

Psalm 145 (NIV)

1 I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. 2 Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. 3 Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. 4 One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. 5 They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. 6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds. 7 They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. 8 The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. 9 The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. 10 All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you. 11 They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, 12 so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. 14 The LORD upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. 16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. 17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made. 18 The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. 19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. 20 The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. 21 My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

One of my favorite hymns is *The Church's One Foundation*. Verse three of that hymn as it is found in *Christian Worship* begins with the phrase, "The church shall never perish..." What a great comfort it is to know that the Holy Christian Church, the invisible church that contains all believers, will never be overcome by the devil. That is why this Psalm is so fitting for the member of the Holy Christian Church. Every day, the members of the Church proclaim God's greatness. No one can completely fathom God's greatness, but through the power of the Spirit, we try to grasp it and express it in our praise. And this praise will go on as long as the world exists.

Each successive generation of believers will share the greatness of God with those around them. The Church will continue to grow and increase as the Church preaches the Gospel, the good news about Jesus Christ. That's exactly what David is doing here, 1000 years before Christ is born. Christ was David's King! Through inspiration, David knew that one of his descendants would be the Messiah. That's why he is able to say in Psalm 110, The Lord (God the Father) says to my Lord (Jesus Christ). David can't help but proclaim the greatness of the Messiah and how his deeds will provide for all people.

Glorious splendor, majesty, power, awesome works, abundant goodness, righteousness; all these words accurately describe our Savior Jesus! David was able to see in the future how the Messiah would do great things. David was able to see how the Messiah would provide salvation. And Jesus did just that. As you go through these verses, you can't help but match each phrase with the life of Jesus. Even today, these prophecies continue to be fulfilled by the Church and in the life of the Church. God certainly does provide for his chosen people today as he always has.

Dear Christian, may David's praise fill our hearts and mouths as we witness the great providence of the Lord. As we inch ever closer to Holy Week, may our eyes be fixed on our Savior's goodness and righteousness. May we watch with eager anticipation as he fulfills all things for all people as he hears our cries of mercy and saves us!