

Psalm 93 – Rejoice in His Reign

Opening

What makes a good king? (Question)

Modern examples of kings

Mohammed Ali – “ I’m the greatest of all time”

Donald Trump – “lets make America great again”

USA/Russia/China - fighting for global supremacy and control

When we look at the Great Global Civilisations (Greek, Romans, Persian, Egyptian, Chinese, Aztec, Enlightened) each had ways of living, of governing, of ruling.....all eventually falling

Opening Prayer

Search us Lord we pray, dethrone any foreign kings, foreign gods in our lives and in our culture. May your Kingdom Come, your will done in Walcot as it is in heaven. In Jesus’ mighty Name. **AMEN**

Intro to Psalms

The Psalms are a magnificent part of scripture, a fabulous ancient hymnbook for God’s people. They capture our hearts and imaginations as they are recited, sung and prayed generation after generation, as they shape our relationship with God. There are so many different types of Psalms, but they help us see how we relate to God in all sorts of circumstances. Joy, Sorrow, Thanks, Praise, Cries, Lament, Adoration, Confession, celebrations, petitions, history, wisdom, instruction. They are so rich.

Psalm 93 Intro

Psalm 93 is part of a group of psalms that celebrate God’s Kingship and Reign (over all the earth, over other gods, over the hearts of the people and the King in his character). It would have traditionally been sung celebrating God’s care for his people in a hostile world. It’s a pair with Psalm 94, God is King over all the earth. Let’s look at the Psalm

Psalm 93

The picture Psalm 93 paints confirms that God, regally robed with the clothing of royalty, majestic and powerful has always reigned over the world. The King is effortless in His sovereignty over the real-world and his people acclaim his kingship as they experience his good rule in the real world from his glorious eternal throne in heaven. It’s a wonderful captivating picture.....

But do we believe that? Because if we do, then Earth is safe to live in because he reigns (**Creator, Loving Father-Sustainer-Messiah and King-Saviour/Deliverer-Jesus-Renewer of all things**). While He reigns the earth remains stable, in spite of all the turbulence, all the wars, all the dangers, all the brokenness and sin.....God is still on the throne. God is on the throne. God’ people have ultimate safety. To what extent do we really believe that?

Psalm 93 speaks of God’s might and power over that of the sea.

The sea was feared as the source of all uncontrollable chaos, the habitat of monsters, a picture of all the forces of destruction and hostility in the created order, but God’s rule is absolute over all such forces. God is mightier than the sea.

Psalm 93 speaks of a God who is able to accomplish everything he desires in this world.

Where do we see this? Lots of places, but Supremely Jesus' stilling of the storm in Mark 4 is a sign of his power over all the forces of chaos, but also in Jesus birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension, that the ultimate forces of sin, death and evil have been overcome through his death on a cross once and for all

Psalm 93 speaks of God's house as eternally holy

God in his house, speaking his unchanging word and bringing about holiness in his people, it's what God wants!!! How can we stand before a holy God? In and through Jesus Christ are we able to stand in his holy presence – we need his holiness!

So why is this important?

Every generation and our generation face threats to our existence. The Threats are very real all around us (Disease, (Covid and Cancer), Environment, injustice, self-absorption, greed, brutal wars, entitlement, technology, voyeurism, abuse, the disintegration of family, addiction, no purpose, lack of love) And its very easy for all of us to get consumed by the spirits of the age. We know those threats are real because the scars and damage in our own and other families tell their story. The world will disciple you.....

So our Worship really matters. If we agree with the Psalm and choose to Rejoice in his Reign, Affirming the truth of who God is and all He's able to do, then we are placing our lives in His Story, opening our lives, our hearts and minds, to being renewed by God, bringing our lives under God's rule and reign. Opening our lives for transformation. The late Eugene Peterson captures it this way saying *"Worship is the thing that stops us being obsessed with ourselves and enables us to attend to the presence of God."*

What it does

Our worship constantly changes our perspective on who God is and how God sees us, so that we can find our place in the world. (It's what God constantly does in my life!!). God Liberates us from the many things that hold and bind to serve him and others in His God's good but fallen world. Noble Ambassadors, Shining brightly, hopeful, full of the Spirit, the fruit of the Spirit like a laden table for our families, friends, work colleagues and neighbours. All of us can play our part, participate in God's glorious redemptive work to see his Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

Invitation

Will you rejoice in God's reign this morning, even if it hurts?

Will we be a church that in spite of all the chaos of the Sea will affirm the truth of who God is?

Will you take to the foot of the cross any areas of your life that have displaced God's Kingship?

Closing Prayer

King Jesus, we celebrate your splendour, your power, your might and your glory and majesty.

Thank you for your beautiful kingdom, for your good rule and reign

Come Holy Spirit, move amongst us today

Your Kingdom Come, your will be done. AMEN