

Psalm 33:1-9

Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!

Praise befits the upright.

*Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!*

Sing to him a new song;

play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

*For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.*

*He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
and by the breath of his mouth all their host.*

*He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap;
he puts the deeps in storehouses.*

*Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!*

*For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.*

Holy joy is the heart and soul of praise, and that is here pressed upon the righteous. Thankful praise is the breath and language of holy joy. Religious songs are proper expressions of thankful praise. Every endowment we possess, should be employed with all our skill and earnestness in God's service. His promises are all wise and good. His word is right, and therefore we are only in the right when we agree with it. His works are all done in truth. He is the righteous Lord, therefore loveth righteousness. What a pity it is that this earth, which is so full of the proofs and instances of God's goodness, should be so empty of his praises; and that of the multitudes who live upon his bounty, there are so few who live to his glory! What the Lord does, he does to purpose; it stands fast. He overrules all the counsels of men, and makes them serve his counsels; even that is fulfilled, which to us is most surprising, the eternal counsel of God, nor can any thing prevent its coming to pass. - *Matthew Henry, MHCC*