

**SUMMER OF**

*psalms*

# PSALM 95

A Psalm for Worship

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## LITERARY STRUCTURE OF PSALM 95

**A Invitation:** *Exuberant celebration (vv. 1–2)*

**B Motivation:** *The LORD is Creator-King of all (vv. 3–5)*

**A' Invitation:** *Reverent submission (v. 6)*

**B' Motivation:** *The LORD is our Covenant-making Shepherd-King (v. 7)*

**C Exhortation:** *Hear God's Word with a responsive heart and faithful obedience to continue in God's promise (vv. 7d-11)*

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## (A) INVITATION

Psalm 95:1-2, 6

- 1 Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our  
salvation!
- 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs  
of praise!...
- 6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD,  
our Maker!

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**(A) INVITATION: *EXUBERANT CELEBRATION***

Psalm 95:1-2

***Sing***

shout joyfully (CSB), ringing cry (Hamilton), cry loudly (B. Tanner)

***Joyful Noise***

shout triumphantly (CSB), shout out praises (NET), with psalms let us shout (Hamilton)

***Songs of Praise***

shout triumphantly in song (CSB), shout out in celebration (NET), show ourselves glad in him with psalms (Coverdale)

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**(A) INVITATION: *REVERENT SUBMISSION***

Psalm 95:6

**6** Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

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- 3** For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.
- 4** In his hand are the depths of the earth;  
the heights of the mountains are his also.
- 5** The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.

(B) MOTIVATION: *COVENANT-MAKING SHEPHERD-KING*

Psalm 95:6–7

6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, *our Maker!*

7 **For he is our God,**  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.

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**(B) MOTIVATION: *COVENANT-MAKING SHEPHERD-KING***

Do you thus repay the LORD,  
you foolish and senseless people?  
Is not he your father, **who created you,**  
**who made you and established you?** (Deut  
32:6)

...and I will say to Not My People,  
**“You are my people”;**  
and he shall say, **“You are my  
God.”** (Hos 2:23; cf. 1Pe 2:10)

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(B) MOTIVATION: *COVENANT-MAKING SHEPHERD-KING*

Psalm 95:6–7

6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, *our Maker!*

7 **For he is our God,**  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
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**"Creation excites the voice of praise;  
redemption, the bowed knee of worship."**

— Alec Motyer, *Psalms by the Day*

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**7d Today, if you hear his voice,**

**8 do not harden your hearts,** as at Meribah,  
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

**9** when your fathers put me to the test,  
and put me to the proof, though they had  
seen my work.

“And [Moses] called the name of the place **Massah** and **Meribah**, because of the **quarreling** of the people of Israel, and because **they tested the LORD** by saying, “*Is the LORD among us or not?*”

— Exodus 17:7

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“And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! Why is the LORD bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?” And they said to one another, “Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”

— Num 14:2–4

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- 10** For forty years I loathed that generation,  
and said, “**They are a people who go astray  
in their heart,**  
and they have not known my ways.”
- 11** Therefore I swore in my wrath,  
“**They shall not enter my rest.**”

***Today,***  
**if you hear his voice...**

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**1. The Holy Spirit still speaks to us today through this psalm (Heb 3:7–8).**

Therefore, as *the Holy Spirit says*,

**“Today**, if you hear his voice,

do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,

on the day of testing in the wilderness...

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## **2. We should be vigilant that none of us succumb to an evil, unbelieving, hardened heart (Heb 3:12–13).**

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

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**3. We still haven't entered his rest so we must hear his voice and strive in faithful obedience until we enter fully into it. (Heb 4:1, 6, 11).**

Therefore, while the **promise of entering his rest still stands**, let us fear *lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it...* Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience...**Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.**

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**4. We persevere because our great high priest has entered rest before us and calls us to draw near God's throne of grace (Heb 4:14, 16).**

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession....Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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