

## **Psalm Chapter 95 NIV.**

**Psalm 95 can be divided into 3 parts: (1) The LORD is a Great God Vss. 1-5, (2) The Sheep of His Hand Vss. 6-7 and (3) warning of Hardening Vss. 8-11.**

Psalm 95 is a song of thanksgiving. In it the people of Israel are prepared for the coming of the Lord Jesus. This song of thanksgiving has its origin in the eternal power and divine nature of God seen from His works of creation with understanding (***Rom. 1:20***). At the same time, the warning sounds is that the people can only enter God's rest, the realm of peace, *by faith*. The history of the people's disobedience in the wilderness is like a warning sign, warning of the danger of unbelief, which is an obstacle to be able to enter that rest.

### **The LORD is a Great God Vss. 1-5**

- 1) Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.**
- 2) Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song.**
- 3) For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.**
- 4) In His hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to Him.**
- 5) The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.**

***“Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD”***, other nations sing unto their gods, let us sing unto Jehovah. Why? Because we love Him, we admire Him, we reverence Him.

It is well to urge others to magnify the LORD, but we also must remember to set an example ourselves, so that we may be able not only to cry “come,” but also to add “let us sing because we are singing also with a sincere heart to our LORD.

**“Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our Salvation”** The author of this psalm had in his mind’s eye the rock, the tabernacle, the Red Sea, and the mountains of Sinai and he referred to them all in this first part of his hymn.

God is our abiding, immutable, and mighty rock, and in Him we find deliverance and safety, therefore it is fitting for us to praise Him with our whole heart and our voices.

**2 Sam. 22:47) The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation. Ps. 98:4) Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.**

**Vs.2) “Let us come before Him with thanksgiving”** We are invited to come before God by the Holy Spirit in this Psalm. But when we draw near to Him, we should remember His great goodness to us and cheerfully confess it. Our worship should have reference to the past as well as the future. If we do not bless the LORD for what we have already received how can we reasonably look for more.

**“Extol Him with music and song”** make a joyful noise to Him with a melodious voice, and grace in our heart, with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. **Eph.5:19b) Sing and make music in your heart to the LORD.**

**Vs.3) “For the LORD is the great God”** The object here is to exalt Jehovah, the true God, as distinguished from all who were worshipped as gods. He is exalted over all the universes; He rules overall and that He is to be worshipped as such. **Ps.77:13b) What god is so great as our God. Ps.145:3) Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom.**

**Vss. 4-5) In His hand (His government) are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to Him. (5) The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.** Man has idolized the creation, such as trees and stones, and the creatures, such as animals and even man. The psalmist makes it clear that creation was made and created by God and therefore we must never equate it with God.

The fourth book of Psalms begins by stating in **Ps.90:2) Before the mountains were born You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.**

There is no ‘evolutionary process’, which would have given the dry land the form it has today after billions of years. This dry land is a piece of art that

the creator has formed by His own hands. "Quote by King comments Bible Study"

### **The Sheep of His Hand Vss. 6-7**

**Vs.6) Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.**

**"Come, let us bow down in worship,** The outward and visible worship of the body is required of man, no less than the inward and spiritual worship of the soul: (mind will and emotion) We are to worship in such a style that bowing down should indicate that we count ourselves to be nothing in the presence of almighty God, the all glorious One.

When we worship God, we exalt Him for Who He is. We may find occasion to praise and give thanks to another human being for some worthwhile achievement, but worship belongs only to God. **Ps.2.) Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; worship the LORD in the splendor of His holiness. Deu.32:3) I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God.**

**Before the LORD our maker,** "who has made us what we are - created us, redeemed us, and taken us to be His people. **Isa.54) For your Maker is your Husband- the LORD Almighty is His name - the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; He is called the God of all the earth.**

Worshiping, bowing down, and kneeling are three postures of deep reverence and awe, where the worshiper makes himself as little as possible before God. We must come to Him with an attitude that is appropriate towards Him, "our maker".

**Vs.7) For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care. Today, if you hear His voice,**

**"For He is our God"** Here is Jehovah reason for worship. He has entered covenant with us and has chosen us to be His own elect. If others refuse to worship Him, we at least will render it to Him cheerfully.

**"We are the people of His pasture, and the flock of His hand"**. As He belongs to us, so do we belong to Him. "My Beloved is mine, and I am His." We are His as the people whom He daily feeds and protects.

Our pastures are not ours, but His; we draw all our supplies from His store house.

Israel was lead through the desert, and we are being lead through this life by “the great shepherd *of the sheep*” *Jesus Christ. Ps.79:13) we your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will praise You forever; from generation to generation, we will recount Your praise.*

**“Today, if you hear His voice.”** The LORD, *Yahweh*, speaks and He does so in the present tense as in **“Today”**. He is saying that here, in the time of the psalmist **“Today”** He said that to the Hebrews hundreds of years earlier **“Today”**. He, in the Person of the Holy Spirit is also saying the same thing to us **“Today”**. Each time He speaks to His people, and we hear His voice, it is **“Today”**. **“Today”** is referring to those to whom the Word comes at the time He speaks, and they hear His voice. **“Today”** allows no delay for later. It is important to respond to God’s voice immediately as an act of obedience.

**Heb.3:7) So, as the Holy Spirit says: “Today if you hear His voice.**

### **Warning of Hardening Vss.8-11**

**Vs.8-9) Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah, as you did that day at Massah in the desert, (9) Where your fathers tested and tried Me, though they had seen what I did.**

**“Do not harden your hearts,”** Hardness of heart is at the bottom of all distrust of the LORD. The Holy Spirit is saying to us today the same thing He said to the Israelites in this verse, “Do not harden your (our) hearts”. The sins of others ought to be a warning to us not to walk in their steps.

On their way to the promised land, the Israelites ran out of water (**Exodus 17:1-7**) and they rebelled against Moses and God. Because of their lack of faith, God made them wander the wilderness for 40 years. Father God named that place (**Meribah which means Quarreling**) and (**Massah which means Testing Place**).

**Exodus 17:7) He named the place Massah (quarreling) and Meribah (testing) because of the quarrel of the sons of Israel, and because they tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us, or not?”**

**Vs.9)“They had seen what I did”** They saw my work of judgment upon their enemies the Egyptians, by inflicting plagues upon them, and by the destruction of Pharaoh and his host at the Red sea; and His work of goodness to them, in bringing them out of bondage, leading them through the red sea safely, raining manna about their tents and giving them water out of the rock and so much more, all for their own good, yet they did not trust Him

**Vs.10) For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said, “They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they have not known my ways.”**

For forty years Father God was grieved with the generation that He delivered out of Egypt. **“He was Angry-** The word used here means to loathe, to nauseate, to be disgusted with.

He said they are a **“people whose heart goes astray”** They sin through weakness, violence, temptation, and testing Me. Their hearts are also insincere, inconstant, and given to backsliding.

We are warned not to fall into unbelief (**Heb.3:12**) **See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.**

**“They have not known My ways”**; They had His laws, Statutes and His judgement, so they knew the ways He wanted them to follow. But they did not observe them nor were they thankful for His mercies nor His goodness towards them. (**Ps.81:13**) **“If My people would but listen to Me.**

**Vs.11) So I declared on oath in My anger, “They shall never enter My rest.**

In Father God anger He passed an irreversible sentence and confirmed it with an **“OATH”** “meaning as truly as I live”. He swore by Himself, for He could swear by no greater name because there is none greater than Him.

The **“OATH”** Father God made to them is that **“They shall never enter My rest”**. Father God said in **Num.14:21- 23) Nevertheless, as surly as I live and as Surely as the glory of the LORD fills the whole earth, (22) not one of the men who saw my glory and the miraculous signs I performed in Egypt and in the desert but who disobeyed me and tested me ten times (23) not one of them will ever see the land I promised on oath to their forefathers. No one who has treated me with contempt will ever see it.**

**“My rest”** is God’s rest. It is the rest He has when He will dwell amid His people. That is the promised land, where His people will live in peace and security, without fear of enemies. **(Deut.12:9-10)**

To know God’s ways, we must give Him our heart. That is what He asks for in **Pro.23:26) Give me your heart, My son, and let your eyes delight in My ways.**

When we give Father God our whole heart, we are giving Him our whole life, that He may rule and govern over us, then we can have **“His rest”**. **(Heb.4:1; 11) For as long, then as that promise of resting in Him pulls us on to God’s goal for us, we need to be careful that we’re not disqualified. (11) SO, let’s keep at it and eventually arrive at the place of rest, not drop out through some sort of disobedience. (MESB).**

References: NIV Bible; NAS Bible; MSG Bible; Webster’s Dictionary; and the Bible Hub Commentary online.

