

July 30
Psalm 146

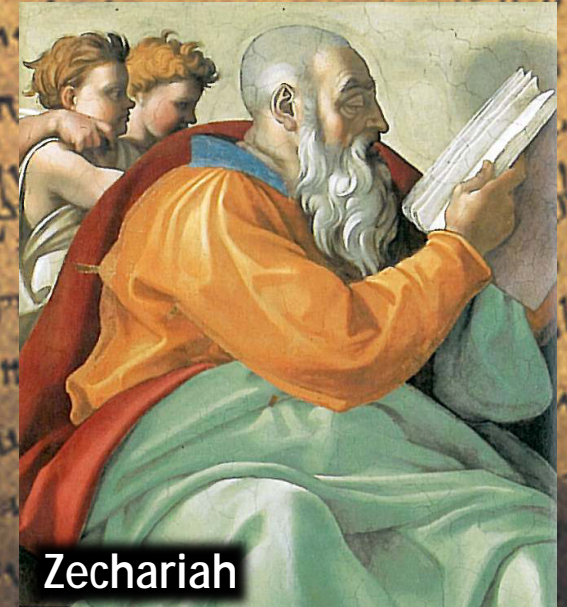
Whose Help is God

Hallelujah, my soul, praise the LORD

Great Psalms Scroll, c. A.D. 30-50
Found 1956, Qumran, Dead Sea
more on this in Psalm 1 presentation



Haggai



Zechariah



Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo

Psalms – Songs to or about God

1. June 4	The Path	<u>1</u>	Tree Planted by Streams
2. June 11	The Past	<u>78</u>	God was Their Rock
3. June 18	The Shepherd	<u>23</u>	Lord is My Shepherd
4. June 25	Our Response	<u>138</u>	Gratitude for Keeping Thy Word
5. July 2	His Presence	<u>84</u>	How LOVELY Your House
6. July 9	The Creator	<u>95</u>	TODAY, if you Hear, Harden Not
7. July 16	God Revealed	<u>19</u>	Heavens Declare God's Glory
8. July 23	His LOVE	<u>136</u>	LOVE Endures Forever
 9. July 30	His Faithfulness	<u>146</u>	Whose Help is God
10. Aug 6	The Confession	<u>51</u>	Whiter than Snow
11. Aug 13	The Cleansing	<u>32</u>	My Hiding Place
12. Aug 20	The Protector	<u>141</u>	Protect Me from the Trap
13. Aug 27	The Longing	<u>42</u>	Deep Calls unto Deep





Theme
God can be trusted as the One
who reigns eternally

Psalm 146

Hallelujah!

- 1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life
- 3-4 The Warning – Trust Not in Humankind
- 5-9 The Worthy One – Trust in the Lord
- 10 The Reality – Lord Reigns Forever

Hallelujah!



Key Verse Psalm 146:10 ... *last verse*

**The Lord reigns forever;
Zion, your God reigns
for all generations.
Hallelujah!**





Alternate Title

Hallelujah!

Praise Ye Yahweh

We know not all that face us ...

We know not all the future ...

But we know who HOLDS the future



Psalms 146 – Stately

The Enchanted Forest

**Like a group of
white-barked Beech Trees**

Psalms 136-150 ALL


Begin & End w *Hallelujah*

Sometimes alone ... sometimes together

Beech logs are excellent firewood ...

Bright, slow and even burning ...





Psalms 136 – Stately

The Enchanted Forest

**Like the stately Beech
Psalm 146 & brothers 147-150
Can be found in a lot
Places in the forest**

Enchanted Forest wouldn't be the same without
Praise ... Praise from Alpha to Omega

Hallelujah – Praise Ye the LORD

Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

¹ Hallelujah! My *SOUL*, praise the LORD.

A century after Constantine I okays Christianity near the end of Rome in A.D. 476 and start of Dark Ages

In 429, Bishops Germanus of Auxerre & Lupus of Troyes (then Gaul, today France) were sent by Pope Celestine I to Britain to combat a heresy

British monk Pelagius (378-448) forwarded a heresy that man COULD live a sinless life by Free Will ...

Germanus observes Irish Picts set to attack the Brits & Saxons

Germanus is asked to “bless” the forces sent out

A general before becoming Bishop – Germanus offers service

They gratefully accept ...



**St. Germanus
(378-448)**

Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

Germanus deploys troops around the walls of a valley,
called Maes Garmon, mile NW of Mold in Flintshire
They lay in ambush ...

At Germanus' signal, together the troops all shouted

“Hallelujah!”

The sound frightened the Irish into a panicked retreat.

Monk Constantius of Lyon in his *Life of St. Germanus* said:

The great cry rebounded, shut in by the surrounding hills.

Enemy ... terrified ... very frame of heaven and the rocks
around seemed to threaten them ... they fled in all directions.

Battle came to be called **"Hallelujah Victory"**



St. Germanus
(378-448)

Intro to Psalm 146

The mighty Spurgeon* said,

We are now among the Hallelujahs.

The rest of our journey lies through
the Delectable Mountains.

All is praise to the close of the book.

The key is high pitched: the music is upon the
high sounding cymbals.

O for a heart full of joyful gratitude, that we may run, and leap,
and glorify God, even as these Psalms do.

Psalm 146 is "one pearl", a sacred censer of holy incense,
pouring forth one sweet perfume.



Charles H. Spurgeon, 1885
by Alexander Melville

* *Treasury of David*, Psalm 146, <http://archive.spurgeon.org/treasury/treasury.php>

Hallelujah

Remember YHWH = LORD

Pronounced *Yah-Way*

“Hallelujah” is a contraction of

and **Hallel** = Praise You

Yah = short for **YHWH**

Hallel-Yah Hebrew yields English

You can see **YAH** in both

Masorettes vowels (dots, lines) c. A.D. 600+

Hallelujah MEANS *Praise you YHWH*

Hallelujah = *Praise You the LORD*



YHWH in Hebrew - *read R to L*



Hallelujah

Hallelujah begins & ends

Psalms 146-150, all five psalms

likewise Psalms 106, 113, 135

Hallelujah occurs 23x in Psalms only

Begins 111 & 112

Ends 104, 105, 115, 116, 117

Encyclopedia Judaica notes

In all cases, with the exception of
135:3 and 147:1, the term is

not part of the body of the psalm.



Hebrew – הללויה

Greek – αλληλουια

Latin – Alleluia

English – Hallelujah/Alleluia

Hallelujah

Hallelujah does NOT appear in any other place in O.T. that quotes the Psalms ... leading some to believe

Hallelujah was a term developed later

For example, see Psalm 106:48

May Yahweh, the God of Israel, be praised from everlasting to everlasting. Let all the people say, "Amen!" Hallelujah!

Now see 2 Chronicles 16:36: **May Yahweh, the God of Israel, be praised from everlasting to everlasting." Then all the people said,**

"Amen" and "Praise the LORD." < NOT Hallelujah

הללויה

Hebrew – הללויה

Greek – αλληλουια

Latin – Alleluia

English – Hallelujah/Alleluia

Hallelujah

Hallelujah MEANS:

Praise Ye Yahweh

or ... Praise You the LORD



Hallelujah in Hebrew - read R to L

Hallel-Yah relates to *Hallelujah* in Greek

Greek speaking Jews > *Alleluia* as is found in Rev. 19:1, 3, 4, 6

LXX – for 70 – stands for Old Testament translated in Greek by
72 legendary Jewish scholars who translated the 5 books

Tradition says Ptolemy II (309–246 BC) sponsored

Over the next 100+ years, the rest of the O.T was translated

By Augustine of Hippo (354–430 CE) ... called in Latin *Septuaginta*
then in English as *Septuagint* or simpler **LXX**

Hallelujah



Hallelujah in Hebrew - *read R to L*

What is interesting, intriguing even
Septuagint or LXX ... c. 200 B.C. & after
LXX add a title and authors ...

Haggai & Zechariah ... to 146, 147, 148

Some think verse 3, **“Put not your trust in princes”** refers to Cyrus
being persuaded to withdraw orders to rebuild temple

That Psalms 146 may have been written **AFTER** the captivity ...
and possibly written by or for Haggai & Zechariah

Israelites – on return from captivity, rebuilt 2nd Temple

under great duress, weeping over the loss of former glory

Judaism takes off and develops to N.T. times ...

Hallelujah

Intriguing how Septuagint or LXX ...
added Haggai & Zechariah

Psalms 146 was used AFTER the captivity ...
by the time of the Septuagint or LXX

Sigmund Mowinkel
(1884–1965)



Norwegian biblical Professor Sigmund Mowinkel (1884–1965)
Taught at University of Oslo from 1917 to his retirement in 1954
in his unsurpassed *The Psalms in Israel's Worship* (Trans. 1962)

He noted that the **Book of Psalms** – our **Enchanted Forest of 150**
During 2nd Temple period, **ONLY these 150 were used, NO OTHERS**
Even when a new festival was added, an early psalm was reused
with a new meaning

Hallelujah

Furthermore ... Hebrew Hallelujah in Jewish circles was often added in the reading of many psalms *after EVERY VERSE*

From the earliest Christianity ... **“Hallelujah singing”** was used likely following the Jewish traditions ...

“Hallelujah singing” = the WHOLE song = *Hallelujah, Hallelujah*

In such, the “lu” and “yah” would be drawn out ...

Sometimes *draaaawwwnn* out into forms of ecstatic outpouring

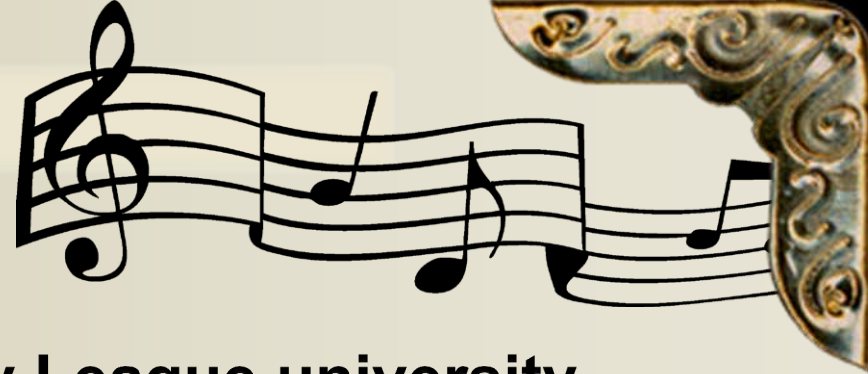
Like the speaking of tongues ...

Haaaaal Laaayyyyyy Luuuuuu

Yaaaaahhhhhhhh



Hallelujah



Very fortunate ... by a fluke of searching ...

I came across in the archives of a famous Ivy League university ...

Original cryptic notes of the “Hallelujah singing”

Italian MONKS travelled the cathedrals of Europe

20 yrs ago some doctoral students worked
up an arrangement with sound synthesizers

Of what the “Hallelujah singing” ... in its
draaawwnn out form might have sounded like

Haaaalll Laaaayyyyyy Luuuuuuu Yaaaahhhhhh

Well ... *might* have been close ...



Hallelujah

Through the Middle Ages ... long *Hallelujahs* became elaborate compositions

Sometimes splitting syllables up ...

Through Renaissance & modern era ...

Handel's *Messiah* and his exquisite
"Hallelujah" chorus

Mozart's *Alleluia* for soprano & orchestra

Hear the great *Alleluia* pieces in

- ❖ Arthur Honegger's *Le Roi David* (1921)
- ❖ William Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* (1929)

Hallelujah



Hallel Psalms

Hallel = Praise You

Psalms 113-118 together called *THE* "Hallel"

Chanted in synagogue on Sukkot, Hanukkah

First day of Passover ... MANY festivals

Recited in synagogue after morning service

Some Jews recite Hallel on each New Moon ...

Chanted in 2nd Temple as Passover Lamb was slain ...

Psalms 113-118 chanted vs. by vs. as the people said, *Hallelujah*

Psalms 113-118 is called the **"Egyptian Hallel"** – related to feasts

Psalms 146-150 is called the **"Greek Hallel"** because the LXX links
Haggai & Zechariah in 146, 147, 148 in Greek O.T.



Hallel Psalms

Hallel = Praise You

Psalms 113-118 chanted vs. by vs.
as the people said, *Hallelujah*

Since the Hallel is sang at Passover ...

Hallel (Ps. 113-118) is *THE hymn* believed used in Matthew 26:30

When they had sung a *HYMN*, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

“Great Hallel” – Psalms 113-136 – Evening of Passover Supper

Psalm 136 or 135-136 are also called the “Great Hallel”



Hallelujah in Hebrew - read R to L

Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

¹ Hallelujah! My soul, praise the LORD.

**So then, Psalm 146 was an important
Psalm beginning the FIVE**

Psalms 146-150, Hallelujah Psalms

Sung as they built the 2nd Temple

Remembered between the O.T. & N.T.

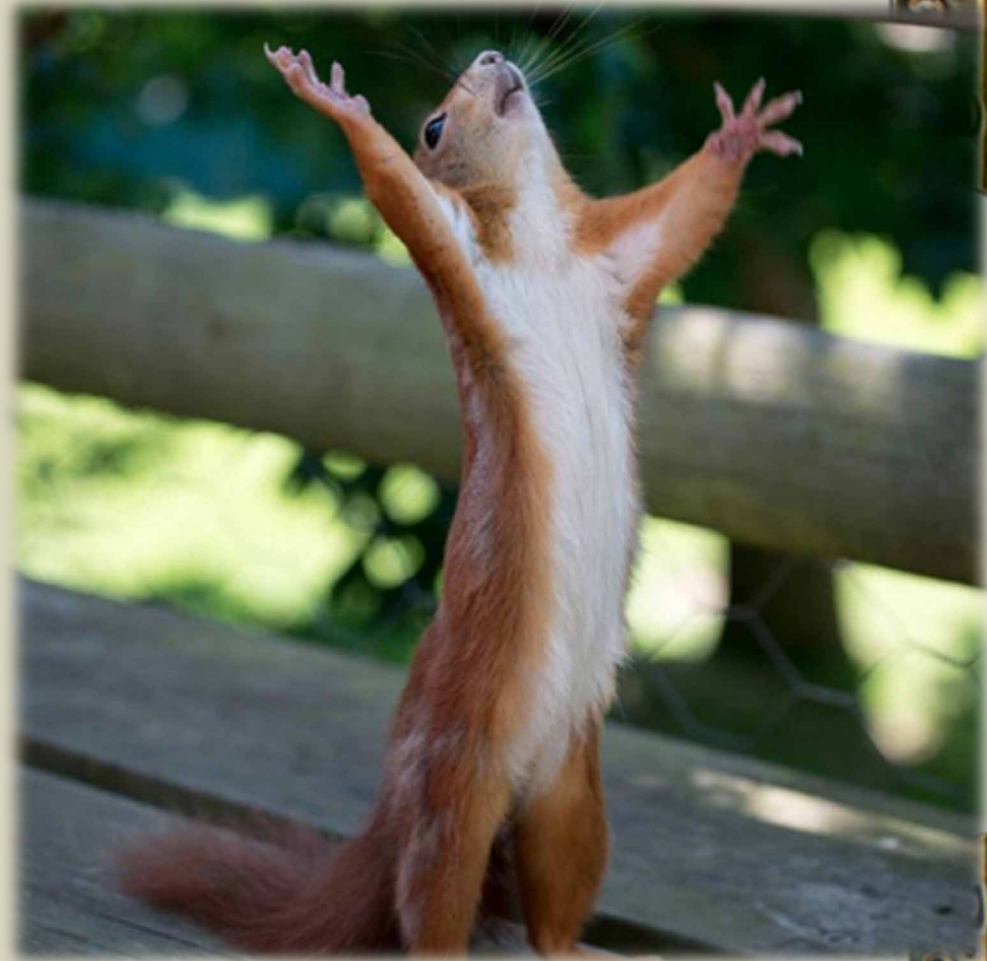
**Remembered as Judaism developed
to the time of destruction in A.D. 70**

Google Hallelujah

You'll get some surprises

Yet ... the meaning?

Hallelujah – Praise Ye the LORD – YHWH, Yahweh



Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

¹ Hallelujah! My soul, praise the LORD.

You see the little guy on the right >>>

I almost included a tidbit from ...

You know—Handel’s “Hallelujah” chorus

Just for laughs ...

Would have laughed or smiled myself!

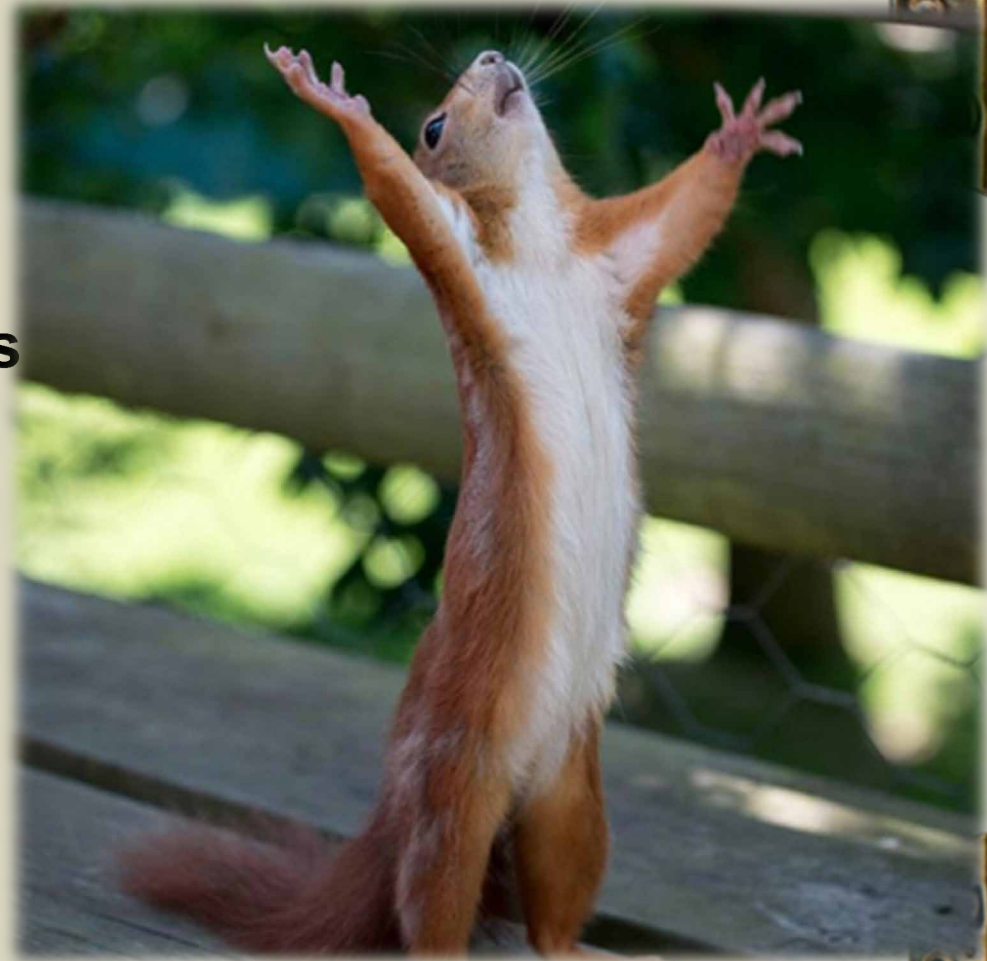
But NOT so close to Last Week’s Finale

Moreover, I’d be guilty of PRECISELY

What I am encouraging you **NOT TO DO**

NOT to use **Hallelujah** in vain ...

Perhaps, the Tarzan jingle DID make fun ...



Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

¹ Hallelujah! My soul, praise the LORD.

Spurgeon* so tactfully said,

Hallelujah. It is saddening to remember how this majestic word has been trailed in the mire of late.

Its irreverent use is an aggravated instance of taking the name of Jehovah our God in vain....

Great responsibility lies with leaders who countenance ... this blasphemy.

With holy awe let us pronounce the word *HALLELUJAH*, and by it summon ourselves and all others to adore the God of the whole earth.



Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

¹ Hallelujah! My soul, praise the LORD.

Don't use **Hallelujah** flippantly

“Praise the LORD” my TV show's on!

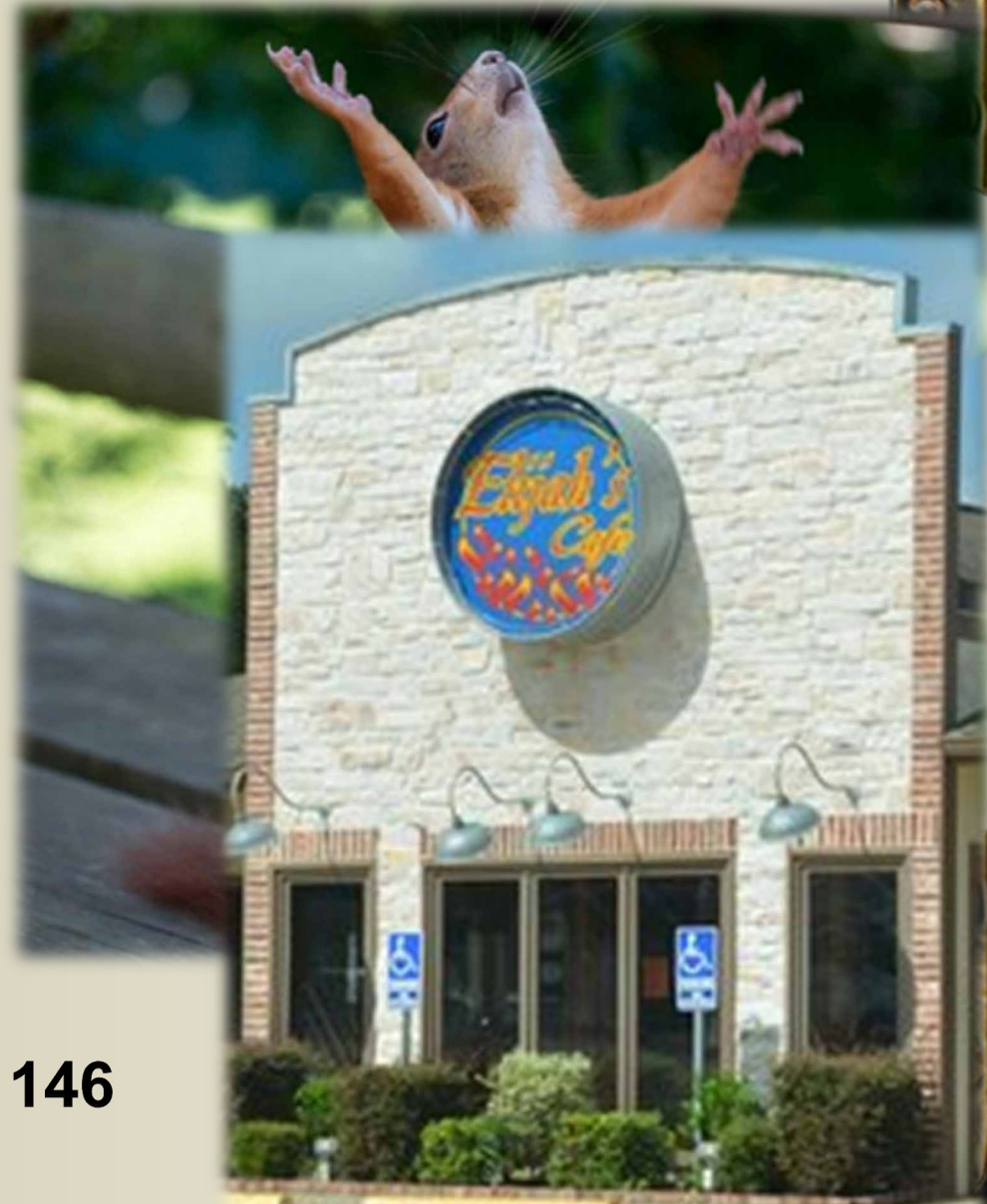
“Hallelujah, my team won!”

“Praise the LORD for that
German chocolate cake!”

“Hallelujah ... we made it on time
to the movie ...
to the Doctor's office ...
to Elijah's before the Methodists

Read the verse one again ...

Please—note of the rest of Psalm 146



Psalm 146:1-2 **The Declaration** – Praise Lord All My Life

Hallelujah NOT a full part of psalm's body

¹ Hallelujah!

My soul, praise the LORD.

The intent of **Hallelujah** is to call to ATTENTION

In a way, to START the Worship Service

Hallelujah – Praise Ye the LORD ... “LORD” being YHWH

Hallelujah today ... often means

“Yippeeee!”

“You Betcha!”

“Yahooo!”

“Cowabunga, Dude!”

And any other sundry exclamation of gratitude ...

Any other THOUGHTLESS declaration of *minor* thanks

Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

¹ Hallelujah! My soul, praise the LORD.

Psalm 146 is the FIRST of the five “**Hallelujah Psalms**”

Translators try to TRANSLATE the meaning into English ...

Location of the original words rarely can be retained

¹ Hallelujah! My soul, praise the LORD.

LOOKS almost like Hallelujah is used twice

Hebrew is: **Praise ye Yah, praise my soul Yahweh**

English is identical in meaning

KJV – Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.

NIV, NASB & ESV – Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, my soul.

Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

Psalm 146 is the FIRST of the five “**Hallelujah Psalms**”

¹ Hallelujah! My **SOUL**, praise the LORD.

² I will praise the LORD all my life;

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live.

Often, **Hallelujah** would be a way to CALL PEOPLE to praise

Spurgeon* sounds forth, breaking into poetic utterance

When we praise God let us arouse our innermost self,

Our central life: we have but one soul, and if it be saved
from eternal wrath, it is bound to praise its Saviour.

Come heart, mind, thought!

Listen as the inimitable Spurgeon poetically pleads

* Treasury of David, Psalm 146, <http://archive.spurgeon.org/treasury/treasury.php>

Spurgeon* continues poetically ...

Come my whole being,

my soul, my all, be all on flame with joyful adoration!

Up, my brethren! Lift up the song! "Praise ye the LORD."

Notice Spurgeon's resounding voice soften, his face fall

**But what am I at? How dare I call upon others, and
be negligent myself?**

**If ever man was under bonds to bless the Lord I am that man,
wherefore let me put my soul into the centre of the choir,
and then let my better nature excite my whole manhood
to the utmost height of loving praise.**

Psalm 146:1-2 The Declaration – Praise Lord All My Life

Spurgeon* adoringly continues ...

"O for a well tuned harp!"

Nay, rather, O for a sanctified heart.

**Then if my voice should be of the poorer sort,
and somewhat lacking in melody,**

yet my SOUL without my voice

shall accomplish my resolve to magnify the Lord.

Psalms 146-150 and Psalm 146 have a LOONNNG tradition

Each, beginning and ending with ...

Hallelujah



Charles H. Spurgeon, 1885
by Alexander Melville

* *Treasury of David*, Psalm 146, <http://archive.spurgeon.org/treasury/treasury.php>

Psalm 146:3-4 The Warning – Trust Not in Humankind

So goes forth our stately Psalm 146

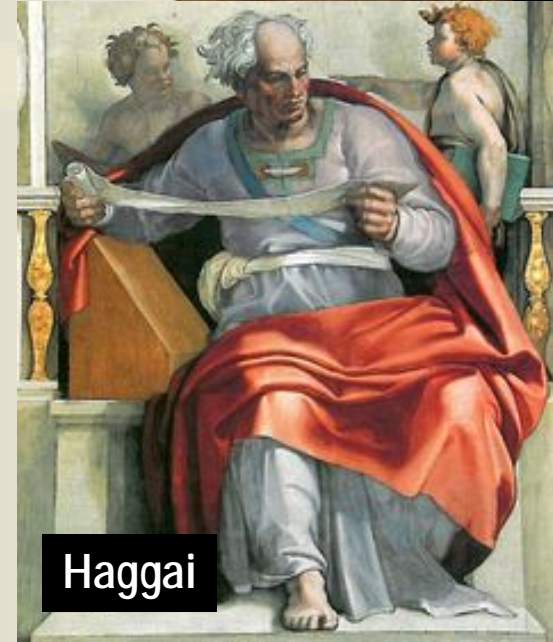
³ Do not trust in nobles, in man, who cannot save.

⁴ When his breath leaves him, he returns to the ground; on that day his plans die.

If Psalm 146 with its precious companions 147-150

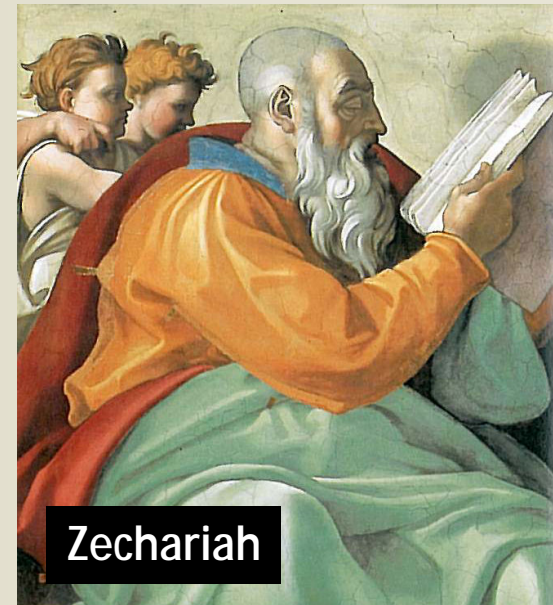
If these do form the “Greek Hallel” ... a group of Psalms written by or for Haggai and Zechariah ...

Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi ... post-exilic prophets during the building of the 2nd Temple ...



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalm 146:3-4 The Warning – Trust Not in Humankind

So goes forth our stately Psalm 146

³ Do not trust in nobles, in man, who cannot save.

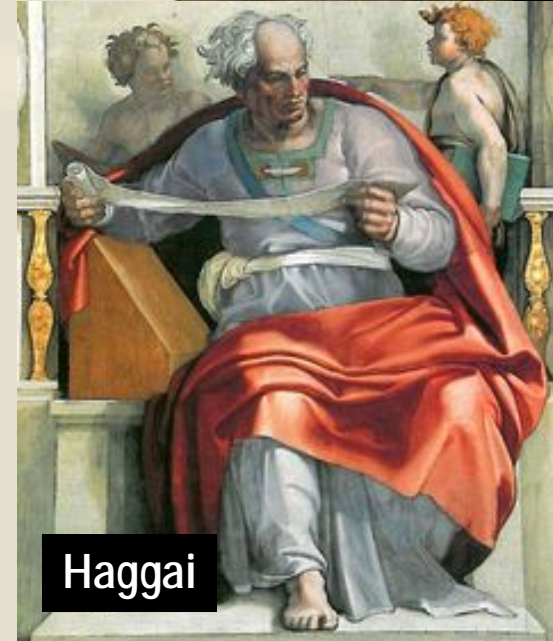
⁴ When his breath leaves him, he returns to the ground; on that day his plans die.

If Haggai & Zechariah authored these as post-exilic prophets during the building of the 2nd Temple ...

Note Matthew 23: after *34 SCATHING* verses against the scribes & Pharisees, *Jesus closes in v. 35*

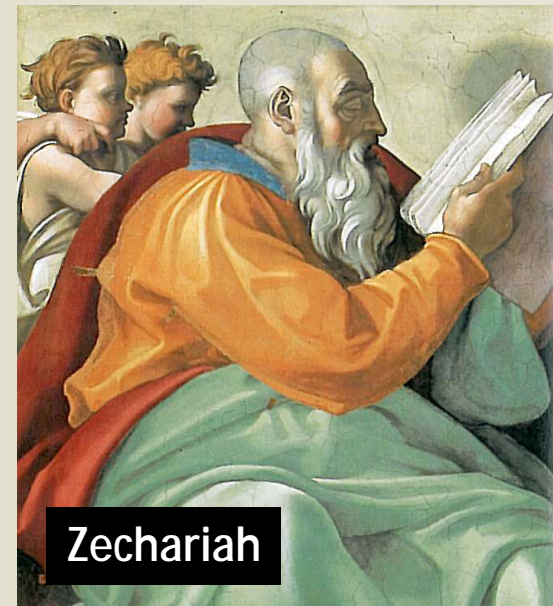
So all the righteous blood shed on the earth will be charged to you, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you MURDERED between the sanctuary and the altar.

Jesus reminds them of 500 years ago!



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalm 146:3-4 The Warning – Trust Not in Humankind

So goes forth our stately Psalm 146

³ Do not trust in nobles, in man, who cannot save.

⁴ When his breath leaves him, he returns to the ground; on that day his plans die.

If a “GREEK Hallel” or “Greek Praises” because the prophets’ names appear in the LXX or Septuagint,
the Greek translation of the O.T.

Then the “NOBLES” could very well be related to all those **OPPOSING** the rebuilding of the 2nd Temple

OPPOSED to the rebuilding of **Jerusalem** ...

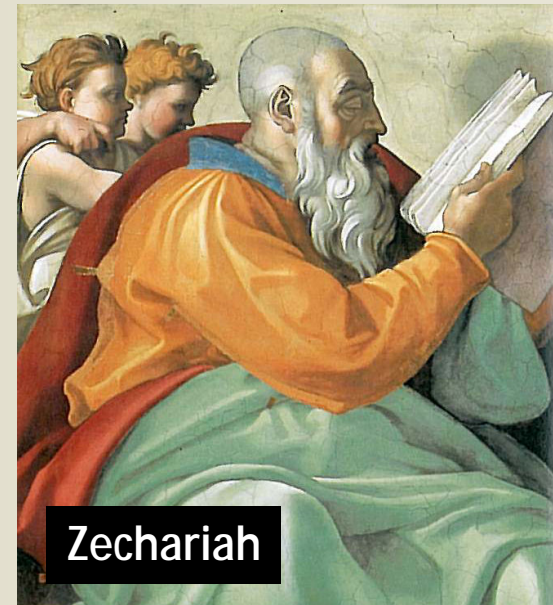
then the MESSAGE is ...

dust to dust ... just like all men



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalm 146:5-9 **The Worthy One** – Trust in the Lord

The latter half ... the latter half of Psalm 146 ...

As we work lightly through the latter half ...

Have we not a **LOAD** of background behind us?

As we work lightly through the lifting verses ...

Might I add an interpolation for the sake of “Praise”

Listen heartily to Psalm 146:5-9 ...

Listen in the light of Haggai & Zechariah ... the ...

Haggai & Zechariah as the ... ah ... **PASTORS**

Pastor – Prophets of the rebuilding among enemies

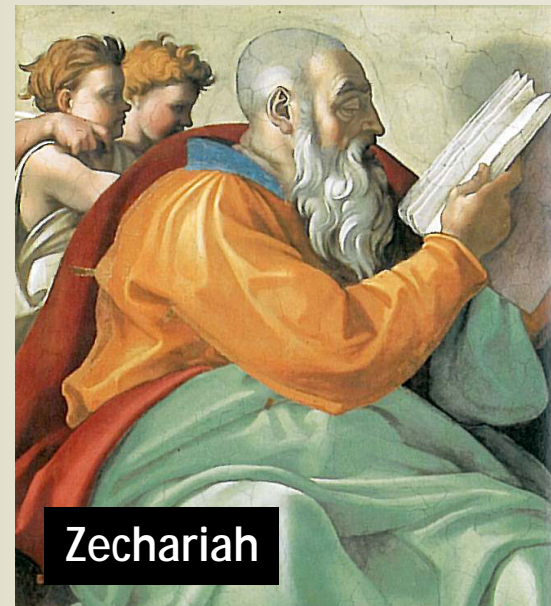
**⁵ Happy is the one whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

Hallelujah!



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalm 146:5-9 The Worthy One – Trust in the Lord

Haggai & Zechariah, the Pastor – Prophets during the precious rebuilding of Jerusalem ...

While poor exiles are **REBUILDING** homes ...

⁶ the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea and everything in them. He remains faithful forever,

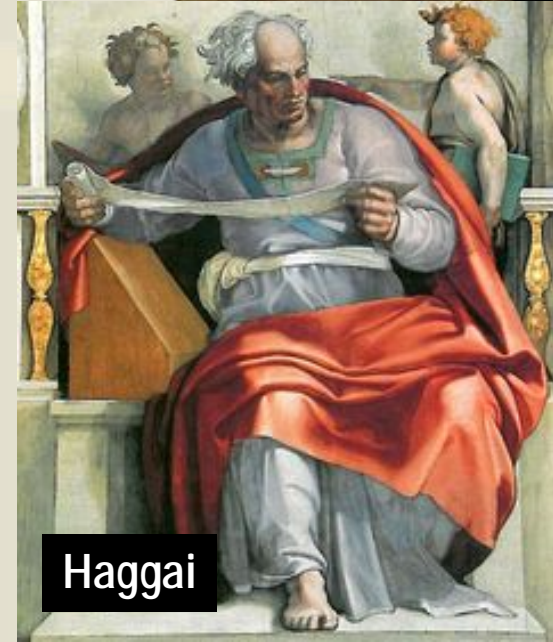
Hallelujah!

⁷ executing justice for the exploited and giving food to the hungry. The LORD frees prisoners.

Hallelujah!

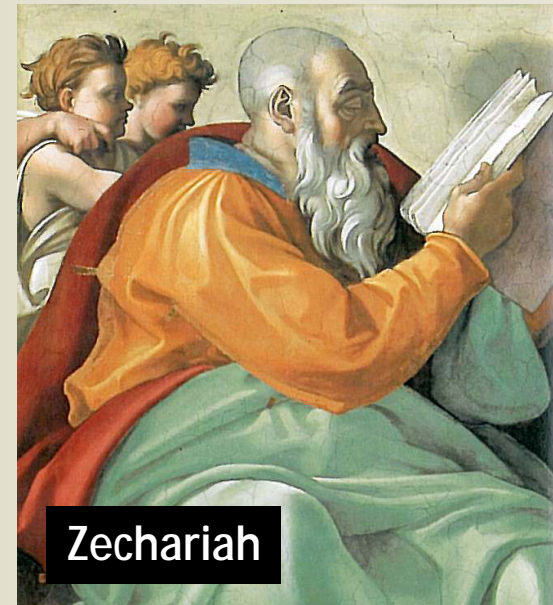
⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

Hallelujah!



Haggai

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Zechariah

Psalm 146:5-9 The Worthy One – Trust in the Lord

Haggai & Zechariah, the Pastor – Prophets

**As New Jerusalem is establishing commerce ...
though a lot are poor ... struggling ...**

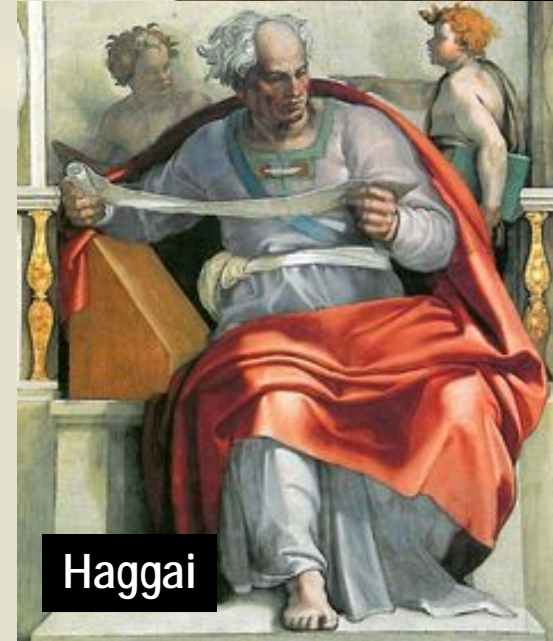
The LORD raises up those who are oppressed.

Hallelujah!

**Pastoring Prophets Haggai & Zechariah,
amid enemy conniving,
encouraging all to “Do Right” anyway**

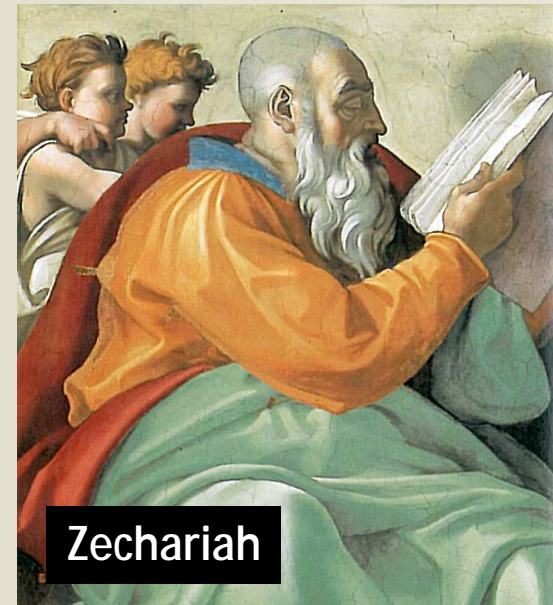
The LORD loves the righteous.

Hallelujah!



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalm 146:5-9 The Worthy One – Trust in the Lord

Pastoring Prophets Haggai & Zechariah ...

They also had to deal with the innocent ...

Those caught between resident & foreign
interlopers trying to disrupt the New Jerusalem

**⁹ The LORD protects foreigners and
helps the fatherless and the widow,**

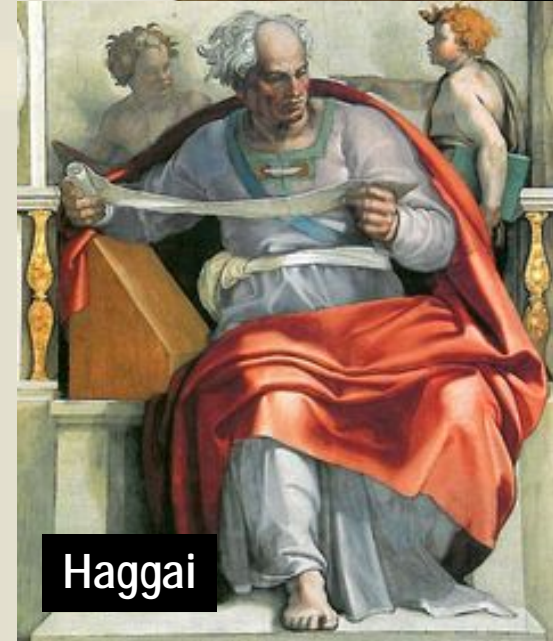
Hallelujah!

Near the end ... next to the last line ...

In the midst of struggles ... a fine short line ...

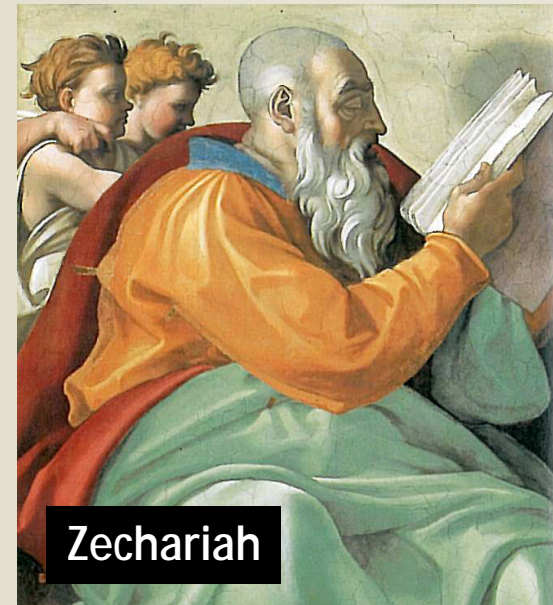
but He frustrates the ways of the wicked.

Hallelujah!



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalm 146:10 **The Reality** – Lord Reigns Forever

Then, the dear Psalm 146 closes

¹⁰ The LORD reigns forever;

Zion, your God reigns for all generations.

Hallelujah!

So ends the fine Psalm 146 ...

Hallelujah!

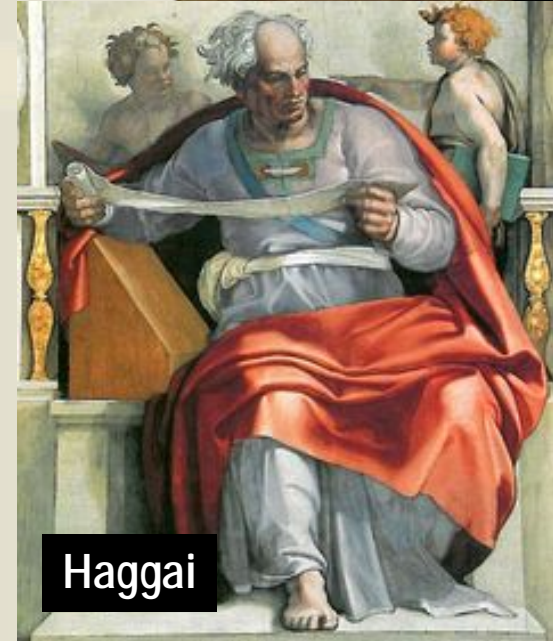
Like a stately white-barked beech tree ...

Hallelujah!

In an Enchanted Forest of 150 marvelous psalms

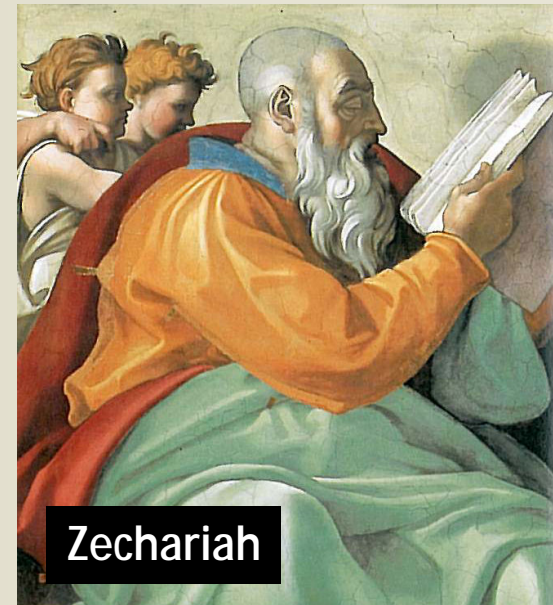
A “Greek Hallel” ... a Greek Praise song ...

Reflecting on work of rebuilding Jerusalem



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalm 146:10 **The Reality** – Lord Reigns Forever

Let us review just one second ...

⁵ Happy is the one ... whose hope is in the LORD ...

⁶ Maker of heaven and earth ...

⁷ Giving food to the hungry ...

⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind....

The LORD loves the righteous.

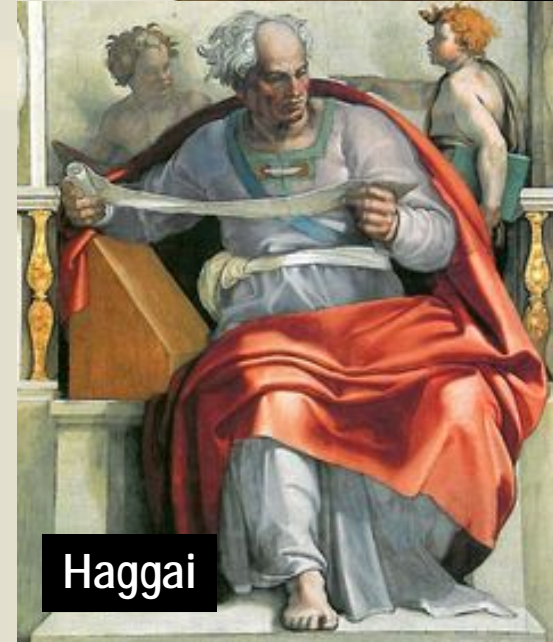
⁹ The LORD protects foreigners

and helps the fatherless and the widow

Hallelujah!

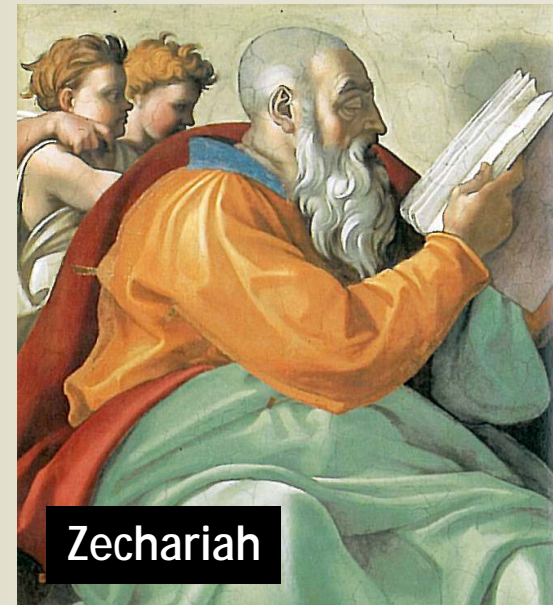
Praise ye Yahweh ...

Praise you the LORD ...



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalm 146:10 The Reality – Lord Reigns Forever

We have but one **LIFE TO LIVE ...**

If we have but **ONE TESTAMENT ...**

If we **LIVE** as if by **ONE CODE ...**

Ladies and Gentlemen, let it be verse 146:10

¹⁰ The LORD reigns forever;

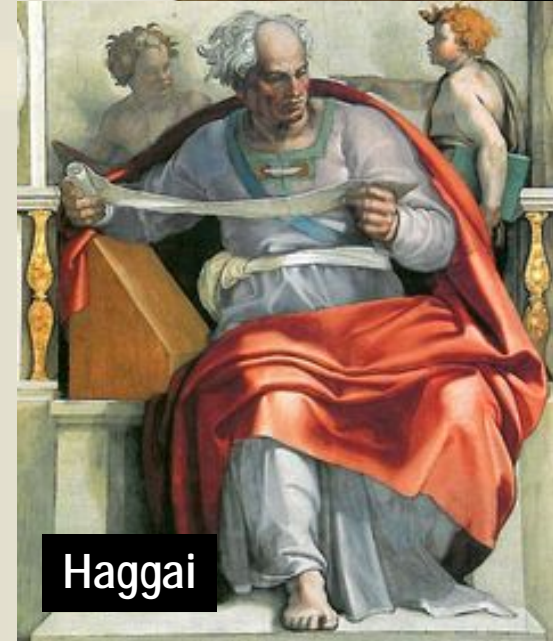
Zion, your God reigns for all generations.

Hallelujah!

Praise ye Yahweh

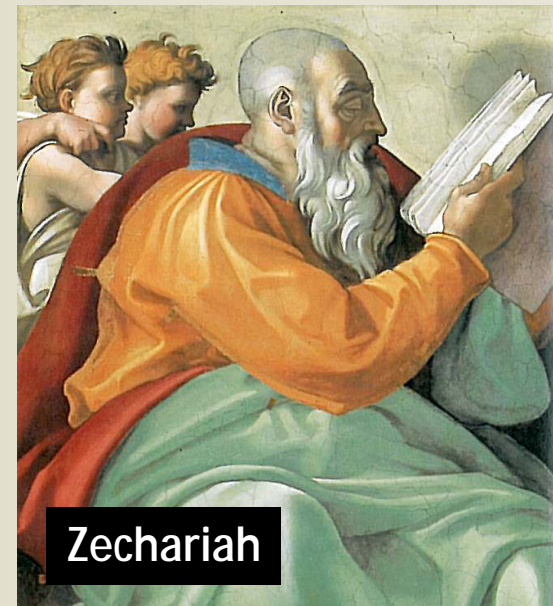
Praise you the LORD!

Hallelujah!



Haggai

Ceiling of Sistine Chapel,
c. 1512, by Michelangelo



Zechariah

Psalms 146 – Stately

The Enchanted Forest

**Zion, your God reigns
for all generations.**

Hallelujah!

FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS

