

## **PSALM 97 – A Song of Praise to the Sovereign LORD! Psa 95-99 – theme – Joy!**

5/27/23 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) www.ptwente.com

***Psa 97:1-6 The LORD reigns; Let the earth rejoice; Let the multitude of isles be glad! [2] Clouds and darkness surround Him; Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne. [3] A fire goes before Him, And burns up His enemies round about. [4] His lightnings light the world; The earth sees and trembles. [5] The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, At the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. [6] The heavens declare His righteousness, And all the peoples see His glory.***

**THE LORD REIGNS** (Psa 97:1-6) - Bob Fitts, Integrity (3:06)

Chorus:

*The Lord reigns The Lord reigns The Lord reigns Let the earth rejoice Let the earth rejoice Let the earth rejoice Let the people be glad That our God reigns (2X)*

*1. A fire goes before Him And burns up all His enemies The hills melt like wax At the presence of the Lord At the presence of the Lord (Chorus)*

*2. The heavens declare His righteousness The people see His glory For You, O Lord are exalted Over all the earth Over all the earth (Chorus)*

**Psalm 97** – Psalm 97 is similar to Psalm 96 because its message is, “Joy to the world, the Lord is come.” ***The LORD reigns; Let the earth rejoice (joy, be joyful); Let the multitude of isles be glad! [Psa 97:1].*** This is not a hymn, primarily of Christ's first coming to earth, but of His second coming!

**PSALM 97 – The Lord Reigns – A Song of Praise to the Sovereign LORD**

***Psa 97:1 The LORD reigns; Let the earth rejoice (joy, be joyful); Let the multitude of isles be glad!***

- *Let the whole world rejoice! Let the multitude of Gentiles be glad!*

***Psa 97:2 Clouds and darkness surround Him; Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.***

- We are to make those the foundation of our life as well!

***Psa 97:3 A fire goes before Him, And burns up His enemies round about.***

- He is going to judge His enemies with fire at His Second Coming!

***Psa 97:4 His lightnings light the world; The earth sees and trembles.***

***Psa 97:5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, At the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.***

***Psa 97:6 The heavens declare His righteousness, And all the peoples see His glory.***

- His appearance at His Second Coming is going to have a great impact upon the entire earth! People will be profoundly affected. Evil and idolatry will be brought to an end!
- A glorious day, I can hardly wait. I look around the world today and I see the things that are going on. I see the blasphemies of man and I get sick at heart. O the Lord reigns. How I long for that day!

***Psa 97:7 Let all be put to shame who serve carved images, Who boast of idols. Worship Him, all you gods.***

***Psa 97:8 Zion hears and is glad, And the daughters of Judah rejoice (joy, be joyful); Because of Your judgments, O LORD.***

***Psa 97:9 For You, LORD, are most high above all the earth; You are exalted far above all gods.***

- In that reign, He will be!

***Psa 97:10a You who love the LORD, hate evil!***

- Very significantly He tells us what is required in our life, as God's people to remain holy, to remain righteous, to remain good, in the wickedness, in the evil, of these last days! What can keep a Christian safe, from being gobbled up by the power of the culture that is around us, the darkness, the wickedness on every level? It is so seductive, appealing to the ears, to the eyes, to the mind and to the emotion. How do you stand against it? He tells us here in one sentence - ***You who love the LORD, hate evil!***
- We are to ***love the LORD***, with a love that is worthy of Him. I am to love Him with all of my heart, all of my soul and all of my strength, and so are you. Do you love Him that way? Does the love for God, dominate your thinking? Your feeling? Your doing? Your life? Not saying it to condemn, but to search. We have so lowered the standard for the level of idolatry that the average Christian, including me, allows idolatry into our hearts to compete with God for the highest place in all the areas of our life!

- **What is needed is a love for God that is greater than a love for sin, in order to stand in a wicked world!**  
Do we have that kind of a love for God? It is the only thing that will keep us safe! No relationship with God, short of that, will ever keep us safe! It begins with a love for God!
- **Hate evil!** We need to not only love the LORD, first and foremost, but that love for the LORD will produce a hatred of evil in our lives. If there is no hatred of evil in our lives, something is wrong with our relationship with the LORD.
- Jesus called evil, evil, calling on people to repent of that and enter into a life of holiness. To hate evil for what it does to man, what it does to God. Hating evil is a holy thing. It is a loving thing when it is expressed in a way that looks like Him!

***Psa 97:10b He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.***

***Psa 97:11 Light is sown for the righteous, And gladness for the upright in heart.***

***Psa 97:12 Rejoice (joy, be joyful); in the LORD, you righteous, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.***

- He closes here **by giving us His promises** to those who hate evil! - ***He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them...***
- ***And gladness for the upright in heart.*** – It results in a life of joy, a life of gladness! This is what a loving of God and hating of evil produces in our lives!
- He continues with a **final call to just praise the LORD** - ***Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.***
- ***His holy name*** – representing the nature of God. He reminds us that we are to give thanks at the remembrance of God’s nature, of His holiness and to rejoice and celebrate in that and to make that the desire of our hearts as well!

**JOY TO THE WORLD** – Isaac Watts – Handel (2:12)

*1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room*

*And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing*

*2 Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ. While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, Repeat the sounding joy; Repeat the sounding joy; Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy*

*3 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders, of His love.*

*4 Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing!*

***PRAY FOR OUR NATION’S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: - PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY;***

**Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including:** Narendra Modi- India (1,429; 2.2%) Xi Jinping – China (1,427 million; 7.5% Christian); Joe Biden – USA (329; 26.4%); Joko Widodo – Indonesia (263; 3.1%); Luiz Lula da Silva – Brazil (209; 24.5%) Arif Alvi – Pakistan (208; 0.6%) Shehbaz Sharif – Nigeria (203; 26.2%) Hasina Wazed – Bangladesh (159; 0.4%) Vladimir Putin- Russia (142; 1.4%); Lopez Obrador – Mexico (126; 10.3%) Benjamin Netanyahu – Israel (8.4; 0.4%) Olaf Scholtz – Germany (80; 2.1%) Rishi Sunak – U.K. (65; 7.8%) Kim Jong-un – North Korea (25; 1.5%)

***CC LIVING WORD STAFF/LEADERSHIP:***

Terry & Sheila Walker – Senior Pastor Daughter – Melissa; Daughters Kate(10) Lauren (8)

Son – Josaih – wife, Kirstie – Daughter Camille (3) Son - James – wife, Karla - daughters , Autumn (6),

Juniper (5); One son Santiago (4)

Mike Harris – Worship/Associate Pastor – three kids – Jacquelyn (25) Madelyn (22) Cayden (17)

Jeremy Isabella Ampe – Outreach/Associate Pastor – Three kids - Ezekiel (17) Jedediah (12) Lexi (7)

John & Meg Schneider – Children’s Ministry – Kyle (30) Adam (30) Paige (28) - Grandkids – Ayla (2) ; Noa

Grace Nick & Cindy Baran – Youth-Jr. High/HS - Lila, Emet and new baby, Abigail Fred & Anne Afshar –

Persian Ministry – daughter Melanie Daniel & Janette Carter – three kids – Ethan, Shiloh, Yael