

“A Song Worth Singing”

C.R. B. C. 9-2-18

Psalm 95:1-11

Intro: John MacArthur, pastor of the Grace Community Church in Panorama City, California, speaks plainly about the misconceptions concerning worship. He says: “Well, if you go to church for what you can get out of the music, or what you can get out of the sermon, or just to get blessed, you’ve missed the point. The music and the sermon aren’t ends in themselves; they are but stimuli to cause you to worship God. And if you have any thought less than that, you’ve missed the point! MacArthur is absolutely right. Too often we come to church to “get blessed” by God, or to fulfill our perceived religious responsibility, rather than to focus our praise, adoration, and attention on the One alone who is worthy of worship. What is true worship? In a general sense, worship is “...honor paid to a superior being. It means ‘to give homage, honor, reverence, respect, adoration, praise, or glory to a superior being.’” Though worship can be directed toward almost anything, only God is truly worthy of it.””

According to Scripture (**Psalm 40:3**), we have been given a song to sing. One that is filled with worth and value, not because of the content or the one singing it, but rather its worth and its value is determined by who it is directed to, the King of Glory. Let’s consider 3 truths this morning that affirm the Song we Sing!!

First, let us see Worship Encouraged

I. Worship Encouraged (Vs. 1-2)

- a. **Quote:** “You know how the birds stir up each other to sing. One bird in a cage will excite its fellow, who looks at him and seems to say, "You shall not outstrip me: I will sing with you," till all the little minstrels quiver with an ecstasy of song, and form a choir of emulating songsters. Hark how the early morning of the spring is rendered musical by the full orchestra of birds. One songster begins the tune, and the rest hasten to swell the music. Let us be like the blessed birds. Bless the Lord till you set the fashion, and others bless Him with you.” C. H. Spurgeon
- b. The word “come” is used in verse 1 and 2 and is a verb which denotes action.
- c. Notice to whom the worship is directed...The Rock of Our Salvation
- d. **Illustration:** The Duke of Wellington, the British military leader who defeated Napoleon at Waterloo, was not an easy man to serve under. He was brilliant, demanding, and not one to shower his subordinates with compliments. Yet even Wellington realized that his methods left something to be desired. In his old age a young lady asked him what, if anything, he would do differently if he had his life to live over again. Wellington thought for a moment, then replied. "I'd give more praise," he said.
- e. The word sing literally means joyful and triumphant. John 4 the woman at the well models worship when she encountered Jesus

- f. What does our worship look like? Are we constantly looking for opportunities to praise Jesus?

Secondly, we see Wisdom Extended

II. Wisdom Extended (Vs. 3-7)

- a. The Psalmist turns his attention from invitation to education. Why are we to worship the Rock of our Salvation? He is a great God and a great King
- b. A proper education of who God is will produce worship, when I know God through His Word, I cannot help but worship Him for who He is and what He has done!!
- c. **Illustration:** For every man, education should be a process which continues all his life. We have to abandon, as swiftly as possible, the idea that schooling is something restricted to youth. How can it be, in a world where half the things a man knows at 20 are no longer true at 40; and half the things he knows at 40 hadn't been discovered when he was 20?
- d. The Psalmist describes the vastness of God's greatness
- e. God is great and greatly to be praised
- f. **Illustration:** In 1715 King Louis XIV of France died after a reign of 72 years. He had called himself "the Great," and was the monarch who made the famous statement, "I am the state!" His court was the most magnificent in Europe, and his funeral was equally spectacular. As his body lay in state in a golden coffin, orders were given that the cathedral should be very dimly lit with only a special candle set above his coffin, to dramatize his greatness. At the memorial, thousands waited in hushed silence. Then Bishop Massillon began to speak; slowly reaching down, he snuffed out the candle and said, "Only God is great."
- g. Let us lift our voices to the King of Glory, for He and He alone is worthy of our worship

Finally, we See a Warning Expressed

III. Warning Expressed (Vs. 8-11)

- a. The Psalmist takes the reader back to wilderness wonderings of the nation of Israel. As they wondered physically, their hearts drifted away from their Creator!
- b. When we fail to acknowledge the provision of God, our hearts become cold and hard, and we become indifferent about the things of God
- c. **Quote:** I was in the north of England in 1881, when a fearful storm swept over that part of the country. A friend of mine, who was a minister at Evemouth, had a great many of the fishermen of the place in his congregation. It had been very stormy weather, and the fishermen had been detained in the harbor for a week. One day, however, the sun shone out in a clear blue sky; it seemed as if the storm had passed away, and the boats started out for the fishing ground. Forty-one boats left the harbor that day. Before they started, the harbor-master hoisted the storm signal, and warned them of the coming tempest. He begged of them not to go; but they disregarded his warning, and away they went. They saw no sign of the coming storm. In a few hours, however, it swept down on that coast, and very few of those fishermen returned. There were five or six men in each boat, and nearly all were lost in that dreadful gale. In the church of which my friend was pastor, I

believe there were three male members left. Those men were ushered into eternity because they did not give heed to the warning. I lift up the storm signal now, and warn you to escape from the coming judgment! D. L. Moody

d. **Judges 2:10**—And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.