

Hallel, (Hebrew: “Praise”), Jewish liturgical [designation](#) for **Psalms 113–118** (“**Egyptian Hallel**” [i.e., **Psalms reflecting on God’s redemption of Israel from Egypt**]) as read in synagogues on festive occasions. **In ancient times Jews recited these hymns on the three [Pilgrim Festivals](#)**, when they offered their required sacrifices in the [Temple of Jerusalem](#). The Psalms expressed faith in, and gratitude for, Divine Providence.

Though a [benediction](#) usually precedes and follows recitation of the Psalms, the preceding benediction is omitted on the eve of [Passover](#) (Pesah). The [Talmud](#) stipulates that a reading from the [Book of Esther](#) should replace the Hallel on [Purim](#).

In time, the term Hallel came to mean the “**Great Hallel,**” [*Hallel HaGadol* or “**Great Praise,**” to differentiate it from the Egyptian Hallel] **Psalm 136¹**, which is used in the **morning service on the [Sabbath](#), festivals, and during the Passover seder**. The “half-Hallel” (parts of Psalms 115 and 116 are omitted) is used on the last six days of Passover and on the [New Moon](#).

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Hallel>

Pilgrim festivals – *Shalosh Regalim* (three...feet) – obligatory pilgrimages to Jerusalem (for men) -offer sacrifices, bring offerings of produce, in synagogues liturgy the “Hallel” Psalms (113-118, 136) are read on these festivals and prayers recited relative to the festival.

Spring

Pesach (Passover) (**barley harvest**)
Song of Solomon is read

Shavuot (Pentecost) (**wheat harvest**) – 49 days after *Pesach*
Book of Ruth is read

Autumn

Sukkot (Tabernacles, Tents, Booths) (**8th day: conclusion of fruit harvest**)
Ecclesiastes is read

¹ Talmudic opinions vary: Ps 135-136 or 134-136.

Psalm 113² (NASB95)

The LORD Exalts the Humble.

113 ^aPraise ^bthe LORD!

Praise, O servants of the LORD,

Praise the name of the LORD.

² Blessed be the name of the LORD

From this time forth and forever.

³ From the rising of the sun to its setting

The name of the LORD is to be praised.

⁴ The LORD is high above all nations;

His glory is above the heavens.

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,

Who is enthroned on high,

⁶ Who ^chumbles Himself to behold

The things that are in heaven and in the earth?

⁷ He raises the poor from the dust

And lifts the needy from the ash heap,

⁸ To make *them* sit with ^dprinces,

With the ^eprinces of His people.

⁹ He makes the barren woman abide in the house

As a joyful mother of children.

^f Praise ^gthe LORD!

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 113:1](#) Or *Hallelujah! Praise*
- b. [Psalm 113:1](#) Heb *YAH*
- c. [Psalm 113:6](#) Or *looks far below in the heavens and on the earth?*
- d. [Psalm 113:8](#) Or *nobles*
- e. [Psalm 113:8](#) Or *nobles*
- f. [Psalm 113:9](#) Or *Hallelujah!*
- g. [Psalm 113:9](#) Heb *YAH*

² Psalm 113 and 114 are the first portion of the Hallel in the Passover seder; 115-118 are the second portion, leading to the Great Hallel (136).

Psalm 114 (NASB95)

God's Deliverance of Israel from Egypt.

114 When Israel went forth from Egypt,
The house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
² Judah became His sanctuary,
Israel, His dominion.
³ The sea looked and fled;
The Jordan turned back.
⁴ The mountains skipped like rams,
The hills, like lambs.
⁵ What ails you, O sea, that you flee?
O Jordan, that you turn back?
⁶ O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?
⁷ Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,
Before the God of Jacob,
⁸ Who turned the rock into a pool of water,
The flint into a fountain of water.

Psalm 115 (NASB95)

Heathen Idols Contrasted with the LORD.

115 Not to us, O LORD, not to us,
But to Your name give glory
Because of Your lovingkindness, because of Your ^{1a}truth.
² Why should the nations say,
"Where, now, is their God?"
³ But our God is in the heavens;
He does whatever He pleases.
⁴ Their idols are silver and gold,

The work of man's hands.

⁵ They have mouths, but they cannot speak;

They have eyes, but they cannot see;

⁶ They have ears, but they cannot hear;

They have noses, but they cannot smell;

⁷ [Ⓛ]They have hands, but they cannot feel;

[Ⓛ]They have feet, but they cannot walk;

They cannot make a sound with their throat.

⁸ Those who make them [Ⓛ]will become like them,

Everyone who trusts in them.

⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD;

He is their help and their shield.

¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD;

He is their help and their shield.

¹¹ You who [Ⓛ]fear the LORD, trust in the LORD;

He is their help and their shield.

¹² The LORD has been mindful of us; He will bless *us*;

He will bless the house of Israel;

He will bless the house of Aaron.

¹³ He will bless those who [Ⓛ]fear the LORD,

The small together with the great.

¹⁴ May the LORD give you increase,

You and your children.

¹⁵ May you be blessed of the LORD,

Maker of heaven and earth.

¹⁶ The heavens are the heavens of the LORD,

But the earth He has given to the sons of men.

¹⁷ The dead do not praise [Ⓛ]the LORD,

Nor *do* any who go down into silence;

¹⁸ But as for us, we will bless [Ⓛ]the LORD

From this time forth and forever.

☩Praise ☩the LORD!

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 115:1](#) Or *faithfulness*
- b. [Psalm 115:7](#) Lit *Their hands*
- c. [Psalm 115:7](#) Lit *Their feet*
- d. [Psalm 115:8](#) Or *are like them*
- e. [Psalm 115:11](#) Or *revere*
- f. [Psalm 115:13](#) Or *revere*
- g. [Psalm 115:17](#) Heb *YAH*
- h. [Psalm 115:18](#) Heb *YAH*
- i. [Psalm 115:18](#) Or *Hallelujah!*
- j. [Psalm 115:18](#) Heb *YAH*

Psalm 116 (NASB95)

Thanksgiving for Deliverance from Death.

116 I love the LORD, because He hears
My voice *and* my supplications.

² Because He has inclined His ear to me,
Therefore I shall call *upon Him* as long as I live.

³ The cords of death encompassed me
And the ☩terrors of ☩Sheol ☩came upon me;
I found distress and sorrow.

⁴ Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I beseech You, ☩save my life!”

⁵ Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
Yes, our God is compassionate.

⁶ The LORD preserves the simple;
I was brought low, and He saved me.

⁷ Return to your rest, O my soul,
For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

⁸ For You have rescued my soul from death,
My eyes from tears,
My feet from stumbling.

⁹ I shall walk before the LORD

In the ^aland of the living.

¹⁰ I believed when I said,

“I am greatly afflicted.”

¹¹ I said in my alarm,

“All men are liars.”

¹² What shall I render to the LORD

For all His benefits ^btoward me?

¹³ I shall lift up the cup of salvation

And call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁴ I shall pay my vows to the LORD,

Oh *may it be* in the presence of all His people.

¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD

Is the death of His godly ones.

¹⁶ O LORD, ^csurely I am Your servant,

I am Your servant, the son of Your handmaid,

You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ To You I shall offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving,

And call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁸ I shall pay my vows to the LORD,

Oh *may it be* in the presence of all His people,

¹⁹ In the courts of the LORD’S house,

In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

^dPraise ^ethe LORD!

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 116:3](#) Lit *straits*
- b. [Psalm 116:3](#) I.e. the nether world
- c. [Psalm 116:3](#) Lit *found me*
- d. [Psalm 116:4](#) Or *deliver my soul*
- e. [Psalm 116:9](#) Lit *lands*
- f. [Psalm 116:12](#) Lit *upon*
- g. [Psalm 116:16](#) Or *because*
- h. [Psalm 116:19](#) Or *Hallelujah!*
- i. [Psalm 116:19](#) Heb *YAH*

Psalm 117 (NASB95)

A Psalm of Praise.

117 Praise the LORD, all nations;

Laud Him, all peoples!

² For His lovingkindness ^{is} great toward us,

And the ^{truth} of the LORD is everlasting.

^{Praise} ^{the} LORD!

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 117:2](#) Lit *prevails over us*
- b. [Psalm 117:2](#) Or *faithfulness*
- c. [Psalm 117:2](#) Or *Hallelujah!*
- d. [Psalm 117:2](#) Heb *YAH*

Psalm 118 (NASB95)

Thanksgiving for the LORD's Saving Goodness.

118 Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

² Oh let Israel say,

"His lovingkindness is everlasting."

³ Oh let the house of Aaron say,

"His lovingkindness is everlasting."

⁴ Oh let those who ^{fear} the LORD say,

"His lovingkindness is everlasting."

⁵ From *my* distress I called upon ^{the} LORD;

^{The} LORD answered me *and set me* in a large place.

⁶ The LORD is for me; I will not fear;

What can man do to me?

⁷ The LORD is for me among those who help me;

Therefore I will look *with satisfaction* on those who hate me.

⁸ It is better to take refuge in the LORD

Than to trust in man.

⁹ It is better to take refuge in the LORD

Than to trust in princes.

¹⁰ All nations surrounded me;

In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.

¹¹ They surrounded me, yes, they surrounded me;

In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.

¹² They surrounded me like bees;

They were extinguished as a fire of thorns;

In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.

¹³ You pushed me violently so that I ^{was} falling,

But the LORD helped me.

¹⁴ ^{The} LORD is my strength and song,

And He has become my salvation.

¹⁵ The sound of joyful shouting and salvation is in the tents of the righteous;

The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is exalted;

The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

¹⁷ I will not die, but live,

And tell of the works of ^{the} LORD.

¹⁸ ^{The} LORD has disciplined me severely,

But He has not given me over to death.

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness;

I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to ^{the} LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;

The righteous will enter through it.

²¹ I shall give thanks to You, for You have answered me,

And You have become my salvation.

²² The stone which the builders rejected

Has become the chief corner *stone*.

²³ This is ^{the} LORD'S doing;

It is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day which the LORD has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ O LORD, do save, we beseech You;

O LORD, we beseech You, do send prosperity!

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;

We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ The LORD is God, and He has given us light;

Bind the festival sacrifice with cords ^{to} the horns of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I give thanks to You;

You are my God, I extol You.

²⁹ Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 118:4](#) Or *revere*
- b. [Psalm 118:5](#) Heb *YAH*
- c. [Psalm 118:5](#) Heb *YAH*
- d. [Psalm 118:13](#) Or *fell*
- e. [Psalm 118:14](#) Heb *YAH*
- f. [Psalm 118:17](#) Heb *YAH*
- g. [Psalm 118:18](#) Heb *YAH*
- h. [Psalm 118:19](#) Heb *YAH*
- i. [Psalm 118:23](#) Lit *from the LORD*
- j. [Psalm 118:27](#) Lit *unto*

"The Great Hallel" by Hayley Smith

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q4emSo17Fm4>

Dec 18, 2017

This song is the third in the Last Supper set, depicting Matthew 26:30, where Jesus and his disciples sang a hymn after celebrating the Passover. It is from the set of Psalms called the "Hallel" songs sung in the Jewish Passover feast. The Hebrew lyrics are from Psalm 118:1-4. Soloist- Rosie Quintana Tambourine- Daniel Emme Sung by MBI Composer's Choir, conducted by Hayley Smith @dcsager.productions

Psalm 136

New American Standard Bible 1995

Thanks for the LORD'S Goodness to Israel.

- 136** Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ² Give thanks to the God of gods,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ³ Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ⁴ To Him who alone does great wonders,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ⁵ To Him who made the heavens with skill,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ⁶ To Him who spread out the earth above the waters,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ⁷ To Him who made the great lights,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ⁸ The sun to rule by day,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ⁹ The moon and stars to rule by night,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹⁰ To Him who smote the Egyptians in their firstborn,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹¹ And brought Israel out from their midst,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹² With a strong hand and an outstretched arm,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹³ To Him who divided the Red Sea asunder,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹⁴ And made Israel pass through the midst of it,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹⁵ But He overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹⁶ To Him who led His people through the wilderness,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹⁷ To Him who smote great kings,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹⁸ And slew mighty kings,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

¹⁹ Sihon, king of the Amorites,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²⁰ And Og, king of Bashan,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²¹ And gave their land as a heritage,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²² Even a heritage to Israel His servant,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²³ Who remembered us in our low estate,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²⁴ And has rescued us from our adversaries,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²⁵ Who gives food to all flesh,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²⁶ Give thanks to the God of heaven,

For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 136:4](#) I.e. wonderful acts
- b. [Psalm 136:5](#) Lit *with understanding*
- c. [Psalm 136:8](#) Or *over the*
- d. [Psalm 136:9](#) Or *over the*
- e. [Psalm 136:10](#) Lit *Egypt*
- f. [Psalm 136:13](#) Lit *Sea of Reeds*
- g. [Psalm 136:13](#) Lit *in parts*
- h. [Psalm 136:15](#) Lit *shook off*
- i. [Psalm 136:15](#) Lit *Sea of Reeds*
- j. [Psalm 136:18](#) Lit *majestic*