

# The Hallelujah Chorus



“Hallelujah” is a Hebrew term meaning “Praise the Lord.” The Psalmist declared that everything that had breath should praise the Lord. Christians have great cause to praise God not only for Who He is but for what He has so graciously done on behalf of mankind.

- *The Incarnation of the Lord Jesus* was miraculous. The Son of God became a human being in order to obtain salvation for guilty sinners.

- *The Crucifixion of Christ*, which revealed the deep-seated enmity of the human heart, also revealed the love, compassion, and mercy of God towards us, His fallen creatures.

- *The Resurrection of Christ* displayed that by dying, Christ had actually defeated death and insured the resurrection of all mankind.

- *The Gospel of Christ* is the message that tells us that what He accomplished by shedding His precious blood and sacrificing His life is of such immense and limitless value that every human being can be saved through Christ's death.

- *The Ascension of Christ* back to Heaven and to the throne of God has prepared Heaven for every person who trusts Christ as Savior.

## How much we have to praise God for!

These are some of the life-changing and destiny-altering truths that we strive to emphasize not only at this time of the year but throughout the year.

“Hallelujah!

*For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.*

*The kingdom of this world*

*Is become the Kingdom of our Lord,*

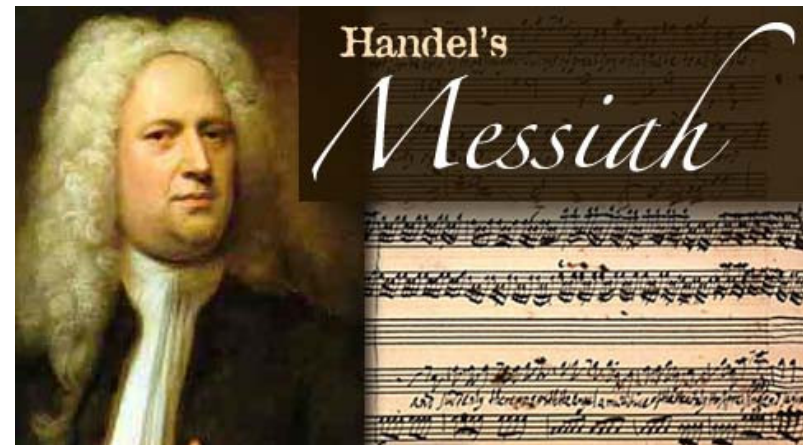
*And of His Christ,*

*And He shall reign forever and ever.*

*King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,*

*And He shall reign forever and ever.*

*Hallelujah!”*



## *The Hallelujah Chorus*

George Frederick Handel was born at Halle in Germany on February 23, 1685. He originally studied for the law and then began to write operas. He moved to Italy in 1706 and to England in 1710, where in 1726 he became a British subject. From operas, Handel turned to the writing of oratorios, (works with a religious theme to be sung by soloists and a chorus). But in the early 1740s he was at a low point in his life. His money was gone. Creditors hounded him, threatening him with imprisonment. His right side became paralyzed, and his health deteriorated. For a brief time he was tempted to give up. It was out of that despair that he wrote the oratorio known as Messiah, which many consider the greatest piece of church music in history. Handel was a devout Christian and Messiah reflects his faith.

The text of the chorus is taken from the King James Version of the Bible. The words are Scriptural passages from both Testaments dealing with the birth, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. It was first performed in Dublin, Ireland, in 1742. G. B. Shaw referred to it as "the hymn that can make atheists cry." In most large towns in the English-speaking world, it is performed every Christmas and Easter.

The Hallelujah Chorus is part of the oratorio, concluding the second of three parts. It is Handel's best-known piece and remains hugely popular. In many parts of the world it is traditional for the audience to stand during the Hallelujah Chorus. One explanation is that King George II was so moved by the music that he stood to his feet when he heard it, which required that his subjects follow suit.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
For (Hallelujah!) the Lord (Hallelujah!) God omnipotent  
reign-(Hallelujah!)-eth. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world is become  
The kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and of His Christ.  
And He shall reign forever and ever.  
Forever and ever Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings. Forever and ever Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
And Lord of Lords. Forever and ever Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
King of Kings. Forever and ever Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
And Lord of Lords. Forever and ever Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
King of Kings. Forever and ever Hallelujah, Hallelujah.  
And Lord of Lords. Forever and ever Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

And He shall reign for ever forever and ever.  
King of kings, and Lord of Lords. King of Kings and Lord of  
Lords.  
And He shall reign for ever forever and ever.

Forever and ever. Forever and ever.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!