**10 Fun Facts about the 5 Chapters of Hallelu-kah**

1. Of all the terminologies of song throughout Tehillim, the term *Hallelu-kah* is considered the highest of them all because it combines the word for praise and the letters of Hashem’s name. Each on of the five chapter begins and ends with the word *Hallelu-kah.* Therefore we are reciting that word 10 times. 10 is a number of holiness and completion.
2. The Talmud (Shabbos 118b) praises those who say all of the Hallelu-kahs. “Rabbi Yose says ‘May my portion be with the one’s who complete Hallel every day.” Someone who does not have time to say all 5 should try to say the 3rd and the 5th.
3. On a simple level, the 5 chapters build on one another in the level of perception that we see Hashem’s goodness:
   1. We praise Hashem based on what we see with our own eyes.
   2. We acknowledge His goodness even in areas that we don’t necessarily recognize, like the rebuilding of Yerushalayim.
   3. The praise of Hashem goes beyond our world, it is rooted in the heavens and even the angels sing praise.
   4. There will come a time, in the World to Come, when there will be a *Shir Chadash,* a new song, and the greatness of Hashem will be revealed in ways that are much greater than we have today.
   5. We wrap up by acknowledge that the praise isn’t just an idea, but that it permeates our entire Neshama, our entire being.
4. A deeper look will reveal that the 5 chapters correspond to:
   1. The 5 levels of the soul
   2. Different periods during the time referred to as “the End of Days”.
5. The first chapter, *Halleli Nafshi,* corresponds to the soul level of Nefesh and the “pre-dawn” years leading up to Moshiach.
6. The second chapter, *Boneh Yerushalayim,* corresponds to the soul level of *Ruach* (just as Yerushalayim is the *ruach* of the physical world) and the “dawn” of Moshiach i.e. the time of transition when Yerushalayim is being rebuilt.
7. The third chapter, *Min Hashamayim,* corresponds to the soul level of *Neshama* (the words *Hashamayim* has the numerical value of Neshama. It transcends the physical) and the days when Moshiach has arrived.
8. The fourth chapter, *Shir Chadash,* corresponds to the soul level of *Chaya* (already in the realm of pure spirituality) and the days of Techiyas Hameisim i.e. when body and soul reunite..
9. The fifth chapter, *Kol Haneshama,* corresponds to the soul level of *Yechida* (complete oneness with Hashem) and the World of the Souls i.e. when the physical world disappears and we return to pure spiritual oneness with God.
10. We complete the 5 chapters with 4 verse that begin with *Boruch hashem l’olam amen v’amen.* A variation of these verses are found at the end of the different sections of Tehillim. It is our way of expressing to Hashem that even though we don’t have time to say all 5 books of Tehillim, we hope that Hashem will accept these 5 chapters as if if we said the entire book.