

“HALLELUJAH”  
Psalm 150  
Pastor Keith E. Gephart

INTRODUCTION

The doxology of the Psalter—cf. doxologies at end of previous 4 books of Psalter:  
(41:13; 72:18-19; 89:52; 106:48)

This psalm also presents us with the **final result of the devout life**, and the **certain end** of the individual and the world!

Possibly the instruments named here were actually played during this psalm.

I. THE WHERE OF PRAISE (V. 1)

A. On the Earth—Tabernacle

[Unless the parallelism in the psalm is synonymous.

Not “in His holiness.”—doesn’t modify “God”, but “praise,” as the 2<sup>nd</sup> line shows.]

B. In Heaven—“Firmament of His power”—i.e. “mighty expanse.”

Angelic hosts (or even the stars)

Cf. Ps. 103:20

Notice the names here: Yahweh and El; and “firmament of His “el”—strong one.

II. THE WHY OF PRAISE (v. 2)

A. For What He has Done

“For His mighty acts.”

B. For What He Is

“According to His excellent greatness” [Lit. For the muchness of His greatness.]

III. THE HOW OF PRAISE (3-5)

**With everything you have!**

All instruments known to be used in Israel (but two) are mentioned here.

A. Trumpet—often used for solemn assemblies (cf. our church bells today)

B. Harp and lyre

C. Timbrel and dance (solemn dance)

Not the activity of the worshiper—both in playing the instrument and in the dance movements.

D. Strings and Pipe

E. Cymbals—both loud and resounding [not two kinds of cymbals]

The first word is “hearing”—i.e. a sound, and thus implied as “loud.”

“Resounding” refers to a joyful sound.  
Cymbals were used on occasions of unusual rejoicing.

Here we see the use of every kind of instrument—“solemn or gay, percussive or melodic, gentle or strident, is rallied here to the praise of God.” (Kidner, 401)

#### IV. THE WHO OF PRAISE (6)

A. Everything—“All breath”

“Vocal, articulate, and intelligent” praise seen here—more so than mere instruments. Compare Ps. 148:7-12)

Cf. Rev. 5:13

B. YOU

**HALLELUJAH!**