

Psalm 147:1-5

He Heals the Brokenhearted

Praise the LORD!

*For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.*

*The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.*

*He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.*

*He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.*

*Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.*

Praising God is work that is its own wages. It is comely; it becomes us as reasonable creatures, much more as people in covenant with God. He gathers outcast sinners by his grace, and will bring them into his holy habitation. To those whom God heals with the consolations of his Spirit, he speaks peace, assures them their sins are pardoned. And for this, let others praise him also. Man's knowledge is soon ended; but God's knowledge is a dept that can never be fathomed. And while he telleth the number of the stars, he condescends to hear the broken-hearted sinner. While he feeds the young ravens, he will not leave his praying people destitute. Clouds look dull and melancholy, yet without them we could have no rain, therefore no fruit. Thus afflictions look black and unpleasant; but from clouds of affliction come showers that make the soul to yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness. The psalmist delights not in things wherein sinners trust and glory; but a serious and suitable regard to God is, in his sight, of very great price. We are not to be in doubt between hope and fear, but to act under the gracious influences of hope and fear united. - *Matthew Henry, MHCC*