



Raise a Hallelujah *Day 1: Verse 1*

I raise a hallelujah, in the presence of my enemies
I raise a hallelujah, louder than the unbelief
I raise a hallelujah, my weapon is a melody
I raise a hallelujah, Heaven comes to fight for me

Scripture Reference

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

– *Psalm 23: 5*



Rhythms of Faith

Daily Devotionals Based on Songs

We begin our week as we approach a beloved psalm for many – Psalm 23. However, we'll be focusing in on one very specific portion of the Psalm, as we try to better understand being in the presence of our enemies. Who wants to sit at a table with their enemies? Someone who fully trusts their host. God, as our perfect host, prepares a table of such great abundance that we are even fully protected amidst our enemies at the table. God may not eliminate our enemies, but we can find peace and goodness even in their presence because of our perfect host, God.

Have there been times in your life where you can't seem to flee from your enemies? Maybe those enemies are literally people, but maybe they are enemies from within. How has God protected you in the midst of those enemies? What provisions did He have for you during those times even if it wasn't total elimination of those enemies?

Heaven comes to fight for me. God shows up – He prepares the table before us. The phrase “before me” from our psalm can show the personal connection God has with each of us and His desire for relationship often even **before** we recognize we need Him. He fights for each of us. He won the ultimate victory for each of us when Jesus died on the cross and rose again. Even now, the Holy Spirit lives in us, fighting on our behalf. We are blessed to have such a personal connection with our Heavenly Father.

Are you proclaiming God's victory in your own life through Jesus's death and resurrection? Do you treat the Holy Spirit within you like a personal connection/relationship? Do either of those thoughts make you want to raise a hallelujah this week? If so, write a prayer of praise to our Lord.



God anoints the psalmist's head, even in the presence of enemies. What's more, it appears the psalmist can enjoy this moment, this blessing. His cup overflows as a result beyond what we could have imagined within our own volition. We too can turn to God each day and ask for his anointing on our day, our actions, our thoughts, our lives. And we can bask in the enjoyment of those anointings – we can raise a hallelujah.

Do you ask God for anointing upon your choices, your days, your thoughts? Not just the big moments in life, but literally even in the small, mundane moments. Do you truly stop each day to recognize His anointing? If so, how has that helped you to grow in relationship with God? If not, challenge yourself this week – and ask for God's help – to begin each day asking for His anointing and His blessing.

When our cups overflow, we can raise a true hallelujah. Even more, we're excited to raise that hallelujah. Our weapon against Satan is our melody – our hallelujah. When we are praising God, often despite our earthly circumstances, Satan stands no ground, has no pull on us. But, it's important to recognize our cup overflows from the goodness of the perfect Host; not from our own efforts or actions. Even in recognizing that, our cup overflows....and our weapon gains power. Our hallelujah rises.

How has God filled your cup today, this week, this month, this year? Part of raising your hallelujah is continually reminding yourself of His blessings, His grace, His love for you. End today writing a prayer of thanksgiving to God for all that he has filled your cup with. Dig deep – don't let Satan use past or current struggles to overshadow the perfect Host before you.
