

Psalms 150: An Interpretive Translation

Praise God in the depths of the universe; praise God in the human heart.
Praise God's power and beauty, for God's all-feeling, fathomless love.
Praise God with drums and trumpets, with string quartets and guitars.
Praise God in market and workplace, with computer, with hammer and nails.
Praise God in bedroom and kitchen; praise God with pots and pans.
Praise God in the temple of the present; let every breath be God's praise.

—STEPHEN MITCHELL

HALLELUYAH! Praise God.

Praise God in the sanctuary.
Praise God in the heavens, the seat of God's power.
Praise God at the triumph of the Divine.
Praise God in accord with the greatness of God.
Praise God with the call of the shofar.
Praise God with the harp and the lyre.
Praise God with timbrel and dance.
Praise God with flute and strings.
Praise God with crashing cymbals.
Praise God with rousing cymbals.
▶ Let every breath be praise of God; *halleluyah*, praise God.
Let every breath be praise of God; praise God, *halleluyah!*
Hal'lu yah.
Hal'lu El b'kodsho, hal'luhu birkia uzo.
Hal'luhu vi-g'vurotav, hal'luhu k'rov gadlo.
Hal'luhu b'teika shofar, hal'luhu b'nevel v'k'hinor.
Hal'luhu b'tof u-mahol, hal'luhu b'minim v'ugav.
Hal'luhu v'tziltz'lei shama, hal'luhu b'tziltz'lei t'ruah.
Kol ha-n'shamah t'hallel yah, hal'luyah.
Kol ha-n'shamah t'hallel yah, hal'luyah.

Psalms 150

CONCLUSION OF THE SELECTION OF PSALMS

Bless ADONAI, always, amen and amen.
From Zion, bless ADONAI who dwells in Jerusalem; praise God, *halleluyah*.
Bless ADONAI, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
▶ Blessed be God's glorious name, always; and may God's glory encompass the entire world. Amen and amen.

Some congregations continue with Nishmat, page 145.

הַלְלוּיָהּ,
הַלְלוּ אֵל בְּקֹדֶשׁוֹ, הַלְלוּהוּ בְּרִקְיעַ עֵזוֹ.
הַלְלוּהוּ בַּגְּבוּרֹתָיו, הַלְלוּהוּ בְּרַב גְּדֻלוֹ.
הַלְלוּהוּ בְּתִקְוַת שׁוֹפָר, הַלְלוּהוּ בַּנְּגִינָה וּכְבוֹדוֹ.
הַלְלוּהוּ בְּתוֹף וּמַחֹל, הַלְלוּהוּ בַּמִּינִים וְעִגְבֵי.
הַלְלוּהוּ בְּצִלְצְלֵי שֹׁמַע, הַלְלוּהוּ בְּצִלְצְלֵי תְרוּעָה.
כָּל הַנְּשָׁמָה תְהַלֵּל יְהוָה, הַלְלוּיָהּ.
כָּל הַנְּשָׁמָה תְהַלֵּל יְהוָה, הַלְלוּיָהּ.

ההלים קנ

בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה לְעוֹלָם, אָמֵן וְאָמֵן.
בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה מְצִיּוֹן, שָׁכֵן יְרוּשָׁלַיִם, הַלְלוּיָהּ.
בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵים אֱמֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, עֲשֵׂה נִפְלְאוֹת לְבָדוֹ.
וּבְרִוּי שֵׁם כְבוֹדוֹ לְעוֹלָם,
וְיִמְלֹא כְבוֹדוֹ אֶתְכֶם הָאָרֶץ,
אָמֵן וְאָמֵן.

Some congregations continue with נִשְׁמַת, page 145.

PSALM 150. This psalm brings the Book of Psalms to an exultant close. The Book of Psalms begins with the praise of the single righteous individual, "Blessed is the one who does not walk in the way of the wicked" (Psalm 1:1), and concludes with every living being praising God.

BLESS ADONAI, ALWAYS בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה לְעוֹלָם. The Book of Psalms is composed of five smaller "books"; each of the first four conclude with a blessing. Two of those blessings, Psalms 89:53 and 72:18–19, are quoted here, to conclude the morning recitation of the Davidic psalms. Between these two, another verse (Psalm 135:21) is added, specifying that Adonai is the God of Israel—much like a letter's address on an envelope. The selected verses all begin with the word *barukh*, "blessed." Thus, just as we began P'sukei D'zimra with a multiple repetition of "blessed" in Barukh She-amar (page 122), so too, here, we repeat that word with multiple verses. The oldest versions of P'sukei D'zimra ended here, and so the opening and closing verses of this paragraph form a conclusion by repeating the affirmative response, "Amen."