

# **Psalms 98-101 – 20 July 2025**

## **“Powerfully Reflecting His Greatness”**

### **Introduction**

- \*This is 3<sup>rd</sup> of 6 messages in the 4<sup>th</sup> Book of Psalms
- \*Psalms - the Israeli Hymnbook or Book of Praises
- \*We're in an enthusiastically joyful Book of the Bible AND specifically this section of the Psalms
- \*As the Psalmist meditate on God's greatness today, we have the chance to think of how we can “Powerfully Reflect His Greatness” to the world
- \*So today, let's look at 4 responses from us that will powerfully reflect God's greatness**

### **#1: We can powerfully reflect God's greatness with strong rejoicing (Psm 98)**

Read Psm 98:1

1. In Psalm 96, we spoke of a new song being one based on your own personal experience
  - a. Miriam didn't sing a song of Egypt

- b. Deborah didn't sing Miriam's song
  - c. Mary didn't sing Deborah's song
2. Let's sing of what the Lord's doing for us

Read Vs 2-3

- 1. What wonderful things has the Lord done?
  - a. He has brought salvation to His people
  - b. He's publicly shown this love to the nations

Read Vs 4-6

- 1. The whole earth is called to praise God for His offer of salvation
- 2. This is the imagery of a victory parade
- 3. Have we gotten exuberant in telling other of God's salvation? We should

Read Vs 7-9

- 1. The creation itself & all those that dwell in it, should naturally praise the Lord
- 2. We praise God b/c He's coming to bring righteous justice to this world

- a. This is hated by independent rebels
- b. It's loved by servants of Jesus Christ

## **#2: We can powerfully reflect God's greatness with strong reverence (Psm 99)**

Read Psm 99:1

- 1. The Ark of the Covenant shadows the presence of God between the Cherubim
  - a. And the real scenario at the throne of God is the same as pictured in Eze 1
- 2. He has a dedicated choir that sings of His glory

Read Vs 2-3

- 1. Isaiah saw a vision of God on His throne & it was magnificently holy & special (Read Isa 6:1-5)
- 2. Be careful we don't treat God as a mere man

Read Vs 4-5

- 1. With all the strength that God possesses, He chooses to use it for justice & fairness

2. This is so holy; wholly different than us
  - a. God is not corrupted by pride or self-advancement as we are
  - b. To be holy is to be different

Read Vs 6-7

1. These men are great examples of those that called upon the Lord to judge righteously
  - a. Even by using them in their God-given role
2. They were submitted to God's judgement; so, God could use them to speak His judgement

Read Vs 8-9

1. So the Lord would punish their sin yet not utterly destroy them (Read Eze 20:15-17)
  - a. God is wanting our restoration, He doesn't want to make a full end to us
2. If we would but reverence His position as authority, then we will like the ring of justice

### **#3: We can powerfully reflect God's greatness with strong recompense (Psm 100)**

Read Psm 100:1-2

1. This isn't speaking of serving the Lord; this is speaking of the quality of our service
  - a. This assumes the nations know that we should serve our great Creator
  - b. Our service should be boisterous & full
2. Direct context would be service in the Temple but certainly this applies to all service to the King
3. Makes sense to be joyful in God's presence
  - a. Both Nehemiah (2:1) & Mordecai (Est 4:2) were oddly sad in the Persian King's presence
  - b. If you had the chance to be w/ a king or president, you'd want to enjoy it
  - c. How much more is this true w/ our God?

Read Vs 3

1. We belong to the Lord God

- a. By nature of Creation
  - b. For believers, by nature of being purchased at the cross
2. Belonging to Him brings the accountability of family, but also the blessings of family

Read Vs 4

1. Do we approach God w/ anxiety, anger or adoration?
2. Do we only come when we're desperate or do we come often to show dependence?
3. Maybe our next prayer to God should be simply & only say, 'thank you'

Read Vs 5

1. God's natural disposition is to offer lovingkindness
2. It's reasonable for those that receive His mercy & stability to give thanks forcefully & continually

## **#4: We can powerfully reflect God's greatness with strong resolution (Psm 101)**

Intro – David is speaking this as king of Israel

As he's doing, we too should commit to taking control over the areas that God has made us the authority

Read Psm 101:1-2a

1. Resolution begins w/ commitment to God
2. In the resting position what does our heart do?
  - a. Does our heart think of our desires
  - b. Does our heart worry what God's thinking?
  - c. Or does our heart sing of God's goodness
  - d. Commitment & resolution begins with focusing on God's path and plan for us

Read Vs 2b-4

1. After God, next thing we commit is ourselves
2. I will set up my living situation to honor God
  - a. These are places, tasks, checkbooks, and schedules within our control
3. There's an intentionality to the tangibles

## Read Vs 5

1. After focusing on God & self, we focus on removing the wicked from our area of influence
2. Notice these characteristics of the prideful are within them even before it comes out
  - a. Does your resting face give you away?
  - b. Often our heart comes out of our face even before coming out of our lips
3. Where we have the authority, remove the sin or it will spread

## Read Vs 6-7

1. These 2 verses are intended to be a contrast
  - a. I will meditate on the faithful, not the liars
  - b. I will serve together w/ the blameless, not the deceitful
2. There's a resolution to surround himself w/ those that will promote a godly environment

## Read Vs 8

1. We end w/ a resolution to continue the resolution
2. Commitment isn't an action, it's a lifestyle



## Conclusion

What an opportunity we have to reflect God's greatness!

Think of the character of the one who is living in such a way

1. **We reflect His greatness w/ strong rejoicing**
  - a. Is there an excitement in your relationship with God?
2. **We reflect His greatness w/ strong reverence**
  - a. Is God more than just your rich friend?
3. **We reflect His greatness w/ strong recompense**
  - a. Is it a joy to serve the King?
4. **We reflect His greatness w/ strong resolution**
  - a. Are we committed to enduring to the end for our worthy King?