

## Psalm 98

### A New Song for God's Ultimate Work

## Tuesday, June 4, 2024 ▫ Read Psalm 98

Questions from the Scripture text: What does this Psalm call itself (superscript)? What does v1a command us to do? To Whom? What sort of song? Why (v1b)? What is the first of the marvelous things, and how did He gain it (v1c)? What has He done about this salvation (v2a)? What did it show about Him (v2b)? In Whose sight has He revealed it? What two things has He remembered (v3a)? Unto whom? Who have seen this (v3b)? What does v3b call it? What new command does v4a give? What sort of shout? Unto Whom? By whom? What does the shouting burst into (v4b)? What two things are they to do in this singing? What command does v5a give? Unto Whom are they to Psalm? With what? With what four priestly instruments (v5b–6a)? What command does v6b repeat? What sort of shout? Unto Whom? What office does He hold? What else is commanded to do what (v7a)? How much of it? What else (v7b)? And who else? What else is commanded to do what (v8a)? And what else to do what else (v8b)? Before Whom? Why, what is He doing (v9a)? Why is He coming? How will He judge whom in v9b? And how whom in v9c?

**Who is to praise YHWH, in what manner, in the last day?** Psalm 98 looks forward to the opening portion of morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these nine verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **in Day of Judgment, believers from all nations will sing and shout joyfully over the Lord, together with a liberated creation.**

**A new song for a new day.** Like Psalm 96, this Psalm commands a new song. And, like Psalm 96, all creation is singing it at the coming of YHWH to judge the earth. The Lord has given us instruction in Scripture about His coming to judge the earth, not only so that we will live soberly in light of eternity, and so that we will be confident about His vindicating and avenging us eventually, but so that we will sing His praise for it already, now! So that we will shout joyfully over Him, now!

**Marvelous works of the marvelous God.** The first reason given for singing is, "for He has done marvelous things" (v1b). God's works aren't just actions, they are revelations. Because it is "His right hand" that gains the victory and "His holy arm" that gains the victory (v1c), His victory is a "making known" (v2a) and a "revealing" (v2b). He doesn't just do marvelous works; He displays that He is a marvelous God!

**Covenantal redemption with cosmos-wide celebration.** The fulfillment of the great commission (cf. Mt 28:18–20) is behind this song. In His salvation, the Lord remembered (acted upon) His steadfast love and faithfulness toward the house of Israel (v3a). But the Israel that He has gathered is "in the sight of the nations" (v2c), so that "all the ends of the earth have seen" this salvation. Indeed, "all the earth" not only sees but shouts (v4a) and sings (v4b). And the whole creation joins in (v7–8). It is eager for the "great reveal" of the sons of God (cf. Rom 8:19), at which time it will be delivered to participate in their freedom (cf. Rom 8:21).

**Noisy, joyous worship.** vv4–6 are bookended with a command to "shout joyfully" (v4a, 6b). The command to sing in v4b is technically a command to "burst out." Song is the content of this bursting out. The whole creation joins, roaring (v7a) and clapping (v8a) and rejoicing (v8b). And dwellers of the whole world (v7b) round out the company. There is an amplitude commanded in this component of worship.

But there is also an attitude commanded: "joyfully" (v4a), "rejoice" (v4b), "joyfully" (v6b). At the time of the temple, the Levitical priesthood would assist and accompany this joy by a bevy of instruments (cf. 1Ch 15:16, 25:1, 25:6): harp, psaltery, trumpets, horn (v5b–6a). The Great High Priest accompanies by the melody of His grace in the heart (cp. Eph 5:19b with Col 3:16c). At the heart of all of this noisy, joyous, priest-assisted song is the "Psalming" of God. v5a literally, begins, "Psalm YHWH!"

**The great occasion of worship.** What occasions this great worship? YHWH coming to judge (v9a–b). Ever since man fell, unrighteous and in crooked judgment has plagued mankind. But the world (v9b) is destined to be judged by the Lord. He will judge it with righteousness (v9b). He will judge all the peoples with uprightness (v9c). This would not be good news for a guilty or unatoned people, for it would mean their condemnation. But what we see here is a new creation earth full of a new creation people. They are in Christ (cf. 2Cor 5:17). As those redeemed by His blood, and righteous before God in Him, His judgment is a deliverance not a condemnation (cf. Rom 8:33–34). They are freed by His salvation to rejoice over His judgment.

Do you rejoice over the judgments of God? What would free you to do so? What place does looking forward to the Great Day of His judgment have in your thoughts and affections? How are you praying for and participating in the spread of the gospel?

*Sample prayer: Our Father in heaven, thank You for giving Your Son to be our great Prophet, Priest, and King. In Him, You have declared Yourself to us. In Him, You have consecrated us and led our worship. In Him, You have ruled over us and defended us, and will vindicate us in the last day. Now, grant the help of Your Spirit, so that we would always know You in Christ and come to You through Christ, in Whose Name we ask it, AMEN!*

**Suggested songs: ARP98 "O Sing a New Song to the LORD" or TPH98A "O Sing a New Song to the LORD"**

**(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via [hopewellarp.org](http://hopewellarp.org))**

Psalm 98. These are the words of God. A Psalm o sing to y'allah a new song. For he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gained him. The victory. He always has made known his salvation. His righteousness, he has revealed in the sight of the Nations.

He has remembered his mercy and his faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the Earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout joyfully to your ovay all the Earth. Break Forth in song Rejoice and sing praises. Sing to Yahweh with the harp. With the harp and the sound of a song with trumpets and the sound of a horn.

Shout joyfully before. Yahweh the king Let the Sea Roar and all its fullness. The world and those who dwell in it. Let the rivers clap their hands. Let the hills be joyful together before Yahweh. For he is coming to judge the Earth. With the righteousness, he shall judge the world.

And the peoples. With equity. Amen, the sins. This reading of God's inspired and inerrant word. God, truly has given us. songs about and songs for every occasion. This particular song. Sung with respect to or with a view to the return of Christ, the coming of Yahweh to judge the world and to renew The whole creation.

And so it is called a new song. Just like Psalm 96, which is also written. four and in thinking about the same event is also called a new song. Obviously. this is not an instruction to keep making up new songs. Over and over again for the rest of the history of the church.

The Lord is the one who has given us this particular song. But it does mean that we should sing about all. Of God's works, even those that are yet coming, those that have been promised. But that we do not yet, see Complete it. And so there's a new song for a new creation.

And we think this new song about the great work that God will do and bringing a new creation, because when God does this marvelous work, he will be displaying himself, especially as marvelous. So, verse 1 for, he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm. Have gained him, the victory.

Now, God does not have a body. Like we do let alone body parts. But he is displaying himself and so he uses words that are like the words that we would use and just in describing how a man displays himself, the right hand and the holy arm, or the right hand and the arm.

And The Marvelous works of God are displays then of The Marvelous God himself. He is verse 2, making known. His salvation. He is in verse 3, causing to be remembered. His Mercy. And his faithfulness. He is revealing. Himself. His righteousness. In the sight of the Nations. and so the Lord is still Displaying himself revealing himself, making himself known.

This, of course, he did in the creation. there are things in in the things that have been made. He makes known to us as divine nature. Romans 1 says, we see this in how especially he created man who was made in the image of God. We see this.

The Incarnation. The word became flesh and dwelt Among Us and we beheld, his glory That there was a man. Who yet was still the Divine person of the son, the only begotten of the father. And so he was full of Grace and Truth. I said in Emmett, steadfast love and faithfulness.

This wonderful display of God himself in Christ and then also in his children, in us and he has adopted in Christ who are being renewed in the image of God. Like, we just finished thinking about when we answered the question. What is sanctification? And in all of his Works he shows faithfulness wisdom power, Mercy.

and each work highlights one or more of his perfect attributes and In greater or lesser ways. but there is a great Revelation. Of God himself of his character of his nature. That comes in the last day. This especially is the greatness of the last day. Yes, we'll Rejoice over this New Creation and a new world and everyone who dwells in it, new heavens and new Earth in which righteousness dwells and where the knowledge of God, covers the Earth as the waters, cover the sea and will Rejoice over all of those things.

But will Rejoice most of all over the God. Who has accomplished all those things. Who has made known and revealed and made visible. Displayed himself. in his great works. note that this is a covenantal Redemption, he makes his salvation known verse 2. He remembers his steadfast love and faithfulness.

Verse 3 to the house of Israel. Verse 3, it is the salvation of God, it's the completion of his Covenant works. Is what is being praised here? But the celebration of what God has done for his Covenant, people is participated in not just by the Covenant people but by the whole Cosmos.

The heavens and the Earth and all that is in them, especially All the Earth verse 4. the sea and all its fullness, the world, and all those who who dwell in it even the created order, what we would call Nature verse 8, the rivers clapping their hands, the hills joyful together.

Etc. Everything will be as it ought to be. The creation that is currently in bondage and Decay. In bondage to corruption and Decay because of our sin. Will be released to participate in the Glorious. Freedom of the children of God at the second coming of the Lord Jesus. When the sons of God are revealed when we are displayed, in the Redemption, even of Our bodies.

And so, this Cosmos wide celebration and noisy, joyous worship. And it is this that we are called to anticipate and enjoy. And rejoice over. When we worship our God in anticipation of his coming, even in the Lord's, Supper. You show forth the Lord's death until he comes when we gather with Heavenly Zion.

We are enjoying a participation in worship that they are already. Enjoying in glory. And also looking forward to the day, when all of God's people will be gathered. As. Second coming worship. Is to be part of, what we look forward to and enjoy and hope in and rejoice over participate in even or anticipate.

Anticipatory participation in. when we worship God. When he returns when Christ returns. To judge the Earth. Judge the world with righteousness. And the peoples will with Equity. We are to be people. Who look forward to the second coming. With praise and worship. Because of what God will reveal about himself in that day.

And so let us hit the song. Let us seek to. To have our hearts and Minds conformed to God's word by his And think much of and desire. The return of the Lord. Jesus Christ, the spirit and the bride. Say come and not just come to those.

Buy and eat and drink without price. But we also say, come quickly. Lord Jesus. Amen, let's pray. Our gracious God and our heavenly father. We thank you and praise you. For this portion of your word and for a time in it now, For redeeming us for sending your son into the world, not to condemn the world.

But that the world through him might be saved. We pray. Lord. That indeed your salvation would go to the ends of the Earth that you would Gather in all those upon whom you have set your love and for whom Christ died. And Grant that everything would be accomplished and completed.

And that the Lord Jesus might return. And that which we read and Rejoice over. In this Psalm and sing and pray with joy about in this. That it might come to pass and Faith would become sight. And indeed you and your glory would be displayed. before the entire creation.

And forever in a new creation. So, Grant our desires, our thoughts? To fall into line with that. We pray in Jesus name, amen.