

State of the Church 2026

Our Great God!

Psalm 145:1-7, 17-21 ESV

Week 1 – Present Greatness! - Psalm 145:1-3 (February 1)

Call to Worship

Read (Stand as we Read)

Psalm 145:1-3 ESV

- 1 I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- 2 Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.

Pray

Gratitude

Father, thank You for Your ongoing kindness and generosity to prove Your greatness and remind Your people to Praise You as our Great God!

Petition

Great God, help us to grow in praising You and being thankful for Your great works. Cause us to praise Our Great God in Great Ways! Forgive us when we act entitled and self-sufficient. We need You! Everything we have comes from You!

Sermon

Series Graphic **SLIDE 1**

Opening Idea

We cherish the bible as a collection of accurate historical accounts, songs, teachings, and narratives revealing God and His glory. There are some fantastic accounts of God doing great things for His people, in His people, and through His people. One of those accounts details God's work to grow a family of 70 people to a population that is thought to exceed 2 million people. The journey from Egypt as slaves to take possession of the Promised Land as free peoples is a great account proving God's greatness and provision. He fulfilled His promise and provided the

Israelites with great things to establish them as a Nation and to prepare them to bring forth the Messiah to save the world from their sins.

How do we read that account? Does it cause something in us to stir and teach us of God's greatness? Let's look at a Psalm that is a wonderful passage that instructs us on how we are to see God and react to Him.

Read

Psalm 145:1-3 ESV **SLIDE 2**

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Series Graphic **SLIDE 3**

Notes on Psalm 145:1-3

This is a Psalm of praise to God sung and led by King David for the Israelites to sing to God. David composes this Psalm as a poem and a hymn declaring God's greatness, kindness, and provision. This writing serves to not only proclaim God's greatness, but to teach and guide future generations in praising God.

A Christological note: Ultimately, this is a poem and hymn authored by Jesus, the Word of God, praising God, Himself. Theologian Christopher Ash¹ writes that Jesus sings this song of praise to Himself as a true expression of praise and adoration. Jesus also gives David and believers the form and guidance to praise God effectively and appropriately. Jesus is the great director of singing God's praises, and He equips His people to sing God's praise.

A Declaration of God's Personhood (v. 1)

David begins this Psalm with a declaration to honor and revere God in an elevated way. Extol (in the ESV and NASB) is translated from the Hebrew word meaning to exalt (CSB) or to hold in high esteem and elevated. This is a state of high respect more than it is a literal elevated position, like on a pedestal. This is an active posture of the worshipper to think of and consider God, as best as they can, in highly honorable ways with great reverence. David attaches formal titles to the One he is extoling/exalting. David chooses to use the Hebrew word "Elohim" as the

¹ Ash, Christopher. *The Psalms: A Christ-Centered Commentary (Volume 4, Psalms 101–150)*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2024.

first title. This is a descriptive title that is plural in its reference to God. It was used by Moses to describe God as He created the universe and created man in His image. The pluralistic reference is to be understood by Christians as referencing the Trinitarian God, the three persons in One – God the Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit. God is the highest divine being who is highest in all of creation, while also being creation's origin and author. David also declares the one he extols as being King. While being the creator and author of all life and matter, the Lord is also the high ruling King over all things He created and has the authority to deal and interact with creation as He decides without anyone His equal to question or challenge Him. David declares that He will hold in highest esteem the great one who created and rules over all things created!

A Personal Response to God's Greatness (v. 2)

David continues in his declaration of praise to the Great God and King of creation by a public announcement of daily praise. Not only is the Lord to be highly revered, but David commits to praising The Lord's name daily and eternally. When David writes that he will bless and praise the Lord's name, he means that he will appropriately use The Lord's name (YHWH, God, Elohim, Adoni, Jehovah, and other variations of His name) in declaring praises, but David will also use the Lord's reputation, renown, and standing to praise Him. The Hebrew word "bless" David uses here means to worship, praise, honor, and kneel. David is declaring that he will sing God's praises, but he is saying that he will walk and live in a manner that humbly submits to God and takes the posture to bow and kneel in God's continual presence. This accompanies the action to praise the Lord's name eternally. David commits to worship God in attitude and action.

Praises that Strive to Match God's Personhood – An Impossible Task (v. 3)

David then writes in verse three how great God is. David begins verse three stating that the Yahweh (YHWH) is Great. This might seem trivial to the reader, but what David does is establish an absolute truth. Great is the Lord and no one and nothing is greater than He. God is the definition and absolute example of greatness. David continues writing that the response of Yahweh's people is to praise Him in a way that matches His greatness. God's people respond to God, God is the focus and catalyst to praise. God's people do not have the right or authority to decide the energy and level of honor and reverence with which they will respond. God decides that and David writes that the Great God demands great praises from those who love, honor, fear, and adore Him. The way we praise God reveals our reverence, love, adoration, and knowledge of God.

We are grateful to Jesus for guiding us to worship God appropriately and effectively!

God's People Praise Our Great God in Great Ways **SLIDE 4**

Revealed Scripturally SLIDE 5

Scripture is a Historically Accurate Account of God's Person and Works

Revealed Presently SLIDE 6

Christians have personal testimonies of God's Person and Works reinforcing what scripture reveals

Revealed Eternally SLIDE 7

God is not done working to build His Kingdom and making Himself known

In His Scripture

Through His Works

To His People

We Will Praise Our Great God's Great Works in Great Ways SLIDE 8

Share His Greatness (relational)

Talk about God's greatness often and often (yes, often)

Teach His Greatness (discipling)

Combine the knowledge from scripture and connect it to God's works today. Use both to reveal God's character and personhood while cultivating humble worship and submissive servitude. Teach the full personhood of God and the Christian's relationship to God

Sing of His Greatness (an aspect of action)

Sing privately and publicly that focuses on God and what He does. This is vital for us. God's people are to sing in unison to God and about God.

God's Great Work at KBC in 2025 SLIDE 9

People and Finances SLIDE 10

People (pt1) SLIDE 11

Professions of Faith – 1

Baptisms – 4

Sunday School – 294 avg & high of 347

Worship – 327 avg & 543 (Easter) 360 (Christmas Eve)

Visitors – SS 67 & Worship 36

New Members - 42

On Mission – 48 Brazil & 21 Miami

Servants – 658 Opportunities (some filled by the same person)

People (pt2) SLIDE 12

VBS – 313 participants (average) and 130 + workers

Youth

Camp - 45

D'Now - 50

SLU - 9

KB Kids

Camp - 31

People (pt3) SLIDE 13

Festivals

Spring – est 320 attendees

Fall – est 1100 attendees

Visitors

Sunday School-66

Worship-59

Special Event

Joy for Toys – 52 Families

Finances (pt.1) (SLIDE 14)

Income – Budget: \$1,077,999.64 Actual: \$1,082,643.70

Expenses – Budget: \$1,077,999 Actual: \$1,017,634

Reaching the World: \$222,627.25 (20% of actual income)

Finances (pt2) SLIDE 15

Special Offerings

VBS - \$4,165.76 (NAMB – Annie Armstrong)

Annie Armstrong - \$11,518.58 (North American Missionaries)

Lottie Moon - \$61,507.58 (International Missionaries)

Benevolence - \$5726.51

Finances (pt3) SLIDE 16

Special Events

Clay Shoot - \$14,106.08 (KB Kids Camp)

Missions Auction - \$31,185.27 (Brazil and Miami)

Golf Tournament - \$16,708.28 (KB Youth)

Great Response SLIDE 17

God did Great Things in 2025

Your Participation

Celebrate where God Included You

Seek Ways to Join In!

Praise God!

Share God's Good Works with others

Teach others about our Great God

Sing about His Great Works!

Read SLIDE 16

1 Chronicles 29:11 ESV

11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.

Series Graphic SLIDE 19