

## A Call to Worship

Psalms 117:1-2

### 1. The Call To Worship (Ps. 117:1)

Praising God is, in many ways, boasting about Him and proclaiming aloud His excellent characteristics and deeds (cf. Jer. 9:23-24). Giving glory to His name, for the one who knows Him and trusts Him, is the genuine response of a person who both seeks and finds gladness and security in Him (Ps. 105:3). Praising God can be a jubilant and seemingly involuntary reaction to those good things which God has done (cf. Ezra 3:10-11). It has always been the Lord's desire that people from all corners of the world and from every culture would join in praising Him.

### 2. The Cause for Worship (Ps. 117:2a)

The lovingkindness of God is perhaps one of the most common ways that God's goodness is described in the Old Testament. It is the engine which drives the abundant praise of the Lord for His good and kind actions toward His people (Ps. 118:1-4; 136:1-26). God's lovingkindness is the potent reality through which the Psalmist sees God's dealings with the nation. His truth is everlasting and will not fail. Truth is not a concept, a reality, about which we can afford to vacillate. We must be firmly grounded in the concept and the content of what truth is. It was the Lord Jesus who prayed and asked His Father to make us holy in the truth of His Word (John 17:17).

### 3. The Cry of Worship (Ps. 117:2b)

The Psalm ends with an application of what the Psalmist called us to do! It is in this way that the final Psalm begins and ends as it calls for exuberantly lifting up the name and majesty of God (Ps. 150:1-6). This unity and peace begins with a selfless attitude, a self-denial in view of the good of others which follows Christ's own example (cf. Rom. 15:1-4) and it is fostered and built up in the corporate worship of the Lord (cf. Rom 15:11). The more that we are truly focussed on worshipping God in spirit and in truth, the more that the result will be peace and unity among the brethren.