

Psalm 100

Today's Psalm includes several exhortations. The Psalmist desires for God's people to "Make a joyful shout..." and "serve the Lord with gladness" and "come before His presence with singing..." As we consider each of these admonitions, I pray that we recognize their foundation. The simple truth is that Christians should do all of these things! We should joyfully shout and sing we should serve God with gladness... but why? Today, I hope we can partially answer that question.

1. We shout, sing and serve because God is good
 - a. Notice the ground of the Psalm is found in the final verse
 - b. The structure of the text is a bit different than many... the exhortations precede the truths that inspire them
 - c. Nevertheless, the Psalm eventually tells us why we should be so quick to adhere to its admonitions
 - d. First, we see that God is good
 - i. How do we know that He is good?
 - ii. There is no list provided here, but that doesn't mean there are many reasons recorded for us in Scripture
 - iii. God is good in that He provides for our needs (Philippians 4:19)
 - iv. God is good in that He protects us (2 Thessalonians 3:3; Psalm 46:1)
 - v. God is good, chiefly, in sending His Son to die for us, thereby redeeming us from eternal ruin (John 3:16)
 - e. In all of these things, we have reason to obey this Psalm
2. We shout, sing and serve because God's mercy is everlasting
 - a. You haven't blown it with God!
 - b. He is able, and willing, to forgive and cleanse you from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9)
 - c. His mercy goes further back than our first sin and it extends into eternity
 - d. This means that we never need to worry or fret that we have somehow wandered too far
 - e. It also means that we have no reason to be nervous about future transgressions... he is faithful
3. We shout, sing and serve because His truth endures
 - a. We can worship God and walk in His ways knowing that His Word will never perish (Matthew 24:35)
 - b. This means that we can confidently ground our lives upon the truth of the Word of God without fear of failure
 - c. It further means that we can teach our children and grandchildren to build their lives on the same rock of truth without concern that its truths will crack or crumble (Matthew 7:24-27)
4. This Psalm lends itself to some very obvious applications
 - a. Think about God's goodness more than you think about your problems
 - b. Sing because your heart overflows with the joyous truths of God's character and work
 - c. Serve because Jesus served you, chiefly on the cross, and your right response to His work of redemption is loving, faithful and joyful service