

Treasure Hunt

- How are Psalms 135-136 different from, yet related to, the Psalms of the Steps?
- How is Psalm 137 different from, yet related to, the following set of Psalms?
- How are Psalms 135 and 136 alike and different?
- What three words for praise are used in these two Psalms, and what distinctive meanings do they have?
- What two ideas are associated in 135:4-5 and again in vv. 14-18?
- What is significant about this association?
- What practical lesson should we take from the refrain in Psalm 136?
- What lesson do we learn from the sequence of names for God in Psalm 136?
- Why is it appropriate for the Psalmist in 137 to wish such a terrible judgment on Babylon?

Structure of Book 5



<http://messianicfellowship.50webs.com/TR-epi-ish.jpg>

<p>107, Suffering, coming to the land: ידה, חסד</p>	<p>120-134, Ascents: Coming to the Temple 135-136 ברך, ידה, חסד hymns for the temple 137, Call for Judgment</p>
<p>108-110, Psalms of David</p>	<p>138-145, Psalms of David</p>
<p>111-112, Acrostic (111 Works of the Lord)</p>	<p>145, Acrostic (Works of the Lord)</p>
<p>111-117, Hallelu-Yah</p>	<p>146-150, Hallelu-Yah</p>
<p>118-119, Torah (Acrostic) and Messiah Pair</p>	

Context of Psalms 135-137

Psalms 120-134 (Steps)
 1. The Wicked
 2. Pilgrims returning to Jerusalem
 3. 134:1 Bless ye the Lord, all **ye servants of the Lord**, which by night stand in the **house of the Lord** ...

Exhortation
to Priests

Psalms 135-136
 1. Defeat of Egypt
 2. Conquest of the land
 3. 135:1 Praise ye the Lord, ... O **ye servants of the Lord**, 2 Ye that stand in the **house of the Lord**
 136 ... **praise** the Lord, for he is good, for his **mercy** endureth forever

Psalm 137
 1-6, God's people in affliction
 7, **Edom**
 8, **Imprecation**

Psalms 138-145 (David)
 140, 141, 143, 144 **Imprecation**
 145 **God's Kingdom**

Psalm 107 Return to the Land
 1. God's people in affliction
 2. Return to the land and city
 3. "Oh that men would **praise** the Lord for his **goodness** [mercy] ..." 8, 15, 21, 31

Psalm 108-110 (David)
 Rule in the Land
 108 **Edom**
 109 **Imprecation**
 110 **Royal Victory**

All
Three
Features

Affliction

Edom

Imprecation

Victory

Similarity of Psalms 135 (left) and 136 (right)

Imperative Call to Praise	1-3 [Praise ye the Lord]	1-3 [Give thanks unto the Lord, for his mercy endureth forever]
Indicative Cause for Praise	4 For the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, ...	
	5 For I know ... that our Lord is above all gods.	
	6-7 Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places. ...	4-9 [Creation of heaven and earth]
	8-9 Who smote the firstborn of Egypt , both of man and beast. ...	10-15 To him that smote Egypt in their firstborn : ...
		16 To him which led his people through the wilderness: ...
	10 Who smote great nations, and slew mighty kings; 11 Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan: 12 And gave their land for an heritage, an heritage unto Israel his people.	17 To him which smote great kings: ... 18 And slew famous kings: ... 19 Sihon king of the Amorites: ... 20 And Og the king of Bashan: ... 21 And gave their land for an heritage: ... 22 Even an heritage unto Israel his servant: ...
	13 Thy name, O LORD, endureth for ever; and thy memorial , O LORD, throughout all generations. 14 For the LORD will judge his people , and he will repent himself concerning his servants.	23 Who remembered us in our low estate: ... 24 And hath redeemed us from our enemies : ... 25 Who giveth food to all flesh: ...
	15-18 [Futility of idols]	
Imperative Call to Praise	19-21 [Bless the Lord; praise ye the Lord]	26 O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Structure of Psalm 135



14 For the LORD will judge his people, and he will repent himself concerning his servants.

Deu 32:36 For the LORD shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up, or left.

Psalm 135, Anthology of Praise

1-3, **Call to Praise:** “Praise”

4, **Care** for Israel

5, The Lord is **above all gods**

6-12, **Historical** Recollection

6-7, Creation

8-9, Judgment on Egypt

9-12, Conquest of the Land

13, God’s **Eternal** Name & Memorial

14, **Care** for Israel

15-18, Other gods are **lower than man**

19-21, **Call to Praise:** “Bless, Praise”

Verbs for Praising the Lord

Psalm 135:1-3, 21b

הלל, Strong 1984
Hallelu-yah, "Praise ye the Lord"
Praise in **general**



<http://clipart-library.com/clipart/1597243.htm>

ידה, Strong 3034
106:1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good
Praise for God's **intrinsic nature**

Psalm 136 (everywhere)

ברך, Strong 1288
103:2 Bless the LORD, ... and forget not all his benefits
Praise for God's **gifts to us**

Psalm 135:19-21a

Structure of Psalm 136

Psalm 136, Confessing God's Love

1-3, **Call to Praise:** LORD, God of Gods, Lord of Lords

4-22, **Historical** Recollection

4-9, Creation

10-15, Judgment on Egypt

16, Wilderness Wanderings

17-22, Conquest of the Land

23-25, God **Remembers** & **Cares** for his people & all flesh

26, **Call to Praise:** God of Heaven

Psalm 135, Anthology of Praise

1-3, **Call to Praise:** "Praise"

4, **Care** for Israel

5, The Lord is **above all gods**

6-12, **Historical** Recollection

6-7, Creation

8-9, Judgment on Egypt

9-12, Conquest of the Land

13, God's **Eternal** Name & Memorial

14, **Care** for Israel

15-18, Other gods are **lower than man**

19-21, **Call to Praise:** "Bless, Praise"