

Sermon Notes

WORSHIP SERVICE -

10.27.2024

PSALM 100 - A CALL TO WORSHIP THE LORD

I. INTRODUCTION

Psalm 100

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

2 Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

3 Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;[\[a\]](#)

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

5 For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

- Psalm 100 is known by several names, or nicknames.
- Old 100. The hundredth. The Jubilate.
- Only a few Psalms have names to formally reference them like this one does.
- God's people have been singing Psalm 100 in worship and praise to the Lord for millenia.
- This psalm was sung in the temple.
- And in the time of Jesus it was sung daily in the synagogue services throughout Israel.
- It was sung as lauds in medieval times as a part of their liturgies.
- It has been sung in churches since the 1500s in the song "All people that on earth do dwell" by William Kethe.

- It is an amazing, worshipful song filled with truth about our God and encouragement to praise and worship him!

Invitation of the Psalm

- The subtitle of this Psalm gives us the purpose of it. A Psalm for giving thanks.
- Not for just saying ‘thank you’, but for thanksgiving; for overwhelming gratitude to the Lord which then overflows from our hearts into worship!
- This Psalm as you read it and sing it serves as an invitation to come worship the king!
- Psalm 100 and the 7 Psalms before it are a collection of Kingship Psalms.
- Psalms 93 through 100 are royal kingdom psalms which celebrate the reign of our great and awesome king!
- Those Psalms are filled with reference to God as king.
- They speak of his reign, “The LORD” reigns. - Psalm 93, 96, 97, and 99.
- They speak of his throne, being established from of old - Psalm 95
- They speak of him as a great king - Psalm 95,98
- And they speak of the goodness of his governance of his people - Psalm 99
- We do well to remind ourselves that he is the King of kings and the Lord of lords.
- Psalm 100, being at the end of this series of royal kingdom psalms, serves as a doxology, a final and emphatic invitation to come and worship this great and good king!
- It's a joyful invitation! It's an invitation to give thanks.
- An invitation to come into his presence and worship him.
- The invitation is for the people of God. In the old testament the children of Israel were invited to come worship him in the temple.
- And now all who are in Christ Jesus have this invitation to come worship him in Spirit and in truth.
- It is only through Christ that can we accept this wonderful invitation.

II. WORSHIP THE LORD BECAUSE HE IS GOD

Vs 1-2 Worship the Lord

- Verses 1 and 2 give us the first three out of seven imperatives to unpack for how we are to worship: Make noise, Serve the LORD, Come into his presence.
- Here starting off our text the psalmist offers the first imperative for us: make. “Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!”
- Notice the exclamation point at the end of that sentence. Make noise to the Lord! We are not to be silent!
- And specifically though, what kind of noise? Joyful noise!
- But here in the beginning of psalm 100, we are urgently invited to make joyful noise to the king!
- Our worship should be characterized by Joy, gladness, and singing.
- Israel was invited to come and sing and worship Yahweh, the LORD, and they did. This psalm was sung in worship by generations of Israelites, but the invitation here extends far beyond them.
- It says that it's for all the earth! Sent to every nation, tribe and tongue, because Yahweh is King, and his reign is over not just Israel, but over all the earth! Over all that he has made!
- The invitation extended to all the earth is referenced all throughout these royal psalms.

- Psalm 96:1 says *Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!*
- That same refrain “of all the earth” is repeated 4 more times in the royal Psalms, calling all the earth to come and worship, and tremble, and sing praise to the Lord of all the earth!
- The Lord reigns over all the earth, and all the earth is called to make a joyful noise to him. To praise and exalt and worship the king!
- When Israel sung this in ages past, under the old covenant, this joyful noise was mainly just them. The whole earth wasn’t yet doing this was it.
- But Isaiah prophesied of a day to come when it wouldn’t be just Israel. He prophesied of a day when people of all nations would accept this invitation to come make a joyful noise and worship the Lord! Listen to what he says in Isaiah 56:
 - *Is 56:6–7 6 “And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant— 7 these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”*
- When we are among people who love the name of the Lord, who are the servants of the Lord, there is great joy as we worship our king together!
- One day our gathering won’t just be with our local church but we will be gathered together in the house of the Lord with people of every nation, tribe, and tongue!
- We will be brought into the presence of the Lord together as his people who are from all peoples!
- The second imperative for us is Serve. Serve the Lord with gladness!
- If you recall all the way back to Psalm 1 and 2 which lay the foundation for all the rest of the psalms, you might think of this as a contrast to Psalm 2:11:
 - Ps 2:11 *Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.*
 - So there, those in rebellion against God are called to Serve the Lord, with fear.
 - But here in Psalm 100, we are called to Serve the Lord, with gladness.
 - Sometimes we forget that when we serve the Lord, it's a form of worship to him. The flipside to that is that our worship is also a form of serving him. That's why you have Serve the Lord with gladness included within an invitation to worship.
 - When we serve the Lord with gladness, with glad hearts, rejoicing in him and serving from a place of humble gratitude, we are celebrating our good and gracious king!
 - We are responding to his goodness and grace and love for us by showing love and serving one another! That is worshipful to him!
 - And this is an imperative here - Serve the Lord! It's the example we have from our savior. He was the ultimate lowly servant, wasn't he?
 - Mathew 20:28 And what did he say of himself? *“the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve...”*
 - He was the ultimate servant. And if he is our example to follow, then what are we to do? To humbly serve the Lord.
 - This is not an imperative call to muttering service or a service of obligation or duty but of response!
 - There is joy in the house of the Lord when we gather to focus our hearts on him and give him worship and praise!
 - And as we're reminded of the truths of who he is, in song, and through the preaching of the word, our hearts respond! Our hearts are filled with gladness and thanksgiving to our great God!
 - And if our serving is likewise a form of worship, if our serving is not out of obligation but similarly a response to the wonder of the service that Jesus did for us on the cross, then gladness in our serving is appropriate!

- The early church father Augustine wrote this: *“Do not be afraid of slavery to this Lord of ours; there will be no complaining among his slaves, no grumbling, no resentment. No one begs to be emancipated from that service, because it is so delightful that all of us have been redeemed.”*
- Maybe your serving is lacking and you need to be reminded to serve the LORD!
- Maybe you are serving the Lord, and praise God for that! But you need to be reminded that there is a service that doesn't please the Lord, and that is grumbling, frowning, dutiful service.
- Maybe you need to be reminded that there is a service which pleases the Lord, and that is serving with gladness!
- Ultimately this is a reminder that when we serve, it's to be from a heart responding to his goodness and grace and overflowing into worshipful serving of our great king!
- The third imperative we see here in verse 2 is Come. Come into his presence!
- If that isn't one of the single greatest invitations you have ever received, I don't know what is. It's an outstanding call: Come into the presence of the Lord!
- This is only possible through Christ.
- Without Christ, dead in sin and trespasses, we have no access to the presence of a Holy God who is without sin in all his being.
- That's what Psalm 99 just before this reminds us of regarding who he is. It declares we are to praise and exalt him because He is holy! Because he is perfect, without sin in his presence!
- God, our king, is holy. And man is unholy, dead in sin and trespass, but thanks be to God for our mediator - Christ Jesus!
- Because Jesus is the one, who as Ephesians 3:12 tells us, *in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.*
- Because of Christ, we have boldness and access to the Father! We have confidence through our faith in Christ that we can approach the throne of glory!
- We are to come into his presence with singing! The imperative is that we come, but the way in which we are to come is with singing!
- With praise and exaltation on our lips! Make a joyful noise! Serve the Lord with gladness! And now come into his presence with singing!
- In Christ, we are invited into his presence. And when we come, let that "singing" out!
- God's people are a singing people. And it's not circumstantial. It's not just for good times when we feel like singing.
- What were Paul and Silas doing in prison? Praying and singing.
- Ephesians 5:18-20 *“but be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,”*
- Singing songs with rich theological truths of who God is reminds our hearts of who God is and causes us to worship Him as we're reminded of who he is.
- Singing stirs up our affections and our emotions to the Lord.
- The invitation to worship isn't just emotionally based though, but based on what we know to be true of him, and therefore is a response to that truth.
- And so in vs 3 we see the amazing truth that the psalm writer gives as a foundation for such a joyous invitation to worship:

Vs 3 Because he is God

- Know that the Lord, he is God!
- The truth on which our worship and thanksgiving and praise and singing is based is simply this: That YAHWEH is God!
- This is the fourth imperative - Know it!

- We do not worship the unknown God of Athens. We do not worship a God who is far off and distant.
- Our God can be known because he has revealed himself to us.
- Deuteronomy 7:9 *Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,*
- Our Lord is God. He is a faithful God! He is an unchanging God! He is a loving God!
- He isn't just another deity, he alone is the one true God. The exalted one.
- And so our worship isn't sung towards a great beyond, towards the hope of a God.
- We can know there is a God, and we can, through Christ, know God!
- Some people question if there is a God. That is foolishness! The fool says in his heart "there is no god".
- The children of Israel, when they sang this song, must have thought of all the times the Lord proved beyond a shadow of a doubt to them that he was God.
- He delivered them in the wilderness. He gave them the law and the prophets.
- How about Elijah, who challenged the people to follow God. He said in 1 Kings 18 "If the *Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.*"
- And so they stack up their altars, and Elijah douses his in water, and then the Lord powerfully reigns down fire on it proving to everyone that day that he, the Lord, is God. And all the people there fell on their faces, proclaiming that the Lord is God.
- He has revealed himself to us, shared his covenantal name of Yahweh with us, and given us the truth of his word so that we can know more of who he is and what he requires of us.
- He is also our creator. It says "It is he who made us".
- He is Yahweh, the Lord. And he knows us, because it is he who made us. He created us.
- Forming each one of us uniquely, specially. We are fearfully and wonderfully made!
- Our existence, our lives, are completely attributed solely to his sovereign work of creating us. He is our creator!
- Israel was his. He made them. This song reminded them of that truth.
- Like a potter who creates something wonderful out of clay. Forming and fashioning it from just clay into something useful, beautiful, and having a purpose.
- It's why in Isaiah 29 and 60 he calls Israel "the work of my hands". That is such an intimate and beautiful expression of God as the potter, the maker, the fashioner, who is molding them for his glory.
- Israel, and subsequently all who are found in Christ are the work of his hands, that he might be glorified! We were created to bring him glory!
- And considering the truth that he is our maker should cause us to worship him! That's what this Psalm is all about! Worship the king! Worship the creator! Worship our maker!
- That is the overwhelming right and true response as we consider the truth that he is our maker: as the psalmist says in Psalm 95 - fall down and worship him!
- He didn't just make us - additionally it says here, we are his! We belong to him! He made us, formed us, and we are his own.
- When Israel would sing this song of worship, they would be reminded of who they belonged to, and his loving patient care for them.
- He redeemed them from their slavery in Egypt, he brought them into the promised land, and he blessed and protected them among the nations
- And we who are in Christ, when we sing worship to our God, we are also reminded of who we belong to.
- We belong to King Jesus! And we are reminded of his loving patient care for us! For his sacrifice and great love towards us!

- He has redeemed us, he has given us eternal life, and he is working all things together for our good!
- We worship him when we're reminded that we are his. This is a truth that, as we consider it, should cause our hearts to praise and worship the one we belong to!
- We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- Think about that for a moment: we are his people. The people of God!
- Sometimes we say that, and take it for granted. Or we fail to recognize the significance of being the people of the sovereign king of the universe, the Lord of Lords and the almighty God who created all peoples, but has also reserved a special people unto himself.
- Israel was his people. He cared for them like a shepherd and they belonged to him.
- And now in Christ, his people are not just Jews but also gentiles, of every nation, tribe and tongue.
- And if we have trusted Christ Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we too are His! We are His people! We are the sheep of his pasture! He is our good shepherd!
- He is a good king! A king whose people are happy and content and glad to be his subjects!
- A king who cares for his people like a shepherd.
- We are the sheep of his pasture. We belong to him, and are cared for by him.
- Worship him for that. Give him thanks and praise and glory because it is a marvelous and wonderful care he provides, and it is an utter joy to be named among his people.

The Call to Worship and the Reason to Worship

- The reason for this call, the reason it can be joyful and right and expected is because of the foundation of truth for the worship which the psalm writer lays out.
- This call to worship is founded on the reminder of the truth of who God is because if it were not so, he would not be worthy of worship!
- If he was not almighty God, maker of heaven and earth, if he wasn't the king of kings and Lord of Lords, then he wouldn't be worthy of our worship!
- But, because He is, then he is the reason and the focus of our worship, and he is worthy of it. He alone is deserving of our worship.
- We don't worship founded solely on emotion.
- And so reminding ourselves and each other of the truth of who our God is, and what he has done, will remind our hearts what we have to praise and worship him for.
- We were created to worship, it's a part of who we are.
- And he alone is worthy of all the worship and glory and honor and praise we can possibly give.

III. WORSHIP THE LORD BECAUSE HE IS GOOD

Verse 4

- In light of the truth in verse 3, now in verse 4 the psalmist breaks out into an entire new round of worship, calling the people again to come worship the king!
- The word "Enter" is the same word as "Come" in verse 2. It's an invitation to enter his Gates and his Courts.
- Gates and Courts of what? Of course Israel, as they sang this, would know that entering his gates and courts referred to the temple in Jerusalem.

- This is another call, another invitation to enter into the presence of the king and worship him.
- There were a number of different psalm writers, but regardless of the writer, one of the things they experienced and cherished in common was entering into the gates and courts of the temple in Jerusalem to worship the Lord!
- The sentiment of the goodness and blessedness and joy of entering his gates and dwelling in his courts, of being in his presence is echoed in Psalms 65, 84 and Psalm 96 by these writers.
- It was a privilege for Israel to come to the temple, to the house of the Lord, and gather as his people to praise and worship him together!
- Enter, Give, and Bless are 3 imperatives here, just like in verse 1 to Make, Serve, and Come and then Know. There is an urgent command to do these things.
- And just like in verse 1, these imperatives aren't being limited to just Israel, but rather extend to all the earth!
- And so the invitation to Enter his Gates and courts and come into the presence of God is for all the earth!
- And now in Christ we have a new covenant - access to come into the courts is extended to all who trust in Christ!
- And we can now enter his courts with overflowing praise and thanksgiving because we are now covered by the blood of the lamb!
- And that leads to the joyful worship in vs 1-2 and the grateful worship here in verse 4.
- Thanksgiving and thanks, praise and blessing are proper here as we worship him.
- It also says Give thanks to him! Come into his presence with an attitude of thanksgiving and give him thanks!
- We have been given everything in Christ and so praise and thanksgiving on our lips is appropriate!
- Scripture is filled with references to the name of the Lord. Here, we are told to bless his name.
- His name is a saving name. His name is a mighty refuge, it's holy and sacred and trustworthy.
- And so as we're told here, and many other places as well, that we're to bless his name!
- We are to lift his name high!
- We're to do it irrespective of circumstances, from the rising of the sun, early in the morning, all the way to when it goes down, the name of the LORD is to be praised! Lift up his name all day long!

Vs 5 For the Lord is Good

- Just like the invitation to joyfully worship in vs 1 and 2 was based on the foundational truth that the LORD is God, so also the invitation to come worship him with thanksgiving and praise, giving thanks to him and blessing him, is also based on another foundational truth: the LORD is good!
- In verse 3 it was a declaration of what the LORD is - he is God! He is the creator! The Shepherd!
- In verse 5 here this is a declaration of who he is - he is good!
- And his goodness is shown through his love and his faithfulness!
- Psalms 106, 107, 118, 136 all contain verses which echo the refrain from 1 Chronicles 16:34 *"Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"*
- Giving thanks and praise and blessing to the LORD is a proper response as we consider his goodness!
- Our God is good! His love is steadfast and immovable! It's enduring! His faithfulness is for all time, for every generation!
- Therefore - knowing this, enter his Gates with Thanksgiving and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him and bless his name!

- Those are not only invitations but responses from the people of God who know these truths and have experienced them in great measure!

IV. WORSHIP THE LORD ALWAYS

- This invitation to worship the King isn't just to join together in worship on a Sunday morning.
- On Sunday, worship comes easily because we're hearing the truth of who God is and being reminded of what he has done for us. And worship pours out from the people of God.
- However, this invitation to come worship him is given for each and every day of our lives.
- But many times, it doesn't seem to come as easily as when we're gathered together.
- And in these times we may not feel worship overflowing from our hearts.
- This Psalm gives a progression, a pattern, that when we follow it, leads us into natural, overflowing worship in our daily lives.
- First, we see here that truth fuels our affections. Truth is the foundation for worship. The worship in verses 1 and 2 are based on the foundation of truth in verse 3 - Know that the LORD is God!
- And the worship in verse 4 is based on the truth in verse 5 - Know that the LORD is good!
- And that truth fuels the affections, of the feelings, of the psalm writer. In verses 1 and 2 his feelings towards the LORD are ones of joy, of gladness, and singing!
- In verse 4 they are ones of thankfulness and praise!
- He has considered that the LORD is God, our Creator, our sovereign King, and our Shepherd, who is good and steadfast in love and faithfulness!
- And as he considers that truth, his emotions, his affections are stirred for the LORD!
- But feelings themselves aren't worship, But, they lead to the action of worship!
- Truth fuels our affections, and our affections fuel our actions.
- And what are the actions of the Psalmist? Noise! Serving! Coming into his presence!
- Actions of worship which are stirred by his emotions and the affections of his heart which are fueled by the truth that YAHWEH is GOD and he is GOOD!
- If your life isn't characterized by worship, if you want to learn to give thanks and praise and worship in every situation, then meditate on the truths of who and what God is!
- Read in scripture of his great love, of his faithfulness, his mercy, his grace! Read of his deliverance of his people, of the compassion Christ had for the people, of the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the people of God.
- Remember these truths! Remind yourselves, remind each other of them! Read them, sing them, meditate on them!
- And they will light a fire and fuel your affections for the Lord. And those affections will overflow to actions of worship and praise and adoration, giving him the glory and honor he deserves! Of which he is worthy!
- Truth leading to action without affection or feelings is legalism.
- And affection leading to action without truth is emotionalism.
- Truth leading to affection but without actions is a dead faith. Faith, without works, is dead.
- These all miss the pattern we see in Psalm 100 of truth stirring our affections, and affections leading to action.

Our Response

- So I ask you today: Do you know that the LORD is God? That there is none like him, none who can compare to him?
- Do you know that He is good? Have you experienced his goodness towards you?
- Can you exclaim like David in Psalm 34:8 even in the midst of trouble *Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!*
- Those of us who are in Christ have experienced his goodness in a great, and unmeasurable way!
- His steadfast love was shown in the utmost way when he humbled himself to take the form of man and suffer and die in agony to pay for all our sins, for which we were guilty and condemned.
- But now, instead, we've been shown grace and mercy and experience his faithfulness in every day of our lives, and we can declare that he is a good king and lord and master because that is how he has treated us!
- And if you have experienced these things in your life, if you know them to be true because you have seen them to be true, does that not stir your emotions, your affections towards him!?
- Maybe you need your affections to be stirred. Then meditate on the truth. Cling to the truth! Revisit the truth, hold up the truth and declare it!
- And allow your affections to be stirred up, filled with joy and gladness and singing and thanksgiving and praise and blessing because of the truth of who the LORD is, and then let that be the fuel for your actions of worship and adoration to the LORD who is God, and who is unequivocally good!

APPLICATION AND REFLECTION

In light of today's message....

- What did I learn about the gospel?
- How can I apply what I learned about the gospel to my life?
- With whom can I share the gospel this week?