

Psalm 95:1-11 ¹ O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. ² Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. ³ For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. ⁴ In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. ⁵ The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. ⁶ O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. ⁷ For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today if ye will hear his voice, ⁸ Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness: ⁹ When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work. ¹⁰ Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways: ¹¹ Unto whom I sware in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

1. Introduction

- a. Psalm of praise written by King David
- b. Good time to stop & give thanks to God
- c. Dangers of comparisons
 - i. Not wise to compare yourself to someone else

2 Corinthians 10:12 For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.
 - ii. Comparison can rob a thankful heart & create discouragement or jealousy
 - iii. Dissatisfaction is “not enough, wanting something more” when not needed
- d. God commands us to be thankful

1 Thessalonian 5:18 In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
- e. Expectations
 - i. Guard your expectations that they do not turn into discouragements, anger, or depressions
 - ii. Instead turn your expectations into contentment

1 Timothy 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

iii. Happiness is a correct relationship with God

2. Invitation to Worship (verses 1-5)

a. Rejoice in salvation

i. Let God's redeemed talk of His goodness & mercy

Psalm 107:2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

ii. Any person will talk about what they are excited about

b. Rejoice in God's presence

i. Not every Christian has privilege of meeting with God's people openly

ii. Americans can worship freely & openly in any church

iii. Do not take your freedom to worship for granted, but be thankful

c. Rejoice in God's strength

i. God is still in charge of all human governments

a) God is the great God & the great King

b) Jesus Christ is Lord of lords & King of kings

Revelation 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

ii. God is the Creator

a) Jesus is the Creator of all things

John 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.

Col 1:16-For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him

b) Jesus holds the physical universe together by the power of His own word

Col 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Hebrews 1:3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

3. Inspiration to Relationship (verse 6-7)

a. To come & worship the personal God

- i. Every Christian owes God worship
- i. God is my God

Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

- ii. Christians bow down & kneel before God in singing, giving thanks, & praying
- iii. Christians overcome the many things against them

Romans 8:31, 37³¹ What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? ...³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

b. Christians are the people of God

- i. God teaches that there is only one way to heaven

John 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep and am known of mine.

John 14:1, 6¹ Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ...⁶ Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

- ii. I am part of God's people – "people of His pasture"

John 10:27-28²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: ²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

- iii. Convicted heart is gift from God

Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

c. God is present in my life always as I walk with Him

4. Admonition Given to God's People (verses 8-11)

a. Warning against hard hearts

- i. Children of Israel had seen God's works & miracles
 - a) Plagues on Egyptian people to free the slaves
 - b) Miracle of food – manna
 - c) Supply of water out of a rock

d) Their clothes & shoes never wore out in 40 years

Deuteronomy 29:5 And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot.

e) They were on trip to promised land

ii. Yet they murmured & complained

b. Warning against not being thankful

i. God can be grieved by His people

ii. Israel grieved God for 40 years in the wilderness

iii. Israel strayed in their hearts away from God

iv. Israel complained about what they did not have

1 Corinthians 10:5-6 ⁵ *But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.* ⁶ *Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.*

c. God wants us to have a thankful heart

i. Give thanks to God

Psalms 106:1 Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

ii. Praise is the “honey” of life that Christian can extract from every part of their life

5. Conclusion

a. Hardened heart? (see Hebrews chapter 3-4)

Psalms 95:8-9 ⁸ *Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:* ⁹ *When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work.*

Hebrews 3:12-13 ¹² *Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.* ¹³ *But exhort one another daily, while it is called T day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*

b. Remember the cost that Jesus paid on the cross.

c. Christian thank God for your Savior