

THANKSGIVING 2019
WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH
A THANKFUL HEART

Psalm 100

Psalm 100 is a *literary masterpiece*. It has been said that the Bible is *shallow enough that the immature can enter without drowning*, but it's *deep enough that the most mature can immerse themselves without ever touching the bottom*. Such is **Psalm 100**. This **Psalm** does not contain a single concept that is not *expressed elsewhere* in the **Psalms**...but is *rich* in *bringing together* the *deep truths* found *within* the **Psalms**.

When studying **Psalm 100** one sees the importance of making *proper preparation* before *entering* into the *presence* of *holy God*. Keep in mind...God is *accessible* to meet us *anywhere*, *anyplace*, and *anytime*...but we must *come prepared* to *enter into His presence* with a *heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit* that *acknowledges the presence* of the King.

Isn't it interesting we are willing to *wait for hours, standing in line...regardless of weather conditions*...to catch a glimpse of some *earthly celebrity, notable athlete, king, or president* ...yet we think nothing of *entering unprepared* into the presence of God?

“Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? And who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood and has not sworn deceitfully.”

~Psalm 24:3-4

A *spiritual protocol* must be followed for whomever wants to *enter into the presence* of the King...in order to *experience* Him *personally*. **Psalm 100** shows us that *protocol* to enter into *God's presence*...the *procession* to *meet* a king.

I. WE ARE EXHORTED TO PRAISE GOD:

Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth (**vs. 1**)...

People everywhere (*all the earth*) should *shout...to the Lord*. They are not to be *inhibited* or *subdued* in their *praise* of Him.

Shout...refers to *making noise*...a *ringing cry*...a cry that *pierces the eardrum*!

Joyfully...means to *make music*. It refers to *singing* and specifically to the *songs* of the **Psalms**.

To the Lord...*means to give a public confession of the attributes and works of God*. *Ascribe* to Him His *glory*.

Come before Him with joyful singing (**vs. 2b**)...a *spirit* ...a *heart* of *praise* and *worship*.

II. WE ARE EXHORTED TO SERVE GOD WITH GLADNESS:

Serve the Lord with gladness (**vs. 2a**)...

Their *service* is meant to be *an act of worship*...*spiritual*.

“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.”

~Romans 12:1

III. WE ARE EXHORTED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE LORD IS GOD:

Know that the Lord Himself is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture (**vs. 3**)...

When the Lord is *praised* and *worshiped joyfully*, we are *acknowledging* that He is *sovereign*. He is *creator*, and those who *trust* Him are His *possession*. They *follow* Him, for they are *the sheep of His pasture*.

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.”

~John 10:27-28

IV. WE ARE EXHORTED TO WORSHIP GOD:

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name (**vs. 4**)...

This is a *call* to the *saints...believers...* to *enter Jerusalem (His gates...God's gates)* and to go to the *Temple (His courts)* to offer their *thanksgiving sacrifices* acknowledging His *blessings* to them.

V. WE ARE EXHORTED TO EXPERIENCE GOD:

For the Lord is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting and His faithfulness to all generations (**vs. 5**)...

God's people should *continually praise the Lord* for His *goodness, love, and faithfulness* (all **fruit of the Spirit**).

These benefits *endure* from *generation to generation*. So every *generation* that *experiences* God's *goodness, love, and faithfulness* can join in *praising* Him...and *pass it on* to the *next generation*.

LESSONS TO WE CAN LEARN:

- There are two kinds of worshippers...those who worship **HORIZONTALLY** and those who worship **VERTICALLY**.

Those who worship *horizontally* are typically *well-versed in the faith*...they know the *traditions*...they know the *routine*...and they *love it*. The only problem is they worship in the realm that makes them *feel good* and have *their felt needs* met. They have a *small “s” spiritual experience*.

Those who worship *vertically* have discovered *true worship* (**John 4**). They are continually *exalting* God...*praising* God...*seeking* God...*seeing* God *glorified*. They are the one who ultimately *experience* God.

- Be thankful for a God who **LOVES** you and has **PROVEN** that love beyond all doubt by sending His Son to **REDEEM** you from your sinful nature and **RECONCILE** you to Himself.

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.”

~John 3:16-17

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace”

~Ephesians 1:7

- God is most **GLORIFIED** when we remember that it is He who has **MADE** us...that we are His **PEOPLE**...that we are **REDEEMED** by His Son...that He is **GOOD** and **FAITHFUL**.