THE BOOKFOLIO

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# A BROKEN HALLELUJAH

## A SERMON

PSALM 51:17




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THE BOOKFOLIO

# A Broken Hallelujah

A SERMON

A Sermon by Terrell Powell

Scripture is from the King James Version. The words of Jesus are printed in red, the way Terrell wrote them.

**Sermon Title**

**A Broken Hallelujah**

**Opening Scripture**

**“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit:**

**a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”**

**— Book of Psalms 51:17**

**Introduction**

**David wrote these words.**

**David knew what it meant**

**to have a broken heart.**

**He had enemies chasing him.**

**He had made mistakes.**

**He had cried many tears.**

**But David learned something powerful.**

**God does not reject**

**a broken heart.**

**God receives it.**

**And sometimes the greatest praise**

**comes from a broken soul.**

**That brings us to the thought today.**

**Sermon Thought**

**A Broken Hallelujah**

**Opening Truth**

**“Hallelujah” is one of the purest praises we can give to God.**

**It simply means:**

**Praise the Lord.**

**Not praise for things.**

**Not praise for blessings.**

**Just praise to God Himself.**

**But here is the question today:**

**How can God take a broken hallelujah**

**and turn it into great praise?**

**Point 1**

**God Never Needed Perfect Praise**

**Sometimes we think praise must be perfect.**

**We think it must be:**

**• on key**

**• on beat**

**• full of strength**

**• full of joy**

**But God has never required perfect praise.**

**God receives:**

**• weak praise**

**• tired praise**

**• tear-filled praise**

**• broken praise**

**Sometimes all you can say is:**

**“Hallelujah… but I’m hurting.”**

**And God says:**

**“That praise is enough.”**

**Because a broken hallelujah**

**still reaches heaven.**

**Point 2**

**God Took a Broken People**

**Let’s tell the truth.**

**Before God saved us, we were broken.**

**We were:**

**• broken in sin**

**• broken in identity**

**• broken in direction**

**• broken in heart**

**But God took broken people**

**and made them people of praise.**

**We did not praise Him**

**because life was easy.**

**We praised Him**

**because He is good.**

**That is why our praise**

**has power.**

**Point 3**

**Broken Praise Confuses the Enemy**

**The enemy understands praise**

**when everything is going well.**

**But the enemy gets confused**

**when you praise God in pain.**

**When you praise God while hurting.**

**When you praise God while waiting.**

**Broken hallelujah says:**

**“God, I don’t understand…**

**but I still trust You.”**

**And that kind of praise has power.**

**It can:**

**• silence the enemy**

**• touch the heart of God**

**• change the atmosphere**

**Broken praise is not weak.**

**Broken praise is real.**

**Point 4**

**The Bible Shows Broken Hallelujahs**

**David**

**David cried many tears.**

**But David still said:**

**“I will bless the Lord at all times:**

**his praise shall continually be in my mouth.”**

**— Book of Psalms 34:1**

**Even when his heart was broken,**

**David kept praising God.**

**That was a broken hallelujah.**

**Paul and Silas**

**Paul and Silas were beaten.**

**Their backs were bleeding.**

**They were thrown into prison.**

**But the Bible says:**

**“At midnight Paul and Silas prayed,**

**and sang praises unto God.”**

**— Acts of the Apostles 16:25**

**They were hurting.**

**They were in chains.**

**But they still praised God.**

**That was a broken hallelujah.**

**And the prison doors opened.**

**Jesus**

**Even Jesus showed us this.**

**Before going to the cross,**

**Jesus sang a hymn.**

**— Gospel of Matthew 26:30**

**Jesus knew suffering was coming.**

**But He still gave praise.**

**Even our Savior gave**

**a broken hallelujah.**

**Illustration (Story)**

**Let me give you a picture.**

**There was a man**

**who had an old violin.**

**The violin was scratched.**

**The strings were worn out.**

**Most people thought it had no value.**

**One day a master musician**

**picked it up.**

**He tuned the strings.**

**He tightened the bow.**

**Then he began to play.**

**And beautiful music**

**filled the room.**

**Suddenly everyone realized**

**the instrument was not worthless.**

**It just needed to be**

**in the right hands.**

**Church, sometimes we feel like**

**that broken violin.**

**Life has scratched us.**

**Pain has worn us down.**

**But when we place our lives**

**in the hands of God…**

**He can turn broken things**

**into beautiful praise.**

**Meaning of Hallelujah**

**The word hallelujah is Hebrew.**

**“Hallel” means to praise.**

**“Jah” means the Lord.**

**So when we say hallelujah**

**we are saying:**

**Praise the Lord.**

**And the Bible shows us**

**that heaven itself shouts hallelujah.**

**— Book of Revelation 19:1**

**That means when you say hallelujah,**

**you are joining the praise of heaven.**

**Even if your hallelujah is broken.**

**Final Truth**

**God does not just accept broken praise.**

**God transforms it.**

**God turns:**

**• pain into testimony**

**• wounds into worship**

**• tears into triumph**

**What starts broken**

**ends up beautiful.**

**Closing Declaration**

**Say this with me.**

**“Lord, here is my hallelujah.**

**It may be broken,**

**but it is still Yours.**

**And I trust You**

**to turn it into praise.”**

**Hallelujah.**

**Prayer**

**Father,**

**We come before You today**

**with humble hearts.**

**Some of us are hurting.**

**Some of us are tired.**

**Some of us are carrying heavy burdens.**

**But today we lift our voices**

**and say hallelujah.**

**Receive our praise, Lord.**

**Even if it is broken.**

**Even if it comes through tears.**

**Turn our pain into testimony.**

**Turn our sorrow into worship.**

**And let our hallelujah**

**rise all the way to heaven.**

**In the mighty name of Jesus we pray.**

**Amen.**

## ABOUT THIS BOOK

'The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.' A sermon on the hallelujah that comes out of brokenness.

### A SERMON BY TERRELL POWELL

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,*
*and a light unto my path."*
**PSALM 119:105 — KJV**

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