

**Tuesday, August 15, 2023 • 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, psaltry, 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"**

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Psalm 98 these are the words of god. A psalm. A sing to yahai a new song. For he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his only heart, his holy arm have gained him, the victory. Y'all play has made none his salvation. His righteousness, he has revealed And the side of the nations.

Here's 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 y'all hey all the earth. Break forth in song rejoice. And sing praises. Sing to yahai with the harp. With the harp and the sound of a psalm.

With trumpets and the sound of a horn. Shout joyfully. Before y'all play the king. Let the c 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 y'all way. For he is coming to judge the earth.

With righteousness, he shall judge the world. And all the people and the people's. With equity. So far the reading of gods inspired and inherent word. Closely related to psalm 96. This psalm also begins sing to y'all way a new song. And just as we saw there as a new song for a new event, god has given us in advance songs that belong to things.

He hasn't done yet such as Releasing the creation from its Being bound to corruption and decay in order that it may enjoy the glorious freedom of the children of god. Something that we're coming soon to hear in the preaching in Roman's. That the creation now is beautiful as it continues to be.

Is. That just a A shadow a reverberation. Of what it was. Before the earth was cursed for our sakes for our sin. And it has been bound and corruption and decay ever since. And so, the whole creation groans Eager for this day, that psalm 98 is written about. And so a new song is prepared.

And we get to already rejoice in the joy that belongs to that day, that is coming. And as we rejoice, we are as it were having dress rehearsals. Uh, so we've already have the joy but we're also preparing for the greater joy. That is to come. And so there is the new song.

It's a new song. About marvelous doings. But not just marvelous doings. But a marvelous god. It says, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gained him. The victory. But then we learn That god's doing marvelous things aren't just actions their revelations. He does marvelous things because he is a marvelous god.

And one of the reasons then that he does these marvelous things is to declare to us to show us display, for our worshiping, him and praising him. For our enjoying that. This is our god, To display. To us that he is a marvelous god, so they're not just actions their revelations.

The hallway has made known his salvation. His righteousness, he has revealed In the side of the nations, he has remembered. Or in this case, caused to be remembered, his steadfast love, and faithfulness is placid and Emmett. To the house of israel, all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation.

And so you have made known revealed caused to be remembered caused to be seen when god acts. He has revealing what he is. Like now this is important for us to see because there's somebody else. Well, it's not really somebody else. There's another instance in which we're going to see somebody coming and doing this.

Now, after we finish the book of Acts, we're going to move on to the book of mark. Now, the book of mark has Um, the least amount of teaching sections or sections of jesus as teaching or comments, theological comments. About jesus of all the four gospels, it's full of action.

But it's full of action, as Revelation. God reveals who he is. By doing what he does. And so this new song is a song about marvelous works. Because in doing these marvelous works and the great life marvelous And, And the great last marvelous work when god comes and it's jesus.

Who is god, of course, Jesus, when he says, all judgment is given into my hands. He says, you know, those songs you sing to Yahweh about his judging Like Psalm 98, so 98 is about the lord jesus christ. He is yahweh, who is coming to judge and he came first to say and only, then to judge.

And so this is one of the great marvelous works when jesus appears in the sky when all of his enemies are defeated and terrified and dismayed and all his servants who have trusted in him are delivered and rejoice. And are glad to receive him and be received by him and to see his judgment to see is Justice.

The covenantal redemption, then with a cosmos wide celebration, the earth was cursed for our sakes And for those who believe in the lord jesus christ, the earth will be released for their sakes. The whole creation groans eager. To participate to be released into. The glorious freedom of the children of god, who will be revealed in the last day.

And so it groans for the revealing of the sons of god. Which is what we are going to hear in romans. And we see that here, The. Uh, you have the covenantal worship. We know it's covenantal worship. How do we know? Because you've got the priestly instruments. Psalm yahweh.

The The verb command at the beginning of verse 5. Is not the same verb where we have sing in verse 1. It is actually a verbal form of the word for psalm, which is one of the reasons why old metrical translations used that translation. There's some yahweh with Har.

And sultry. Which was an instrument that was designed for a company. Psalm singing. In fact, the instrument also comes from the same route as the word for psalm. So with harp and sultry and trumpets, and horn, all of these priestly instruments. Uh, that that designate that this is a covenantal assembly in which the gathered people of god are singing the praises that he has written for them.

And it is rejoicing and shouting. In fact it's so loud that the book ends of the covenantal assembly in verse 4 and the end of verse 6 Are shout joyfully. And the The. Command break forth is actually the burst out burst through. So that the the song that god has written in his word, and what does he promise to do with his word?

Writes it on our hearts. And his word. So fills our heart, he's written songs in his word and the songs start to fill our hearts and then they burst out of our mouths. That's what used describing here. The word of god about the marvelous works of the marvelous. God dwelling richly in us and bursting forth from us.

And we shouting joyfully, And who else joins in well? That creation. That has been eagerly waiting for the revealing of the sons of god, suddenly, the sea is roaring. And all who dwell in it are and the world. Sorry, the sea is roaring and all its fullness. The world also roars and all who dwell in it roar the whole cosmos.

Now roaring with praise. For the returned, king. The great judge. Rejoicing to be liberated very different than the response of the wicked. Who are dismayed in, which that the mountains would cover them, Nor the mountains aren't covering them. While one reason is the mountains are too busy roaring with praise for the one who just appeared in the sky.

The rivers. Now, instead of just rushing, The the sound that they're making actually turns out to be a clapping? The hills are joyful together before yahweh. So it is covenantal. Redemption with cosmos wide celebration, we've already covered noisy, joyous worship. And of course, the great Occasion for the worship.

Is the return of the king. Who judges? Who judges in righteousness? We're already part of the new creation. Believers he who is in christ. Um, Whenever someone is in christ. Uh, second corinthians 5 says new creation. Was the only part of the new creation that exists so far. There's the believer.

And so the believer sings, the new creation song. The last judgment song. Already. As the only representative. That of the new creation that has. Arrived so far. As those redeemed by his blood, And righteous before god in christ. We know that his judgment is not a condemnation for us.

Who will bring a charge against god's elect? God is the one who justifies Who will? That who will condemn us christ. Jesus, who died and rose again for us and is interceding for us. So in jesus returns for the great judgment. And we are already now. Righteous in him.

And what will we be like, then? When his intercession for us is carried the day and we are made glorious. Like he is. And We appear with him glorious in the sky. As bride is presented to him and his queen takes seat with him. And the scripture says, don't you know that we are going to judge men and angels.

The great occasion of worship is. This completion, this consummation of all things. When christ is glorified, As god the son, when Christus glorified. As the successful redeemer, when Christ, not just now glorious, god and glorious man. When he is glorified even in his glorious bride. And he is perfected.

And seats with him on the throne. And then proceeds to judge. Your judges the earth. With righteousness, he judges the world with equity. He judges the people. The judgment for the believer. Is not a day of which to be afraid. And today, for which we are to long with great.

Joy. And in order to help us in our partially sanctified state, To long for the day. With joy. For the day. God gives us the song for the day already. Thousand years before the lord jesus came. May he make it? To fill our hearts and fill our mouths meet us.

Spirit. And fill us with the joy. Than anticipates this day.

Lord on that day. We know that. Everything else that seemed big and seemed long. We'll turn out to have been rather short, rather. Rather small. But lord. We need your help. We need your spirit to Communicate to us the eternal weight. Of the glory that is to be revealed in us.

Um, so that our afflictions may be light and momentary, but comparison. And we thank you that you have given us. A song that belongs to that eternal. And waiting glory. And we pray that you would. Write the truth of the song on our hearts, give our hearts and mounds to sing it and away that you use to make this word, dwell richly in us.

So that we may look forward with joy. And certainty. To the day in which christ returns. Lord, we thank you for his righteousness and his sacrifice. Without which for us, it would be a day of Unimaginable on mitigated horror. But by which you have transformed it into a day.

Of unimaginable on mitigated joy. And so give us to cling to christ. And to have that joy, that is in him. For we ask it in his name. Amen.