

PSALM 96 – A Song of Praise to God Coming in Judgment!

5/20/23 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – Reginald Heber, *London Orchestra Festival* (3:06)

*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!*

Psalms 96 – This psalm is found also in *1Ch 16:1-43*. Note the command repeated three times, **Sing, sing, sing, Psa 96:1-2**; the corresponding command, again repeated three times, **Give, give, give, Psa 96:7-8**; the triple call for joy from heaven, sea, and land, **Psa 96:11-12**. It is good to read these psalms; they impart the burning devotion of these olden saints. They break on our lethargy and half-heartedness. Notice that we call men to a jubilation and joy, not to a lament, when we invite them to come home to God.

PSALM 96 – *Worship in the Splendor of Holiness- A call to sing to the LORD a new song!*

Psa 96:1 Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Psa 96:2 Sing to the LORD, bless His name; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.

- There is always a reason to sing a new song to the LORD! He is always blessing us with some new mercy, some new reason! He is constantly giving. He is always constantly worthy of our praise! Because of what He has done in my life, I'm a new person, just singing to Him! It's like a new song to Him and to me! So, a call to sing a new song!

Psa 96:3 Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples.

- We declare His glory by singing a new song unto Him! There is a prophetic element in the worship of God's people toward the LORD.
- There is something that happens to an unbeliever, when they walk into a church where the LORD is being worshipped in Spirit and in truth, not just in words, but in the reality of a relationship with God. That impacts them with a voice from God that's unlike anything else in the world.
- Even if a person cannot understand one word of the language being spoken in worship, they will be so moved by just being in the presence of God's people worshipping, observing the response of the worshippers. That's the power of it! Hollywood, with unlimited budgets, cannot reproduce what is happening in a room when God's people are worshipping Him in Spirit and in truth and then He inhabits those praises! That is holy ground, which cannot be reproduced for anything. God does that! There is something powerful that makes even the hardest heart in the world, stop and say, I've never seen anything like this in all of life. There is something real that is happening between these people and God! It has that impact upon them. It's important, as Christians to realize that.
- The worship team has a responsibility to give to us songs that allow us to participate. We have a responsibility to then sing those things to the LORD, first, because He is worthy! Also, because it edifies us, we've been created for His good pleasure, to worship Him. A need that we have in life, but also, for the sake of those who have come into the room. God wants them to hear a relationship between Him and His people, unlike the experience between all the other people in the world in the worship of all other gods. Few other religious systems have a relationship with God that is expressed in praise and worship. Watch Muslims worship Allah. The difference between the two in terms of joy; in terms of life, giving and taking, in terms of a reality. This is my Heavenly Father. This is a relationship that I have with Him. It's a stark a difference as can be! Others may have emotional experience, but they are mindless, a working up into a frenzy, a dismissing of the mind in doing that. It's the worship of the LORD that allows our heart, our mind, our soul and our strength, none of them neglected! All of them uniting to worship in this way. God calls us to do that!
- The worship relationship that we have with the LORD is something that preaches to the whole world!

Psa 96:4 For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

Psa 96:5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols (literally – nothing!), But the LORD made the heavens.

Psa 96:6 Honor and majesty are before Him; Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

- Then he gives us the reasons why we should worship the LORD. When You're great, You ought to be praised greatly and God is great!

Psa 96:7 Give to the LORD, O families of the peoples, Give to the LORD glory and strength.

Psa 96:8 Give to the LORD the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts.

- We see the repetition of give! Give! Give!
- We do not worship the LORD in order to “get” something from Him! Never to “butter Him up” so then we can get something from Him.
- Worship is for the LORD. We are to bless Him. We are blessed as a result because we’ve been created to do it. But there is not to be any manipulation, using worship to get something.

Psa 96:9 Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.

- Holiness is beautiful! Worship in the Old Testament would begin in the outer court, then move into the inner courtyard, coming closer to the tabernacle or to the temple. Then as they drew nearer, they would see all the fabrics, all of the colors, all of the beauty, the curtains, the blues, the golds, the reds, unbelievable beauty! The closer you got to the “Holy of Holies”, the more beautiful the temple got, until ultimately everything was just covered in solid gold. The idea is the closer we get to God, the more we draw close to Him, then the more beautify His holiness becomes!
- The definition for us is a different tabernacle! Jesus came into the world. He tabernacled among us! He is the definition of holiness. The closer we get to Jesus, the closer we become in our relationship with Jesus, the more we come to appreciate the beauty of Holiness! Holiness is a beautiful thing!

Psa 96:10 Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns; The world also is firmly established, It shall not be moved; He shall judge the peoples righteously."

- As he closes out the Psalm, he looks ahead to the Second Coming of Jesus, when He will set up the thousand-year Reign, looking ahead to His reign upon the earth.
- The world during that thousand-year reign is going to be marked by a stability that’s going to come out of judgment that is righteous. The world will be marked by a physical and a moral stability because God’s righteousness is going to be established. God’s righteousness, obeying His word introduces a stability into our lives that we would not otherwise know.

Psa 96:11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; Let the sea roar, and all its fullness;

Psa 96:12 Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice before the LORD.

Psa 96:13 For He is coming, for He is coming to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, And the peoples with His truth.

SUMMARY:

- God is going to establish His kingdom. He tells us in the Psalm, one day it’s going to be established. That kingdom is going to be established based upon a righteousness and based upon truth.

OUR GOD REIGNS – L. E. Smith/Gaither (3:23)

Psa 96:10 Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns;

How lovely on the mountains Are the feet of him Who brings good news, good news Announcing peace, proclaiming News of happiness. Our God reigns; our God reigns!

Chorus: Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns! (2X)

Out of the tomb He came With grace and majesty; He is alive, He is alive. God loves us so see here His hands, His feet, His side. Yes, we know He is alive. [Chorus]

PRAY FOR OUR NATION’S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: - PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY;

Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including: Narendra Modi- India (1,429; 2.2%) Xi Jinping – China (1,427 million; 7.5% Christian); Joe Biden – USA (329; 26.4%); Joko Widodo – Indonesia (263; 3.1%); Luiz Lula da Silva – Brazil (209; 24.5%) Arif Alvi – Pakistan (208; 0.6%) Shehbaz Sharif – Nigeria (203; 26.2%) Hasina Wazed – Bangladesh (159; 0.4%) Vladimir Putin- Russia (142; 1.4%); Lopez Obrador – Mexico (126; 10.3%) Benjamin Netanyahu – Israel (8.4; 0.4%) Olaf Scholtz – Germany (80; 2.1%) Rishi Sunak – U.K. (65; 7.8%) Kim Jong-un – North Korea (25; 1.5%)

CC LIVING WORD STAFF/LEADERSHIP:

Terry & Sheila Walker – Senior Pastor Daughter – Melissa; Daughters Kate(10) Lauren (8)

Son – Josaih – wife, Kirstie – Daughter Camille (3) Son - James – wife, Karla - daughters , Autumn (6),
Juniper (5); One son Santiago (4)
Mike Harris – Worship/Associate Pastor – three kids – Jacquelyn (25) Madelyn (22) Cayden (17)
Jeremy Isabella Ampe – Outreach/Associate Pastor – Three kids - Ezekiel (17) Jedediah (12) Lexi (7)
John & Meg Schneider – Children’s Ministry – Kyle (30) Adam (30) Paige (28) - Grandkids – Ayla (2) ; Noa Grace
Nick & Cindy Baran – Youth-Jr. High/HS - Lila, Emet and new baby, Abigail
Fred & Anne Afshar – Persian Ministry – daughter Melanie
Daniel & Janette Carter – three kids – Ethan, Shiloh, Yael