

Daily Encouragement – Monday 6th July

Psalm 95

A great call to collective worship. Verses 1 and 2 tell us how we should praise the LORD.

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.

Our praise is to be joyful, focused on the LORD and full of thankfulness.

Now in verses 3-5 we are told why we should praise Him:

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.

Our God is great. He is the one and only 'capital G' God in a world full of false 'small g' gods. The whole earth belongs to Him. He is King over all! Oh, how our city needs to hear this message!

⁶ Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
⁷ for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.

We must all recognise our place by bowing the knee and surrendering our lives in worship to God. Without Him we perish. With Him we are kept safe and secure by the Good Shepherd.

Today, if only you would hear his voice,
⁸ "Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah,
as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness, The names Moses gave to the place of
quarrelling and testing (Exodus 17/Numbers 20)
⁹ where your ancestors tested me;
they tried me, though they had seen what I did.
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.'
¹¹ So I declared on oath in my anger,
'They shall never enter my rest.'"

The writer to the Hebrews quotes this psalm. He then explains and warns that those who profess to be Christians must listen to God's word and live in obedience to Him:

*See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end. **Hebrews 3:12-14***

Those who rebelled against the Lord in the wilderness never entered the promised land. We can come to our Father in praise with joyful and thankful hearts through Jesus God's son. In Him we have forgiveness and new life. Through Him we enter God's eternal sabbath rest.

Song: [To God be the Glory](#) Adam