

Psalm 95

Oh come, Let us Worship the Lord

Worship is our sacred duty, but this Psalm tells us that its our greatest privilege to be invited to worship God.

The motive for worship isn't to get something out of it. The motive is God for who He is and what He has done.

Worship is not just joyful noise, grateful praise, and singing songs. It's trusting obedience

Call #1: Worship the Lord Joyfully (1-2)

- a call to worship is a gracious invitation from the Lord
- 4 invitations here:
 - Let us sing to the Lord
 - Singing involves mind, heart and body
 - Worship is not people singing to you, it's you singing to the Lord
 - Psalm 100:2— "come into his presence with singing"
 - Practice for heaven, I will be out of a job
 - "When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first believed"
 - Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation
 - You can worship God in silence, tears, or sighs
 - True worship demands more
 - Joyful noise = an unrestrained shout of triumph
 - "To the rock of our salvation"
 - Military defeat
 - Rock means strong, stable, and secure
 - When you you couldn't count on anyone else, He is your rock
 - Enter his presence with thanksgiving
 - There is a place for lament in worship
 - But no matter your suffering or sorrows, you have much to thank God for
 - Have you been redeemed? Have you tasted of the Living Water?
 - We sometimes get it wrong. We come to church cold and stale and sit here and wait for something to happen for us to get in the mood to worship. The lights, the music, etc.
 - Psalm 100:4— "Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to Him. Bless His name."
 - Joyful noise with songs of praise
 - Joyful noise isn't about your emotions, personality, or denomination
 - Its a joyful recognition of the source of your victory
 - Songs of praise = musical accompaniment
 - The most fundamental instrument is the human voice
 - But joyful voices should be accompanied by excellent music
 - Psalm 150:3-5— "Praise him with the trumpet sound; praise with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!"

Reason #1: His Supremacy and Sovereignty (4-5)

- His Supremacy
 - Great God and Great King
 - Great is the Lord and Greatly to be Praised (Next week)
 - Psalm 47:7 — “For God is the King of all the earth! Sing praise with a psalm”
- His Sovereignty
 - Depths of the earth (deepest oceans and caverns are too much for us)
 - The highest mountains (Mt. Everest) (all in the hands of God)
 - The seas are his, for He made it
 - The idols of nations became gods by overthrowing raging seas
 - Our God didn’t have to defeat them, He created them
- His hands formed dry lands
 - The Bible gives weight in who the creator is
 - If he created it then He holds all authority
 - Psalm 24:1-2 — “The earth is the Lord’s and the fulness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and establishes it upon the waters”
 - The most difficult verse in the Bible, Genesis 1:1
 - He created it so he sets the perimeters and rules

Call # 2: Worship the Lord Reverently (6)

- we do come into His presence joyfully, but we do it reverently
- Bow down and kneel
- He is our Maker

Reason #2: He’s Our God and Our Shepherd

- He is our God
 - Covenant language
 - He made us His people by His grace and redemptive mercy
 - He has adopted us into His family
- He is our Shepherd
 - This is not a compliment
 - But it shows the picture of His care for you
 - He knows you.. He defends you... He heals you
 - **John 10:11 — Jesus is the Good Shepherd who died for us (forgiveness)**
 - **Hebrews 13:20 — Jesus is the Great Shepherd who rose for us (life)**
 - **1 Peter 5:4 — Jesus is the Chief Shepherd who is coming again for us (hope)**

Call #3: Worship the Lord Obediently (7d-8a)

- Today is all that matters, not past faithfulness or future intentions
- Today means urgency
- “If” — it’s conditional.. Do you hear His voice?
 - Hearing is a spiritual issue, not an auditory issue.
 - The ear can be open wide but the heart be closed
- Today, be obedient
 - We have the choice to open our hearts or harden them
 - To harden your heart is a deliberate choice
- God of second chances
- Worship is about trusting obedience

Reason #3: The Dangers of Hardening Our Hearts (8b-11)

- Meribah and Massah— Exodus 17:1-7
 - Quarreling and testing
- when your father's put me to test (9)
 - Numbers 20
- for forty years I loathed that generation (10)
 - Moses sending spies into the land, unbelief
 - The same people who saw God do things didn't trust Him
 - They may be around the things of God don't know Him
 - "They have gone astray in their hearts"
 - We all like sheep have gone astray
 - "Have not known my ways"
 - You can see God's works, but not know His ways
- They failed to enter rest (11)
 - They failed to enter the promised land
- Hebrews 3:12-4:3
- Hebrews 5:7-9
- We enter this peace by trusting and obeying Jesus
- Will you miss rest?