing his intention to praise God for all “his **benefits**” (verse 2). Then with five verbs he identifies specifically these benefits: “who **forgives** ... who **heals**” (verse 3), “who **redeems** ... who **crowns**” (verse 4), “who **satisfies**” (verse 5). All of these actions speak of spiritual blessings, though physical benefits may be included. The next section (verses 6-19), which speaks of **God’s character**, contains an inventory of the generous attributes of God: “**compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love**” (verse 8). These are illustrated in an attempt to express their vastness: the greatness of His **mercy** (“*as far as the east is from the west*”; verse 12), and the greatness of His **compassion** (“*as a father compassion on his children*”; verse 13). Finally, in the conclusion the psalmist returns to the call that he gave himself at the beginning, but this time he expands it to include all created beings and works (verses 20-22).

1. **Personal Praise** (Psalm 103:1-5)

a) What are five benefits that David expresses of God’s mercy and grace?

➡ _____	➡ _____
➡ _____	➡ _____
➡ _____	

b) What would be your story of verse 4?

2. **Praise About Others** (Psalm 103:6-9)

a) What does God do for the oppressed?

b) What did God do for Moses and the people of Israel?

c) List the six attributes of God in verses 8 & 9.

➡ _____	➡ _____
➡ _____	➡ _____
➡ _____	➡ _____

3. **Praise With Others** (Psalm 103:9-18)

Parallel with Psalm 139:7-12

- a) How would you summarize verses 10-12 in your own words?
- b) As related to the family structure, what is God's continuing relationship to us? (verses 13-18)
- c) What are some responsibilities of a father?
- d) What is our part of the relationship in His family? (verse 13)
- e) What are the children's role in a family?

4. **Praise To The Lord Of Heaven and Earth {Universe}** (Psalm 103:19-22)

- a) What does this section say about God's Lordship?
- b) How does this section compare to Philippians 2:9-11?

Read Hebrews 13:15-16