IV. Praising God for His Faithfulness

Five Poems of Praise: Psalms 146-150

The Psalms are divided into five books, and the fifth book (107-150) ends with five psalms praising God for his faithfulness. Each of these five psalms begin and end with Hallelu-Yah, a command that means "Praise Yahweh." Thus, these are called the Hallelujah Psalms.

**I. Praise God Who Is Our Hope (Trust God, Not Human Rulers)**

**(Psalm 146)**

A. The Call for Lifelong Praise of the Lord (1-2)

B. The Folly of Trusting Political Leaders (3-5)

C. The Wisdom of Trusting the God (6-9)

D. Praise the Lord Who Reigns Forever (10)

**II. Praise God for His Activity in the World (Psalm 147)**

A. Praise God for His Liberating Power (147:1-6)

B. Praise God for His Creative and Sustaining Power (147:7-11)

C. Praise God for His Revelatory Power (147:12-20)

**III. Praise God Who Created Heaven and Earth (Psalm 148)**

A. Praise the Lord from the Heavens (148:1-6)

B. Praise the Lord from the Land (148:7-14)

**IV. Praise God for His Salvation (Psalm 149)**

A. A Call to Praise (1-5)

B. A Call to Action (6-9)

**V. Let Everything That Has Breath Praise the Lord (Psalm 150)**

The conclusion of the five Hallelujah Psalms, and of Book V, is an extravagant summons to mobilize all creation in unreserved praise to the Lord. Through all the pain, agony, and humiliation, the people of God have cried out to God in lament, but the movement of the Psalms, as should be the progression in our lives, is toward praise. This is the hope of Israel. This is the hope of the church in America. This is the hope of all creation! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!