

Psalm 95: Worship—or Else!
3-8-2020

“Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.” Hebrews 3:12

A. Worship God with rejoicing

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! Psalm 95:1-2

“If Your presence does not go with us, do not lead us up from here.” Exodus 33:15

B. Worship God in the reality of His presence and His person

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. Psalm 95:3-5

“From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised. The Lord is high above all nations; His glory is above the heavens. Who is like the Lord our God, who is enthroned on high?” Psalm 113:3-5

*“Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.”
Psalm 145:3*

C. Worship God with reverence.

*Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
Psalm 95:6*

D. Worship God in relationship.

*For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
Psalm 95:7a*

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts... Psalm 95:7b-8a

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. 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.” Therefore, I swore in my wrath, “They shall not enter my rest.” Psalm 95:7a-11

Note five things about this warning:

1. The warning is time-sensitive:

“Today” (95:7b)

2. The warning requires sensitive ears:

“If you hear His voice” (95:7b).

3. The warning is heart-related:

“Do not harden your hearts” (95:8a).

“Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life.”

Proverbs 4:23

“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.” Mark 7:21-22

“This people honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me. But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.” Mark 7:6-7

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4. The warning is historically illustrated:

Do not be like Israel in the wilderness (95:8-10).

5. The warning is eternally final:

“Therefore I swore in my wrath, “They shall not enter my rest.”” (95:11).