

Worship and Praise Forms Illustrated in Hebrew OT

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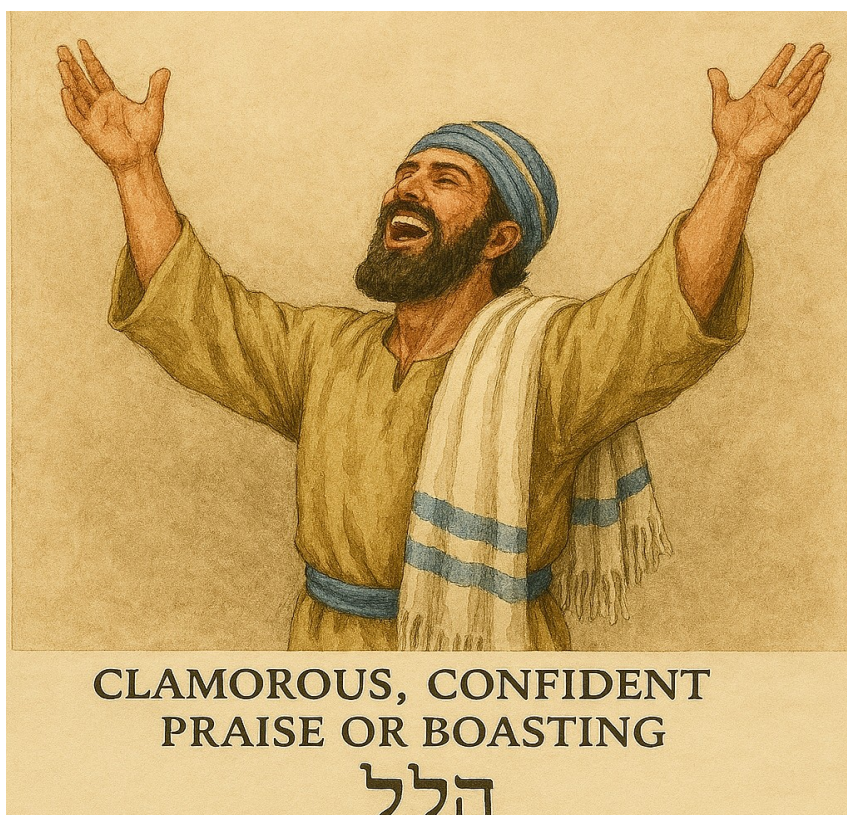


1. הָלַל — *halal* (“praise, boast, celebrate”) — ESV

Boasting Can Be of a Godly Kind Or A Reflection Of Baser Human Arrogance

Halal is a term that may reflect upon both foolish or Godly behavior. It suggests boasting with assurance and confidence. The foolish are confident and “shine forth” boastfully about many things which may be clearly ungodly or wicked. In Godly worship it is seen as a great force of faith and has the power to bring triumphant victory. David’s worship before the Ark was unrestrained outrageous, loud and clamorous but deeply Spiritual in nature. Hawlal is unfettered and unrefined. One is unrestrained in its expression. It is a most positive thing when employed in the worship of the Almighty but ill-advised and risky when directed by wrongful beliefs or an individual godless, unspiritual nature.

A search reveals a multitude of verses that can be found from Genesis to Psalms and the prophetic books, There were 165 references in my search.



1. **Psalm 22:22** “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”
2. **Psalm 35:18** “I will thank you in the great congregation; in the mighty throng I will praise you.”
3. **Psalm 44:8** “In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to your name forever.”
4. **Psalm 56:4** “In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?”
5. **Psalm 69:30** “I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.”
6. **Psalm 109:30** “With my mouth I will give great thanks to the Lord; I will praise him in the midst of the throng.”
7. **Psalm 113:1** “Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord!”
8. **Psalm 117:1** “Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!”

9. **Psalm 150:1** “Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!”
10. **Isaiah 25:1** “O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.”

2. יָדָה — yadah (“give thanks, extend hands”) — ESV



TO ACKNOWLEDGE IN
WORSHIP OR CONFESSION

יָדָה

1. **Genesis 29:35** “And she conceived again and bore a son and said, ‘This time I will praise the Lord.’ Therefore she called his name Judah.”
2. **2 Samuel 22:50** “For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing praises to your name.”
3. **1 Chronicles 16:8** “Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!”
4. **2 Chronicles 20:21** “Give thanks to the Lord, for his steadfast love endures forever.”
5. **Ezra 3:11** “And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord, ‘For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel.’”
6. **Psalm 7:17** “I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High.”

7. **Psalm 28:7** “The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.”
8. **Psalm 32:5** “I acknowledged my sin to you... and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.”
9. **Psalm 107:1** “Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!”
10. **Psalm 136:1** “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.”

3. תְּהִלָּה — *tehillah* (“song of praise”) — ESV



Singing songs and making melody in the form of hymns and Spiritual songs has always reflected an attitude focused on heavenly things and much of this is gratitude and thanksgiving. The fallen and unredeemed person may exalt all manners of immoral and demonic sentiments in the music that they extol.

Paul writes concerning the expression of God stories. Hymns are testimonial in nature and tell of the wonders of what God has done and who God is. The redeemed man or woman has a heart full of heavenly wonders that bubble forth spontaneously when allowed to do so. This is a spiritual song. David the Psalmist expressed his whole life experience in songs and hymns. He was so spiritually attuned that his music had power to bring deliverance and prophetic foresight

The Christian hymnal is full of hundreds of songs which are full of testimonies. These are personal revelations of the Power of God to change lives and reveal Truth in the world. Most often hymns are sung and performed without taking time to think about the powerful truths hidden in them.

Eph_5:19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,

Col_3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

1. **Deuteronomy 10:21** “He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen.”
2. **2 Samuel 22:4** “I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.”
3. **Psalms 9:14** “That I may recount all your praises, that in the gates of the daughter of Zion I may rejoice in your salvation.”
4. **Psalms 22:3** “Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.”
5. **Psalms 33:1** “Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.”
6. **Psalms 40:3** “He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.”
7. **Psalms 65:1** “Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.”
8. **Psalms 71:8** “My mouth is filled with your praise, and with your glory all the day.”
9. **Psalms 100:4** “Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!”
10. **Isaiah 61:3** “To grant to those who mourn in Zion... the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit.”

4. תודה — *todah* (“thanksgiving, thank offering”) — ESV



1. **Leviticus 7:12** “If he offers it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the thanksgiving sacrifice unleavened loaves mixed with oil, unleavened wafers smeared with oil, and loaves of fine flour well mixed with oil.”
2. **Leviticus 22:29** “And when you sacrifice a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord, you shall sacrifice it so that you may be accepted.”
3. **2 Chronicles 29:31** “Then Hezekiah said, ‘You have now consecrated yourselves to the Lord. Come near; bring sacrifices and thank offerings to the house of the Lord.’”

4. **Nehemiah 12:27** “And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites... to celebrate the dedication with gladness, with thanksgivings and with singing.”
5. **Psalm 26:7** “Proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.”
6. **Psalm 42:4** “These things I remember... how I would go with the throng... with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival.”
7. **Psalm 50:14** “Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High.”
8. **Psalm 69:30** “I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.”
9. **Psalm 95:2** “Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!”
10. **Jeremiah 33:11** “Give thanks to the Lord of hosts, for the Lord is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!”

5. זָמַר — *zamar* (“make music, sing praise”) — ESV

Most Christian worship that we find in churches today features a “praise band.” These are comprised of singers who play instruments like guitar, drums, keyboard and sometimes other instruments. We actually have here ***zamar praise***. We have had over 50 years featuring the addition of praise music played and sung skillfully and sometimes not so skillfully. We have gone quite beyond the choir in the choir loft. We find that today nearly all contemporary church houses feature a band with its collection of musical instruments and accompanying sound technologies. With enhanced technology we hope to inspire, to lift the spirits of the participants. We may ask, is this bringing forth either inspiration or Spiritual growth? There was a time when the anointing carried by the psalmist caused the Holy Spirit to fall and for the move of God taking command over the forces of evil in the environment. David vanquished the evil spirit that tormented Saul. When the Holy Spirit has control the Kingdom of God comes into manifestation.



1. **Judges 5:3** “Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes; to the Lord I will sing; I will make melody to the Lord, the God of Israel.”
2. **Psalms 9:2** “I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.”
3. **Psalms 21:13** “Be exalted, O Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.”

4. **Psalm 27:6** “I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.”
5. **Psalm 47:6** “Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!”
6. **Psalm 57:7** “My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and make melody!”
7. **Psalm 68:4** “Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts.”
8. **Psalm 98:5** “Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!”
9. **Psalm 108:1** “My heart is steadfast, O God! I will sing and make melody with all my being!”
10. **Psalm 147:7** “Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!”

6. בָּרַךְ — *barak* (“kneel, bless”) — ESV

H1288 (BARAK) TO BOW DOWN IN ADORATION, BLESSING



TO BOW DOWN IN ADORATION

בָּרַךְ

We find Barak in the Old Testament scriptures in Genesis. These portray the expression of adoration and blessing. Barak describes a posture that expresses adoration, esteem or honor. It is expressed in the action of bowing down in respect or worship. “True worshipers” bow in subservience, with utter devotion and respect as in the New Testament, *Gk/proscuneo*. *It is selfless devotion and honor to someone who is greater, infinitely greater than ourselves.*

1. **Genesis 24:48** “Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord and blessed the Lord... who had led me by the right way.”
2. **Exodus 18:10** “Jethro said, ‘Blessed be the Lord, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians.’”
3. **1 Chronicles 29:20** “Then David said to all the assembly, ‘Bless the Lord your God.’ And all the assembly blessed the Lord.”
4. **Nehemiah 9:5** “Stand up and bless the Lord your God from everlasting to everlasting.”
5. **Job 1:21** “The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.”
6. **Psalms 16:7** “I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.”
7. **Psalms 26:12** “My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the Lord.”
8. **Psalms 34:1** “I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.”
9. **Psalms 103:1** “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!”
10. **Psalms 145:1** “I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.”

7. שִׁבַּח — shabach (“shout praise, proclaim loudly”) — ESV



1. **Psalm 63:3** “Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.”
2. **Psalm 106:47** “Save us, O Lord our God... that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.”
3. **Psalm 117:1** “Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!”
4. **Psalm 145:4** “One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.”
5. **Psalm 147:12** “Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!”
6. **Psalm 148:1** “Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!”
7. **Psalm 148:2** “Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!”
8. **Psalm 148:3** “Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!”
9. **Psalm 148:4** “Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!”

10. **Psalm 150:6** “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!”

רָנַן: — *ranan* (“*shout for joy, cry out, sing aloud*”)



1. **Deuteronomy 32:43** “Rejoice with him, O heavens; bow down to him, all gods.”
2. **Job 29:13** “The blessing of him who was about to perish came upon me, and I caused the widow’s heart to sing for joy.”
3. **Psalm 5:11** “But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy.”
4. **Psalm 20:5** “May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners!”
5. **Psalm 32:11** “Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!”
6. **Psalm 33:1** “Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.”
7. **Psalm 51:14** “My tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.”
8. **Psalm 59:16** “I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.”
9. **Psalm 67:4** “Let the nations be glad and sing for joy.”
10. **Isaiah 12:6** “Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

9. כְּבוֹד — *kavod* (“glory, honor, weightiness”) — ESV

1. **Exodus 16:7** “In the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord.”
2. **Exodus 24:17** “Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain.”
3. **Leviticus 9:6** “This is the thing that the Lord commanded you to do, that the glory of the Lord may appear to you.”
4. **1 Samuel 4:21** “And she named the child Ichabod, saying, ‘The glory has departed from Israel!’” **1 Chronicles 16:28** “Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!”
5. **Psalms 3:3** “But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.”
6. **Psalms 19:1** “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.”
7. **Psalms 29:1** “Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.”
8. **Psalms 57:5** “Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!”
9. **Isaiah 42:8** “I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other.”

10. שָׁחָה — *shachah* (“bow down, prostrate”)

Primary Old Testament word for “worship.”



1. **Genesis 22:5** “Then Abraham said... ‘I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.’”
2. **Exodus 4:31** “And the people believed... and they bowed their heads and worshiped.”
3. **Exodus 34:8** “And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.”
4. **1 Samuel 1:19** “They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the Lord.”
5. **1 Chronicles 16:29** “Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.”
6. **2 Chronicles 7:3** “They bowed down with their faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped.”
7. **Psalms 5:7** “I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.”
8. **Psalms 95:6** “Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!”
9. **Psalms 99:5** “Exalt the Lord our God; worship at his footstool!”
10. **Isaiah 66:23** “All flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord.”

11. עָבַד — *avad* (“serve, worship through service”) — ESV

1. **Exodus 3:12** “He said, ‘But I will be with you... when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.’”
2. **Exodus 8:1** “Thus says the Lord, ‘Let my people go, that they may serve me.’”
3. **Exodus 23:25** “You shall serve the Lord your God, and he will bless your bread and your water.”
4. **Deuteronomy 6:13** “It is the Lord your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve.”
5. **Joshua 24:14** “Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness.”
6. **1 Samuel 12:24** “Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart.”
7. **Psalms 2:11** “Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.”
8. **Psalms 100:2** “Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!”
9. **Jeremiah 7:25** “I have persistently sent all my servants the prophets to you.”

10. **Daniel 3:12** “These men... do not serve your gods or worship the golden image.”

12. גִּיל — *gil* (“rejoice, exult, spin with joy”) — ESV

1. **Psalm 9:14** “That I may recount all your praises... that I may rejoice in your salvation.”
2. **Psalm 13:5** “My heart shall rejoice in your salvation.”
3. **Psalm 21:1** “O Lord, in your strength the king rejoices.”
4. **Psalm 31:7** “I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love.”
5. **Psalm 40:16** “May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you.”
6. **Psalm 68:3** “But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God.”
7. **Psalm 118:24** “This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”
8. **Proverbs 23:24** “The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice.”
9. **Isaiah 25:9** “Let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”
10. **Isaiah 61:10** “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God.”

13. רוּם — *rum* (“exalt, lift up”) — ESV

1. **Exodus 15:2** “The Lord is my strength and my song... this is my God, and I will praise him.”
2. **2 Samuel 22:49** “Who brought me out from my enemies... you exalted me above those who rose against me.”
3. **Psalm 18:46** “The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.”
4. **Psalm 30:1** “I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up.”
5. **Psalm 34:3** “Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!”
6. **Psalm 46:10** “I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”
7. **Psalm 99:5** “Exalt the Lord our God; worship at his footstool!”

8. **Psalm 118:28** “You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.”
9. **Psalm 145:1** “I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.”
10. **Isaiah 2:11** “The Lord alone will be exalted in that day.”

14. נָסָא — *nasa* (“lift up”) — ESV

1. **Genesis 7:17** “The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth.”
2. **Exodus 20:7** “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.”
3. **Psalm 24:4** “He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false.”
4. **Psalm 25:1** “To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.”
5. **Psalm 28:2** “Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.”
6. **Psalm 63:4** “So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.”
7. **Psalm 121:1** “I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?”
8. **Psalm 134:2** “Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the Lord!”
9. **Isaiah 33:10** “Now I will arise,” says the Lord, “now I will lift myself up.”
10. **Lamentations 3:41** “Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven.”