

PSALM 99 – A SONG OF PRAISE TO THE SOVEREIGN LORD!

12/5/20 Sat. Morn Prayer - P. Twente, www.ptwente.com 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – Reginald Heber (1783-1826) - (3:07)

**1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

**2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.**

**4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity. AMEN!**

Introduction - The theme of this psalm is summed up in its last phrase: "the Lord our God is holy" (*Psa 99:9*). The psalmist encourages praise to the king for His holiness (*Psa 99:3, 5, 9*), which is the separateness of God's being from all other creatures and things, as well as His moral separateness from sin. The psalmist also exults in the truth that such a holy God has had an intimate saving relationship with Israel throughout her history (*Psa 99:6-9*).

PSALM 99 – Praise to the LORD for His Holiness – Jesus is Reigning! - The Lord Our God Is Holy

Psa 99:1 The LORD reigns; Let the peoples tremble! He dwells between the cherubim; Let the earth be moved!

- "The Lord reigns!" One of the most joyous utterances which ever leaped from mortal lip.
- "Let the people tremble!" Let the chosen people feel a solemn yet joyful awe, which shall thrill their whole manhood. Saints quiver with devout emotion, and sinners quiver with terror when the rule of Jehovah is fully perceived and felt.
- "He dwells between the cherubim." The Lord reigning on that throne of grace which is sprinkled with atoning blood, and veiled with the covering wings of mediatorial love, is above all other revelations wonderful, and fitted to excite emotion among all mankind, hence it is added,
- "Let the earth be moved." Not merely "the people," but the whole earth should feel a movement of adoring awe when it is known that on the mercy seat God sits as universal monarch.

Psa 99:2 The LORD is great in Zion, And He is high above all the peoples.

- "The Lord is great in Zion." Of old the temple's sacred hill was the center of the worship of the great King, and the place where His grandeur was most clearly beheld: his church is now his favored palace, where his greatness is displayed, acknowledged, and adored.
- "And He is high above all the peoples;" towering above their highest thoughts and loftiest conceptions. In such a God we rejoice, his greatness and loftiness are exceedingly delightful in our esteem; the more he is honored and exalted in the hearts of men, the more exultant are His people.

Psa 99:3 Let them praise Your great and awesome name—He is holy.

- In Him is no flaw or fault, excess or deficiency, error or iniquity. He is wholly excellent, and is therefore called holy. In his words, thoughts, acts, and revelations as well as in himself, he is perfection itself. O come let us worship and bow down before Him!

Psa 99:4 The King's strength also loves justice; You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

- "The King's strength also loves justice." God is the king, the mercy-seat is His throne, and the scepter which He sways is holy like Himself. His power never exerts itself as a tyrant; He is a sovereign, and He is absolute in his government, but His might delights in right, His force is used for just purposes only.
- "You have executed equity." The Lord our God demolishes every system of injustice, and right alone

is made to stand. “

- *You have executed judgment and righteousness in Jacob.*” Justice is not merely established, but executed in God's kingdom; the laws are carried out, the executive is as righteous as the legislative.

Psa 99:5 Exalt (lift up, hold up, magnify!) the LORD our God, And worship at His footstool—He is holy.

- “*Exalt ye the Lord our God.*” If no others adore him, let his own people render to him the most ardent worship. It ought to be our daily delight to magnify so good and great a God.
- “*For he is holy.*” Holiness is the harmony of all the virtues. The Lord has not one glorious attribute alone, or in excess, but all glories are in Him as a whole; this is the crown of His honor and the honor of His crown.

Psa 99:6 Moses and Aaron were among His priests, And Samuel was among those who called upon His name; They called upon the LORD, and He answered them.

- “*Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among them that call upon his name.*” Let us approach the Lord at the mercy-seat as they did, for He is as accessible to us as to them. They made it their life's business to call upon Him in prayer, and by so doing brought down innumerable blessings upon themselves and others.“
- *They called upon the Lord, and he answered them.*” Not in vain were their prayers; but being a holy God he was true to his promises. These three men asked large things, they pleaded for a whole nation, and they stayed great plagues and turned away fiery wrath; who would not exercise himself in adoring so great and merciful a God? This is recorded for our joy and for his glory, that holy men of old were not suffered to pray in vain.

Psa 99:7 He spoke to them in the cloudy pillar; They kept His testimonies and the ordinance He gave them.

- “*He spoke to them in the cloudy pillar.*” We have had mention of the ark and the shekinah, and now of the fiery cloudy pillar, which was another visible token of the presence of God in the midst of Israel. He has told us things to come, let us in return confess the sins which are past; he has revealed his mind to us, let us then pour out our hearts before him.
- “*They kept His testimonies and the ordinance that he gave them.*” When others turned aside they were faithful; in their hearts they laid up his word, and in their lives they obeyed it..

Psa 99:8 You answered them, O LORD our God; You were to them God-Who-Forgives, Though You took vengeance on their deeds.

- He forgave the sinners, but He slew their sins. This passage likely refers to the nation which was spared through the intercession of these three holy men, but yet was severely chastened for its transgressions.

Psa 99:9 Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His holy hill; For the LORD our God is holy.

- “*Exalt the Lord our God.*” A second time the delightful title of Jehovah our God is used, and it is quickly followed by a third. The Psalm is Trinitarian in its whole structure. In each of His sacred persons the Lord is the God of His people; the Father is ours, the Son is ours, and the Holy Spirit is ours: let us exalt him with all our ransomed powers.
- “*And worship at his holy hill.*” Where he appoints his temple let us resort. No spot of ground is now fenced about as peculiarly holy, or to be regarded as more sacred than another; yet His visible church is His chosen hill, and there would we be found, numbered with His people, and unite with them in worship.
- “*For the Lord our God is holy.*” Again this devout description is repeated, and made the climax of the song. May we rightly perceive and worthily praise the infinite perfection of the Triune Lord!

**PRAY FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS:
- Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation!
PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY;
ISRAEL:**