

## Are You A Joyful Christian Psalms 100

### *A Psalm of praise*

***Ps 100:1 "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. 2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. 3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. 5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations."***

Are you a joyful Christian? What does joyful mean? Joy means ***a shout of joy or grief, a cry of gladness, proclamation, rejoicing, shouting, singing, triumph***. This Psalm gives us the evidence of a joyful Christian. It tells us:

- ***"Make a joyful noise unto the LORD,"*** If we are making a joyful noise to the Lord, rejoicing always in the joy of the salvation of God: we have concrete evidence that we are child of God.
- ***"all ye lands"*** is the prophetic picture that God had a plan of salvation that included both Jew and Gentile. Praise the Lord, God's salvation was not confined to just the lineage of Israel. Thank you, Lord Jesus, that we can praise God along with Israel.
- ***"Serve the LORD with gladness:"*** If we are serving the Lord with gladness: We have evidence that we have laid aside the idols of doing it my way, and doing what is right in my own eyes. It means we recognize that God possesses us, and we are not our own.
- ***"come before his presence with singing."*** This gives us the picture of the Jews who were required to appear before God three times a year at the Jerusalem temple. As they ascended the hills to the city of Jerusalem, and as they entered the temple, they were singing the Hallel Psalms. This is why when we gather as a congregation, we sing songs of praise to God. Singing of God and Christ, clears our minds of worldliness, and allow us to come before his presence with singing. This can also be done individually.
- ***"Know ye that the LORD he is God:"*** If we know that the Lord is God: we have concrete evidence that we have been born-again by the grace of God. We know that the Lord is God, because Jesus has revealed himself to us, and has given us faith to believe, as Jesus tells us in: ***Joh 14:9 "he that hath seen me hath seen the Father;"***
- ***"it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;"*** If we understand that God is the creator and possessor of our natural bodies, and if we understand that we have been created new creatures in Christ by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit of Christ in us, and that the new born creation is the possession of Jesus Christ: We have concrete evidence that we are the objects of God's eternal love, and his eternal plan of Salvation.
- ***"we are his people,"*** If we know that we are God's people: we have concrete evidence that God has given us the gift of spiritual understanding, and our names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.
- ***"and the sheep of his pasture."*** If we understand that we are the sheep, and that Jesus is the Shepherd: we know that God has placed us in our rightful position in his grace, and in his church. If we understand that ***"his pasture"*** is our land of promise, the church, and that our food is the written Word of God, and the preached gospel of Jesus Christ: We understand our position in the church of God is under the Shepherd's care.
- ***"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,"*** If we have joined the organized church of Jesus Christ, because of the revelation of our new birth: we have concrete evidence that we have been given permission, and the right, to enter into his gates, the city of God, which is the church. We should enter the gates with thanksgiving for the gift of salvation and eternal life, and the eternal remission of our sins. We understand that we have been brought to the position that God has appointed for us to fill here in time.
- ***"and into his courts with praise:"*** We ***"enter into his courts"*** by assembling with the saints of God in worship of the Lord. When we assemble and sings songs of praise and worship to our God and Saviour: When we spend time giving thanks to God for our salvation, we enter into his courts with praise.
- ***"be thankful unto him, and bless his name."*** We are being thankful, and blessing the name of our God and Saviour, when we worship God in Spirit and in Truth. We thank and bless God for the gift of eternal forgiveness of sins, and eternal life in Christ. This is why we take time to give thanks and pray to God, in our worship services, and everywhere we go. It is a reminder that we need to spend more time being thankful for our blessings from God, rather than spreading our want list before him.

- **"For the LORD is good;"** If we believe that the Lord is good: we understand the meaning of depravity of man, and we have the gift of spiritual understanding. We know God is good: because he has manifested to us his mercy, and not given us the justice we so rightly deserve.
- **"his mercy is everlasting;"** If we believe that the mercy of God is everlasting: we have the concrete evidence that we have been given understanding of our gift of eternal life in, and from, Christ. We understand that we are eternally secure in the finished work of Jesus, and we are in the eternal possession of our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ.
- **"and his truth endureth to all generations."** If we believe the scriptures, seen in: **Mt 1:21 "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."** And in: **Joh 18:9 "That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none."** Then, we have evidence that we believe that Jesus will continue to manifest the salvation of God to God's chosen people, until the very last heir of grace is born again. We also believe that God's truth will continue through time, and into eternity, when Christ returns to receive all of God's people in the eternal resurrection of the dead in Christ.

Joy in the Lord could be summed up as having total faith in God and Christ. Why would we say that? If we have total faith and trust in God and Christ, no matter what temptations, trials, and tribulations, we may encounter, and no matter what we may have to endure, we have the sure confidence of God's word of truth seen in: **Joh 15:11 "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."** Jesus is telling his disciples in this verse: Your joy will be full because you have in you the joy that I have. As the joy of Jesus was to do his Father's will; so, we will have the desire, in our hearts and minds, to do the will of our Father in heaven, which will fill our hearts and minds with joy.

Why should we be joyful in all the things revealed in Psalms 100? Scripture teaches us in: **1Pe 1:3-9; 3 ¶ "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 ¶ Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: 7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: 8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."** We should be joyful because we have the sure promise of the fulfillment of our eternal life salvation in the resurrection of the dead in Christ Jesus.

There are times, when in the struggles of living a Christian life, my faith and confidence is not strong. When our confidence in Christ Jesus is weakened because we are not exercising, in the fullness of the truths that Jesus has given us, we need to reflect on our lives in Christ, and turn back to God with all our heart, mind, soul, and body. We need to pray to God, in the name of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ, for restoration of the fullness of our faith, and the joy of the Salvation of God.

Again, I ask us the question: are we joyful Christians, doing the few things God ask of us in Psalm 100? It is with gladness, that right now, I can tell you that I am a joyful Christian, because God has reassured me, by the promises of his word of truth found in the King James bible, and the Holy Spirit has given me the necessary faith, to rest completely in the finished work of our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ. Hallelujah! Praise ye the Lord! Amen!

In closing let us sing Hymn 704, L. M., in the Lloyd Hymnal:

- 1 PRAISE God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
May God bless and keep us all in Jesus Christ, Amen!