

**A Call to Worship the Great King**

**Psalms (תהלים)**

- The Poetic Books belong to the third division of the Hebrew Bible called the "Writings":
- The Masoretes grouped Job, Proverbs, Psalms together giving them a special system of poetic accentuation:
- Mnemonically referred to as "The Book of Truth" (Job [אֱוֹרָה], Proverbs [אֱשֶׁרֶת], Psalms [אֱמֶלֶחַ]):
- The Psalter has an –
  - 1) Introduction (psalms 1-2)
  - 2) Conclusion (psalms 146-150)

This last section is 'The Never-Ending Hallelujah' לְלֵלָהּ praise (Arabic *shalla shout*) הַ לַּיהוָה the LORD:

**I. The Blessednesses of the Man (psalm 1)**

- אֲשֶׁרֶת off the plural form:
- II. The Blessednesses of the LORD (psalms 146-150)**
- לְלֵלָהּ five-fold equivalent:
  - A. *The Individual Hallelujah – "My Soul" (146:1)*
  - B. *The Communal Hallelujah – "Our God" (147:1, 12)*
  - C. *The Creation Hallelujah – "From the Heavens" (148:1, 7)*
  - D. *The Kingdom Hallelujah – "Their King" (149:2)*
  - E. *The All-Out Hallelujah – "Everything that has Breath" (150)*

- This psalm (psalm 96) belongs to a group of psalms (93-100) which are united by type and theme:
- The underlying theme of this psalm-group is YHWH's kingship, therefore they are referred to as "enthronement psalms" or "theocratic psalms":
- These psalms then are directed towards the celebration of YHWH's sovereignty, but they also prophetically picture the consummation of the ages when God will establish His righteous millennial rule on earth through the Messiah:
- Some of the catch words, phrases or ideas –
  - 1) YHWH reigns (93:1; 96:10; 97:1; 99:1)
  - 2) YHWH is King (93:2a; 95:3; 98:6; 99:1b)
  - 3) YHWH is Judge (94:2; 96:13; 98:9)

Psalm 96	Psalm 97	Psalm 98	Psalm 99
"a new song"	YHWH reigns	"a new song"	YHWH reigns
Earth called to praise YHWH	Thanksgiving to YHWH	Sea and world called to praise YHWH	Exaltation of YHWH
YHWH's coming to judge the world	Zion	YHWH's coming to judge the world	Zion
	Holy name		Holy hill

**I. Yahweh the Great King over all the earth (Psalms 93, 94)**

- A. *The Great King Exalted (93:1-5)*
- The exclamation with the emphatic position of "the LORD" (יהוה) is a proclamation of Yahweh's majestic reign:
  1. **Yahweh's Kingship (93:1-4)**
- From proclamation (vv. 1-2) to picture (vv. 3-4):
  - The securely enthroned Lord
  - The security of the world He rules (vv. 1-2)
  - The turbulence of the earth's forces (vv. 3-4b)
  - The serene might of His exaltation (v. 4c)

• No matter how turbulent or restless things can become – whether all the forces of destruction and hostility in the created order, or the turbulence of nations, or even the warfare of spiritual forces of chaos against the Creator:

• **He is still on the throne:**

**I. Yahweh the Great King over all the earth (Psalms 93, 94)**

- A. *The Great King Exalted (93:1-5)*
  1. **Yahweh's Kingship (93:1-4)**
  2. **Yahweh's Kingship in Jerusalem (93:5)**
- B. *The Great King Experienced (94:1-23)*
  1. **The Situations of Difficulty (vv. 4-7)**
    - a) *Opposition in Word (v. 4)*
    - b) *Opposition in Deed (vv. 5-6)*
    - c) *Opposition in Philosophy of Life (v. 7)*
      - God inactive:
      - God irrelevant:

**I. Yahweh the Great King over all the earth (Psalms 93, 94)**

- A. *The Great King Exalted (93:1-5)*
  1. **Yahweh's Kingship (93:1-4)**
  2. **Yahweh's Kingship in Jerusalem (93:5)**
- B. *The Great King Experienced (94:1-23)*
  1. **The Situations of Difficulty (vv. 4-7)**
  2. **The Sovereignty Untroubled (vv. 9-23)**
    - a) *The God Aware of Everything (v. 9)*
    - b) *The God of Providence (vv. 12-15)*
    - c) *The God of Tender Care (vv. 16-19)*
    - d) *The God of Certain Victory (vv. 20-23)*

**I. Yahweh the Great King over all the earth (Psalms 93, 94)**

**II. Yahweh the Great King over all so-called gods (Psalms 95, 96)**

- In psalm 95 God's people singing and worshipping, in 96 God's people singing and sharing:
- These psalms focus on the Great King and His relation to the so-called 'gods' (95:3; 96:4-5):
- Yahweh the Great King is 'The Only God':

**(A1) A Call to Worship with Rejoicing (95:1-2)**

**(B1) A Hymnic Explanation of His Greatness**  
– YHWH the Creator-King (95:3-5)

**(A2) A Call to Worship with Reverence (95:6)**

**(B2) A Hymnic Explanation of Our Privileges**  
– YHWH the Covenant-God (95:7a-b)

**(A3) A Call to Respond with Obedience (95:7c)**

**(B3) An Explanation of Serious Implications (95:8-11)**

**A. A Call to Universal Worship (96:1-2a)**

**B. A Command to God's People (96:2b-3)**

**C. An Explanation of the Only God – The Majesty of the LORD (96:4-6)**

*A' A Call to Universal Worship (96:7-9)*

*B' A Command to God's People (96:10)*

*C' An Explanation of the Coming God – The Rule of the LORD (96:11-13)*

- Those who rejoice in the God of salvation (95:1) must tell the good news of salvation, inviting the world to praise His name (v. 2):
  - 1) To Respond to What the LORD has Revealed about Himself:
  - 2) To Respond to His Name:
- To *judge* is 'to set all things right'—heaven, earth and sea, the natural and the human creation:
- No aspect of what he first created is forgotten in final salvation:

**I. Yahweh the Great King over all the earth (Psalms 93, 94)**

**II. Yahweh the Great King over all so-called gods (Psalms 95, 96)**

**III. Yahweh the Great King in the hearts of His people (Psalms 97, 98)**

*A. A Throne Based on Righteousness (97:2)*

*B. A Proclamation of Righteousness (97:6)*

*C. A Revelation of Righteousness – Past (98:2)*

*D. A Revelation of Righteousness – Future (98:9)*

*E. A Call to Righteousness (97:10-12)*

**I. Yahweh the Great King over all the earth (Psalms 93, 94)**

**II. Yahweh the Great King over all so-called gods (Psalms 95, 96)**

**III. Yahweh the Great King in the hearts of His people (Psalms 97, 98)**

**IV. Yahweh the Great King and His own character (Psalms 99, 100)**

**Psalm 99**

Holy is He (v. 3)

Holy is He (v. 5)

Holy is the LORD our God (v. 9)

I. The Majesty of the Holy One (vv. 1-3)

II. The Justice of the Holy One (vv. 4-5)

III. The Fellowship of the Holy One (vv. 6-9)

**Psalm 100**

A. Three-fold invitation – Shout, Serve, Come (vv. 1-2)

B. Three-fold affirmation – He is God, He made us, His we are (v. 3)

A' Three-fold invitation – Enter, Give thanks, Bless (v. 4)

B' Three-fold affirmation of attributes – He is good, His lovingkindness, His faithfulness (v. 5)

➤ There is Nothing More Powerful than the LORD:

➤ There is Nothing More Steadfast than the Reign of the LORD:

➤ There is Nothing More Sure than the Revelation of the LORD:

➤ There is Nothing More Certain than the Coming of the LORD: