

## **Weekly Lesson Theme: God Deserves Our Thanks**

**Lesson Scriptures:** Psalm 65:1-13

**Key Lesson Theme:** "God Deserves Our Thanks"

**Today's Lesson:** Tuesday, November 21

**Podcast Version:** [Soundcloud](#), [iTunes](#), or [Spotify](#)

### **Psalm 65:1-4**

- 1 Praise is rightfully yours, God, in Zion; vows to you will be fulfilled.
- 2 All humanity will come to you, the one who hears prayer.
- 3 Iniquities overwhelm me; only you can atone for our rebellions.
- 4 How happy is the one you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We will be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple.

### **Commentary**

If the psalmist praised God as one who hears praises, that means prayers had been raised to Him and that those who prayed received a response. Therefore, this claim about God would be more than philosophical or even theological jargon. It was known to be true through practice and experience. God is not required to prove Himself to us, but we do come to know Him and how He acts by what He does. He is faithful to Himself and His word. In that we can find peaceful assurance.

The first thought that came to the poet's mind was that coming into the Lord's presence and experiencing His blessed goodness caused one to become aware of his or her own sinfulness. Iniquities overwhelm me. In seeing the true nature of God, the poet saw the truth about himself. The thought seems to be that all who come into God's presence, who recognize His goodness, come with confession (words) of their sins and transgressions. The confessor not only admitted his sin, but he also knew the stranglehold his sin had on him.

“It is not only the fact of the poet’s physical presence in the house of God and the material aspect of the cultic piety which creates the happiness of that hour, but even more the inward spiritual communion with God whose willingness to act graciously has become a certainty in the act of the forgiveness of sins.” We can be glad to go to church. We can be “gladder” to meet God while we are there.

### **What are a few lasting lessons that come from Psalm 65:1-4?**

- God is due our praise and thanksgiving.
- We can count on God to hear our earnest prayers.
- Left alone, our sins will overwhelm us.
- God in His sovereign grace forgives our sins and invites us into communion with Him.
- We are never more blessed and satisfied than in knowing our sins have been forgiven; thus, we are set free to serve the Lord.

Until tomorrow Saints...  
Every day is Sunday