

Psalm 147:5

**GREAT
IS OUR LORD
AND MIGHTY IN POWER**

From Pastor's Desk...

GREAT AND MIGHTY GOD, WORTHY OF PRAISE

Psalm 147 begins and ends with the awesome expression, "Praise the Lord". Though the date is uncertain, this psalm is probably written after the Babylonian exile. When they returned to Jerusalem it was appropriate to have genuine worship and trust in God. Israel as people of God was privileged to behold God's greatness and mighty power throughout history despite their constant backsliding. We recognize God's grace and greatness through Jesus Christ who redeemed us to live for His glory. Great is our Lord and mighty in strength (Ps.147:5).

The Lord builds up Jerusalem. A study on Ezra and Nehemiah reveals the fact that God makes things possible when we have a passion and dedication in unity with a vision to serve

the eternal purpose. Whereas the book of Ezra deals with the temple and worship, Nehemiah deals with the walls and everyday life. We find the sorrow of Nehemiah upon the desolation of Jerusalem but his prayerful dependence upon the Lord is very evident to finish the walls in 52 days. It is significant to acknowledge the hand of the Lord upon us for incredible provision and protection in any work as Nehemiah did in re-building the walls (Neh. 2:8).

The Lord restores the exiles of Israel. God wants His people to be in His perfect will and purpose. Israelites were in exile on several occasions due to their own pride and stubbornness. God was compassionate upon their cry and restored them to Jerusalem. We come across several instances on their return to Jerusalem as a fulfilment of prophecy (Ezek. 37:21-22). As people of God, we need to remember the role of Jesus Christ in restoring

us to advance for God's purpose as an individual, family and a church.

The Lord heals the broken hearted and binds the wounds. Nehemiah not only found the broken walls but the broken lives upon his arrival to Jerusalem. He took an initiative that they assemble before the Water Gate. People listened attentively to Ezra as he read God's word (the book of the law of Moses) and their lives were changed. Reformation is not a closed chapter, it is an ongoing process to those who confess their sins and give right attention to the Word of God. The Lord heals us physically, emotionally and spiritually by sending His word in our life (Ps. 107:20). God knows us and sustains us for He is great and greatly to be praised.

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Measurement of God's Greatness and Mightiness

Br: Sunil Thomas

All religions and their followers proclaim the greatness of their respective gods. But it is essential to stop and analyze what the parameters that qualify their gods for donning the title of greatness are.

Greatness could be measured based on power to shower worldly blessings, destructive capabilities, and healing powers. All worldly gods seem to work on the present state of human beings, provide temporary relief and material blessings. But there is only one God who has genuine concern and cares for our past, present, and future. This very nature of Almighty God creates incomprehensibility for the human brain. The selfless love and care were exhibited on the cross by Jesus Christ. Starting with creation in

the book of Genesis and care of humans shows God's greatness while rescuing interventions in human lives during dire situations shows his mightiness.

Greatness cannot be measured by the amount of wealth or stature but in terms of service. The genuine concern and love for humans for its existence and even beyond this earthly life sets our God apart. Our Almighty God's love towards human beings is uncompromised to the standards set in the word of God. Psalms 145:3 says, "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable." Human negativity, illogical logic, and unfaithfulness do not impede, exhibiting God's greatness. The inability to understand God's greatness to its fullest may seem to create a void in understanding God completely. Therefore, to overcome this human limitation, the Bible

demands trust, hope, and unquestioning faith in God for Him to work.

The revelation of the past, present, and future to Moses enabled him to believe God and His powers. Knowing God's plans kept Moses on task to lead the Israelites. But the same intensity of trust and faith lacked among the followers. Their eyes were fixed on the human nature of Moses, and not on the greatness of God, who called them out of bondage.

When one understands the greatness and mightiness of God, the problems we face will be of minuscule. Once the revelation of His greatness is reconnoitered, our gratefulness, praise, and worship will be moved to a higher level. May we all say and meditate daily on the word Jehovah "El Shaddai" – God is our all-powerful and all-sufficient sustainer. This will

help us take up our daily struggles and overcome them effectively.

The Transcendent God.

Br Delvin Cherian

“Great is our LORD and mighty in power.”
There are many reasons why God is such an awe-inspiring figure.

First of all, God is infinite. He has no beginning or end, he is the same yesterday, today, and forever, he is the alpha and the omega. We use phrases like this all the time without ever thinking of what it truly means. If he has no beginning nor end, he must be above time, meaning he is not limited by the concept of time. He does not age, he is everlasting. He is an absolute being, an entity who is not derived from anything. He is omnipresent, which means that space and

time do not define nor restrict him in anyway shape or form, especially as he brought those into being. He has no limits. He has no boundaries, there is nowhere we can go to hide from him (Psalm 139:7-12).

God cannot change, because He is perfect. You cannot improve upon perfection or even modify it. Because of this, God does not change his mind, will, plans, or actions. He is always faithful, and he is always the same. God is also a Person. He is often seen as an inanimate object, (a star, an image) or as an animate being (a creature) who people worship. He is not an object to be manipulated. He is not someone to be used, or someone that solves our problems and meets our needs.

The Bible reveals him to be a person who has a name and deserves to be respected. He communicates and relates with people. For

example, both Adam and Eve had a relationship with him before the fall. We adore Him for who he is, not for what he does, and not for what he can do for us. That is who our God is.
