



21 November 2025

How to be right all the time

Years ago I met a man in passing who had recently taken up his first pastorate after transitioning from a career in business. It was just a few minutes. He mentioned he was excited, but also challenged because there were some problems in the church. But, he said as he walked away, “It’s good to know that as the pastor you are right all the time!” I suspected, or at least hoped, he said that in light hearted humor.

It didn’t take long for each one of us, including pastors, to realize that we are not right all the time. We have a everbearing bumper crop of reminders!

Have you ever thought that it would be nice to be right all the time? what it would be like?

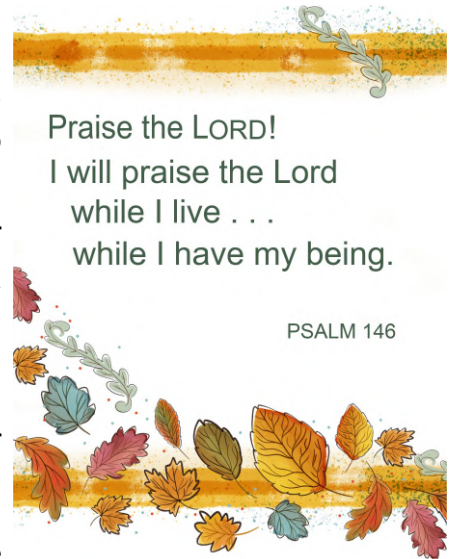
One thing is certain, whenever you praise God you are doing the right thing. You are right every time, you are always right when you praise God. The first verse of Psalm 147 tells us “it is good to sing praises to our God.”

Let’s survey an example and some lessons on this from the previous Psalm, Psalm 146. The Psalm opens,

“Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, my soul! I will praise the LORD while I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.”

In short, this Psalm tells us we are always right when we praise God because He deserves our praise.

- God deserves our praise because He is the great Creator. Verse 6 tells us God “made heavens and earth, the sea and everything that is in them.” So, praise God!
- Then, God deserves our praise because He does great things besides creation. Verse 7 gives us some examples. God executes justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry and frees prisoners. Verse 8 tells us He gives sight to the blind, raises up those who are bowed



down and loves the righteous. Verse 9 continues, God watches over strangers and supports the fatherless and widows. God does these great things and so much more, and so deserves our praise.

- As well, God deserves our praise because He will be faithful forever. The Psalm writer declares at the end of verse 6 that God “keeps faith forever.” Those are three beautiful words! God has been faithful, is being faithful, always will be faithful. Praise Him!
- Next, God deserves our praise because He rules forever. Verse 10, “The LORD will reign forever, your God, Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!” Even in distress, loss and persecution, God faithfully rules, and always will.
- One more reason for God deserving our praise is that He is the only one worthy of our total trust. Verse 3,

“Do not trust in noblemen, in mortal man, in whom there is no salvation. His spirit departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God” (3-5).

No matter how faithful, how trustworthy we are, not one of us is perfect, never disappoints, and so we are not worthy of others’ total trust. You are always right when you praise God because He, and only He is worthy of your total trust and praise.

This unknown writer is a good example of always praising God. Verse 2, “I will praise the LORD while I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.” His constant, overflowing praise was not just a future hope for heaven when he would be in God’s presence, nor just in the good times. It was a reality in each day and circumstance of his life. We don’t know his history, but his life certainly had a full spectrum of good and bad circumstances, of successes and failures just as we have.

Question: Are you following his example of praising God while you have your being, that is, in every day and circumstance, in your ups and downs, your successes and failures?

Remember, you are always right when you praise God!

Pastor Lyle