

## Psalm 95 – Come, Let Us Worship

1 Oh come, let us sing to the Lord!  
Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.  
2 Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving;  
Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.  
3 For the Lord is the great God,  
And the great King above all gods.  
4 In His hand are the deep places of the earth;  
The heights of the hills are His also.  
5 The sea is His, for He made it;  
And His hands formed the dry land.  
6 Oh 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 you will hear His voice:  
8 “Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion,  
As in the day of trial in the wilderness,  
9 When your fathers tested Me;  
They tried Me, though they saw My work.  
10 For forty years I was grieved with that generation,  
And said, ‘It is a people who go astray in their hearts,  
And they do not know My ways.’  
11 So I swore in My wrath,  
‘They shall not enter My rest.’ ”

**We are currently in a series here on Wednesday night called the Songs of David.**

A) Each week we are looking at A Psalm that David Wrote.

**B) But not just any Psalm or Song – but a Psalm that correlates with the story of his life found in 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel**

C) On Sunday mornings we are currently looking at the Life of David – found in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel

D) How do we know when these Psalms were written – great question – glad you asked it.

We have been using the Reese Chronological Bible as our guide

A) Edward Reese who was a Pastor and Professor at The Crown College in Tennessee –

B) Reese and other Scholars spent 40 yrs studying researching and putting together the Chronological Bible

C) So whole lot of research went into placing these Psalms in the narrative order –

1) that they believe make the most sense

So that as been our guide in this series.

A) Now in our Study on Sunday if you were with us – We were in 2 Samuel chapter 6 –

B) David finally becomes king over all of Israel

1) This is where the Scholars believe that – He wrote Psalm 95 –

C) Which I have to say – I love – When David becomes King –

1) He writes a song reminding everyone who is the Real King

Now we have seen in recent weeks – David at his worst – Backslidden – running from God

A) But when David was at his Best – He was really good at Putting people’s eyes in the right place –  
ON THE LORD

B) He does that here in Psalm 95 Beautifully

**Psalm 95 is divided into 2 themes**

**A) Vs 1-7 There is an admonition to Praise God  
Vs 8-11 There is a warning against Provoking God**

B) That is how we want to approach this Psalm tonight –

**So we begin with the Admonition to Praise God**

**A) We are to praise God For Who he is: Oh Come- that is an invitation**

B) One might ask – why do we need an invitation to praise and worship God?

C) Shouldn’t that be a natural thing for us.

The Answer is yes it should – because of who he is and all he has done-

A) But if we are honest – it isn’t always natural for us. Praise God new day – “This is the day – no

B) Morning already? – really - We don’t naturally praise God - Because of our Human Frailty

C) I wake up feeling aches and pains in my body. – Back – Feet

D)I usually can't even do much of anything until I get some Caffeine in me.

Another reason why worshipping God isn't always natural for us is because of Human Responsibilities  
A)Sometimes there is so much going on in our lives – distracted –

B)I wake up with a plethora of things on the to do list.

C)Sometimes it can be overwhelming – Wake up Anxious

That is why is why it is so important my friends that we heed the advice of David in Psalm 63 – O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You;

David is setting a great example for us – Seek God early

A)For me that is first thing in the early morning –

B)that is why I like to encourage you to start your day in the Word.

1)See God – See his heart – see his love for me – see myself in light of who he is –

C)It is only after I have spent some time in the word and prayer – that I am ready to worship.

D)So there is a discipline involved here: Rhythm for life – my day starts with seeking God – in his word – in prayer – in Praise/ worship.

Now The days that I do that – those days go so much better.

A)When Challenges that come my way – I see them with the right perspective

B)Mts become Mole hills when I start my day with the Lord

C)But when I don't – when I just jump into my responsibilities –

1)oh Boy – everything can get out of whack quickly

D)Over react to situations – short with people – my heart can very quickly get filled with anxiety.

On those days: My wife will sometimes ask –

A)Did you spend time with Jesus today? – She can tell the difference

B)Develop this discipline – Dating my wife – I love 39 yrs marriage – best friend

1)Schedule date days and nights –

C)Because if we just hope – never happen -life is too busy – even though best intentions

1)Praising God is similar – Discipline and determination

But understand something friends – This is not just a matter of discipline it is a matter of Longing

A)David in Psalm 63 understands something that we often forget – Our souls are longing for intimacy with God

O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You;  
My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You  
In a dry and thirsty land, Where there is no water.

**B)Friends there is a longing in your soul for intimacy with God –**

Galatians 4:6 Holy spirit in you crying out Abba Father – Daddy

C)What you are longing for is NOT – egg Omelete – Donut or a workout

1)or to finish binging that Netflix show you were watching the night before

D)Your soul is longing for intimacy with God!

So we need to heed the Invitation to Come

**A)Notice that David also tells us that we are to praise God for WHO HE IS**

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

3 For the Lord is the great God, And the great King above all gods.

4 In His hand are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the hills are His also.

5 The sea is His, for He made it; And His hands formed the dry land.

**He is the Lord –**

A)Jehovah is the word used here FOR LORD– the Supreme One – the God above all Gods

B)He is the Rock of our Salvation – he pulled us out of the pit or some of us saved us from the pit –

1)set us on a firm foundation

C)He is our source of Security and stability –

D)Our Salvation is secure because of who he is and what he has done

1)Our security and stability isn't in our faithfulness – it is in his faithfulness – he is faithful... We are faithless

He is V.3 the Great God – idea is he is the Mighty One

### **V.3B We are to praise him because he is the great King! He is the Sovereign one**

A)I suggest there is nothing better for us to do on a daily basis than to remind ourselves Jesus is King

B)I am not the King of my life – you are not the King of your life – your family – your ministry – JESUS IS

C)KING ABOVE ALL KINGS!

### **V.4 We are to praise him because he is the creator!**

A)Everything in the earth - under the sea – in Space – he made – he spoke into existence

B)He is the creator of all – Sustainer of all

C)So We are invited to come and praise God for who He is

This brings us to consider another important aspect of praise and worship –

**A)It is about who God is and not How I feel.**

B)There are times when I don't feel like worshipping

C)One of the things I like about our worship leaders here at CV – is I don't ever hear them asking –

1)How you feeling today Church? – That is irrelevant

D)If we are honest – we might answer – I am feeling lousy, I feel self-centered –

1)I feel defeated – I feel guilty – I am Angry  
I am distracted

E)Listen praise and worship is not about how I am feeling – it is about who God is –

1)Worship is Worth-ship

F)Because of Who He is he is always Worthy of my praise and worship and adoration.

### **So David invites us to come and praise God for who He is**

**A)David here also lets us know that God deserves exuberant praise from us.**

B)Notice the words that he uses here to invite us to praise God

V.1 -Sing

V.1 Shout Joyfully – With excitement – {It is ok to do that!

C)Now if you are shouting to draw attention to you – No Bueno – seeking the glory of God for yourself –

D)People died in the Bible for doing that

D)But when it is proper – to shout – go for it!  
Beautiful expression of Worship

### **So David admonishes us to Sing – to shout Joyfully**

A)V.2 to come into his presence with thanksgiving and Joy.

B)Who God is and what he is done – Calls for our excitement!

C)Ask you a question: What excites you? –

1)Kids or grandkids do something amazing – how do you respond – Jumping up and down – yelling

D)Your team scores the winning touchdown – Do you go crazy!

1)Charger game.

E)Doesn't God deserve an even greater level of excitement from us?

1)Saved us – Hell to heaven – relationship – perfect love – abounding in grace and mercy.

Now if the peak of your level of excitement is a golf clap. –

A)In Golf there is an etiquette – pants – shirts are tucked in – they are well mannered – sophisticated –

B)Something great happens – Clap – commonly –

C)Maybe that is your personality – not very emotional – ok –

1) God deserves the biggest level of emotion you have

I read this week about two pastors who were friends

A) One was a Latino Pastor – the other was an American and a Presbyterian – known for being heady and unemotional

B) They were talking about Worship and the Latino Pastor said -well my background is Pentecostal and 2<sup>nd</sup> I am Hispanic

C) So he said I have this Latin Love Emotion – that is a double whammy

1) My culture is very expressive – emotional – that naturally flows into how I express worship to God.

Well his Presbyterian friend said – I come from a culture that is more subdued – and reserved – fits my personality

A) His Latino Pastor friend – said that is cool bro – but do me an favor and take this test.

B) What kind of emotion do you show in other areas of your life – when you are around your wife – your kids etc.

C) So for the next two weeks – the Presbyterian pastor paid attention to his emotional response after seeing his wife – traveling

D) Being at his grandkids Soccer game when he scored a goal

E) When his favorite Football team scored the winning touch down

Conclusion – I am more emotional than I think –

A) He said he had to repent of not showing the same emotion toward God.

B) So maybe that speaks to you maybe it doesn't

C) Here is the thing David is telling us – God deserves our deepest and most exuberant displays of Devotion

D) But I want you to notice that David switches gears in V. 6 – 6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

**Worship isn't always the same: God deserves our excitement but he also deserves our reverence.**

A) Come let us worship and bow down invitation to reverence

B) This is the unusual dichotomy of Praise and worship –

C) On the one hand we are called to come boldly into God's presence

1) Veil has been rent – Access Granted

D) We are to be exuberant in our Praise of who God is

**But there is always to be an attitude of reverence in realizing who it is that we are approaching –**

A) God who is Holy and Majestic – full of Glory

B) Told Moses -see your Glory – no one can see my face and live!

**Worship and bow down is not just about Reverence it is also about intimacy.**

7 For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand. Today, if you will hear His voice:

A) David is drawing upon that relationship that he knew all too well

B) God is a Shepherd – We are his sheep – special bond –

1) the Shepherd leads the sheep cares for the sheep – feeds the sheep – protects

C) The Shepherd names the sheep and they know his voice.

The Whole picture speaks to us of the intimacy that God desires with his people.

A) This whole scene stands in stark contrast to what was the normal way that people would approach a king in that Eastern Culture

B) First – you had to be summoned- you couldn't just come when you wanted.

C) You would come in bowing down – your face to the ground – graveling in fear –

1) Hoping that the King wasn't going to – Kill you

This is the opposite: The King of Kings and Lord of Lords – God almighty invites us to Come –

A) Come Boldly – Because we are His sheep – we are his people – we are his prized possession –

B) Come bow – Come near don't be afraid

C) I read this and I can't help but think of my relationship with my grandson Josiah – lives with us

1) He is 7 yrs old - Great little kid – full of energy excitement

D) Once a day – I will call him – Josiah – come here – Sit with me

E) That is the picture of God here: Just come near –

Notice that phrase at the end of V.7 - Today, if you will hear His voice:

A) Some people have the tendency to put this phrase with the warning that starts in V.8 –

B) But I actually think it goes with the invitation to Worship and adore Him in V. 6-7

C) Today if you hear his voice: Don't put this invitation off – Do it now – response quickly –  
1) Because this takes precedence over everything else. Drawing near to God is life's highest priority.

D) Promise attached to it – If you Draw near to him – he will draw near to you!

**So David presents this beautiful invitation to come and praise and worship God.**

**A) Then he ends the Psalm with this Warning to not Provoke God**

8 “Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion,  
As in the day of trial in the wilderness,

9 When your fathers tested Me;  
They tried Me, though they saw My work.

10 For forty years I was grieved with that generation,  
And said, ‘It is a people who go astray in their hearts,  
And they do not know My ways.’

11 So I swore in My wrath, They shall not enter My rest.’ ”

B) David is referencing that time in the history of the nation of Israel when God had saved them from the bondage of Egypt

1) A Picture of the bondage of Sin

C) God was intent on leading them into the promised land

But the problem was the nation of Israel didn't want to be led

A) They acted like they didn't need God – we can lead ourselves

B) David said God was grieved at that generation- became Angry with that generation- lasted 40 yrs

C) Because of their hard heartedness and rebellion – most of that nation missed out on entering into the promise that God had for them

**Now the Bible says that Our God is a Jealous God  
A) that he has emotion he can get angry. He can be grieved**

**B) But the Bible also tells us that one of the primary attributes of God is that he is Loving –  
1) God is LOVE!**

C) So this is what we need to understand about God when it says God is Jealous

1) it is not like we think of Jealousy

We get Jealous when we get our feelings hurt –

A) someone picks someone else instead of us – we are hurt.

B) God's Jealousy is different – not directed at him and his feelings – it is directed at us.

1) Jealous for you –

C) He loves us more than you can ever imagine – he has a plan for us, he knows what is best for us.

D) When we choose to not follow him – his plan – we do our own thing

1) He gets angry not at you but for you. – Missing out – He is Jealous for you – missing out on his best.

E) I am sure you have experienced this as a Parent or grand parent

My Grandson Josiah is a pretty good little athlete – Loves sports – he is into Basketball – Soccer and Tennis right now

A) He has some great natural ability – but he needs coaching –

B) And guess what his grandpa back in the day was a pretty good athlete himself – Played those sports

C) So I take him to the court – bball – Tennis and I will go to show him how to shoot – or hit –

Sometimes he will say: I don't want to do it that way- I want to do it my way. Hard headed like his Papi –

A) Sometimes he will even say – when he is being really bratty and defiant – I am not listening to you.

B) OK – be that way: I get frustrated with him –

C) but it is not that he has hurt my feelings – or that I feel dejected - No He is 7

D) I get frustrated because I know I can help him –

1) I know that if he will just listen to me – it will be so much better for him - He is missing out

E) So my frustration and anger is not directed at him -it is for him

That is how God feels when we resist him

A) They are being mean and they hurt my feelings

B) Frustration and Anger – I have so much for them and they are missing out in their rebellion

1) And stupidity

C) We can provoke God in that way by doing our own thing – resisting his love care grace

1) Guidance

D) He hurts for us – Longs for us –

Same thing any parent has felt whose child has played the prodigal – Frustration

A) You see their life's being impacted by sin – Anger frustration

Your Anger and frustration isn't at them – it is at what they are doing – missing out on

A) The minute they turn – the moment there is a sense of brokenness - YOU ARE RIGHT THERE

B) Any opportunity that you have to talk sense into them – show love to them – bring hope

1) You take it without hesitation

C) But there are times when you just have to let go and let the path they are on play out

That is what God did over and over again with Israel that is what he does with us too – our rebellion

A) Now we can learn from the mistakes of Israel

B) In fact that is exactly what Paul admonishes us to do in 1 Corinthians 10

C) There he describes Israel's rebellion in the wilderness – their resistance to God's leading

D) The Calamity they endured as a result and he says this:

<sup>11</sup> These things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our instruction, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So, whoever thinks he stands must be careful not to fall. 1 Corinthians 10:11-12

**A) Our instruction – are you going to learn the hard way – own mistakes**

**B) Or the smart way – others mistakes**

So You can Praise God – and worship God – draw near to God and experience the life and blessing of God

A) Or you can provoke God – by choosing to do what you think is right

B) Choosing to put yourself on the throne of your life.

**C) It is an easy Choice Praise or Provoke – Favor or Grief**