

“A Unique Psalm with an Extraordinary Message” Psalm 117

**“Praise Yahweh all nations; laud Him all peoples; for His lovingkindness prevails over us, and the truth of Yahweh is everlasting. Praise Yah” (Psalm 117).
Legacy Standard Bible**

As we complete our four-week, July series on the Hebrew word, *Hesed*, we turn to this unique Psalm, the shortest of them all. Psalm 117 has a compelling missionary message while also highlighting God’s incredible hesed (lovingkindness) and its most familiar companion, the Hebrew word *emet*, most often translated as truth or faithfulness. This brief Psalm divides itself into two distinct parts.

I. A COMPREHENSIVE CALL TO PRAISE “Praise Yahweh all nations; laud Him all peoples.”

A. Statistical Observations about the World

B. Biblical Affirmations about Missions

- Promised in the Abrahamic Covenant
(Genesis 12:1-3; 22:18; 26:4; 28:14; Acts 3:25; Galatians 3:8)
- Foretold in the Old Testament prophecies
(Isaiah 11:10; 49:6; 66:18-21; Zechariah 2:11; Hosea 2:23; Psalm 22:27; 67:2-3)
- Commanded by Jesus in His Great Commission
(Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:44-49; John 20:21; Acts 1:8).
- Embraced by His Church (Acts 2:37-42; 4:4, 32-37; 5:41-42; 6:7; 8:4; 9:21-35; 11:19-25; 14:1; 17:4)
- Will be consummated in heaven
(Revelation 5:9; 7:9-10)

II. A COMPELLING CAUSE FOR PRAISE “For His lovingkindness prevails over us, and the truth of Yahweh is everlasting.”

- The most common companion of hesed in the Old Testament is *emet*, meaning truth or faithfulness,
- Hesed and *emet* are commonly used in Scripture to summarize the essence of God and His character and as essential values to be embraced by God’s people.

- Examples where hesed and emet are used together

In Abraham's servant's mission (Gen. 24:27, 49).

In the life of Jacob (Genesis 32:10; 47:29).

In the lives of Old Testament worshipers
(Psalm 36:5; 40:10-11; 85:10; 86:15; 88:11; 89:1-2,
14, 24, 33, 49; 92:2; 98:3; 100:5; 115:1; 117:2; 138:2)

In the instruction of a father to his son (Proverbs 3:3)

In the lamentations of Jeremiah to bring hope (3:21-23)