

Weekly Study Guide

7/7/24 - Come, let us worship and bow down

Read Psalm 95

1 *Come, let us* sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. 2 *Let us come* before His presence with thanksgiving; *Let us* shout joyfully to Him with psalms. 3 For the Lord is the great God, and the great King above all gods. 4 In *His hand* are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the hills are His also. 5 The sea is His, for He made it; And *His hands* formed the dry land. 6 *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*. Today, if you will hear His voice: 8 “Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion*, as in the day of trial** in the wilderness, 9 When your fathers tested Me; They tried Me, though they saw My work. 10 For forty years I was grieved with that generation, and said, ‘It is a people who go astray in their hearts, and they do not know My ways.’ 11 So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”

Questions:

1. What stands out to you in the verses above? What is the main focus? Is there anything that piques your interest?
2. How would you describe this passage with a single word or phrase?
3. What do you suppose is the significance of the phrase “His hand” in verses 4-7? Why would the writer of this Psalm include this? How does it connect with the larger message of this Psalm?
4. How does our heart become hard towards God? What are some of the symptoms of a hardened heart? What can we do to guard our heart?
5. Share a few takeaways you learned. How can you apply this to your life? Is there anything you need to do in light of this?

References: [Psalm 95:1-11](#); [Romans 12:1](#); [John 10:27-29](#); [Exodus 17:1-7](#); [Matthew 15:7-9](#); [Hebrews 3:3-11](#)

For later: Read Psalm 95 and Hebrews 3-4 in one reading. Prayerfully consider how these scriptures might apply to your life. Are there any areas of your life and relationship with God where you may have developed a hardened heart? Are you struggling with unbelief or facing any trials and temptation? Are you questioning God's good purposes for your life? Is there anything that needs to be surrendered to God? Take a moment to bow before the Lord and give Him every area of your life.

Key:

1. We are invited to come before the Lord with worship, rejoicing and thanksgiving because of who God is. Though we know God personally and have relationship with Him, we still revere and respect God.
2. Worship. Invitation to worship. God is approachable. Humility. Don't harden your heart. Guard your heart. Belief/unbelief.
3. Notice the repetition of the word "His hand." In verse 4 David described God as the One who holds the whole world in His hand, and in verse 5 he described God as the One who made the whole world with His hands. In verse 7, he communicates the very humbling thought that God is a Shepherd who holds each one of us in His hand! cf. Psalm 23:1 and John 10:27-29
4. In Exodus 17:1-7, the Israelites quarreled with Moses and tested the Lord. God called the place *Meribah (argue, rebel) and **Massah (trial, test). When we begin to question God's good purposes, our heart becomes hard to God. Our hearts go astray through unbelief and disobedience.
5. God is approachable. We can trust God with every area of our lives. The essence of true worship is being humble before God. We must guard our heart and not let it become hard. Take time to worship and bow down before the Lord. Find a place to kneel before Him as your good shepherd.