

Today I want to look in detail at “what” this Psalm says... Next week I want to see what it “means” to us today. Today we learn, next week we apply!

Psalm 100 is the closing song of a cantata of Enthronement Psalms.

1. This Psalm presents us with seven invitations to Worship
 - a. Make a joyful noise
 - i. Most think singing; but I think also of laughter, joyful tones of conversation; expressions of love given during a hug, the snuffle of tears of joy; around here, lately, baby talk; etc...
 - b. Serve with gladness (Worship in NRSV)
 - i. Know it is a privilege to worship God
 - ii. He does not receive ‘begrudged’ accolades and service
 - c. Come into His presence
 - i. Making a conscience effort; decision; to focus our minds and hearts on Him. Determining to lay aside everything else to “see Jesus only.”
 - d. Know that the Lord, He is God
 - i. That means anything else is not God... so don’t give them place
 1. Your pain is not God; your loss is not God; your troubles are not God; your finances are not God; your circumstances (good, bad, or ugly) are not God...
 2. Don’t treat them like they are God and let them have comeuppance in your life.
 - e. Enter His gates with thanksgiving
 - i. Emphasis is “gates.” Five general uses – Business transactions; Legal business; Criminal cases; Proclamations; Festivals
 1. 12 Gates of Jerusalem – Corner; Refuse; Ephraim; Fish; Fountain; Horse; Benjamin; Prison; Sheep; Upper Benjamin; Valley; Water
 - ii. Into His courts with Praise
 - f. Give thanks (be thankful)
 - i. In grateful recognition of his mercy and truth that endures to all generations
 - g. Bless His name
 - i. Exalt the name of Jesus
 - ii. There is no other name given under heaven whereby we must be saved.
2. The motives for giving praise are detailed.
 - a. In verse three
 - i. He made us (and not we ourselves: as added by editors later)
 - ii. We are His people
 - iii. We are the sheep of His pasture
 1. Sheep for whom the Lord personally cares
 2. Not delegated to someone else
 - b. In verse five
 - i. The Lord is good
 - ii. His mercy is everlasting (endures)
 - iii. His truth endures to all generations
 1. He is Faithful to all generations
3. There are two ‘stanzas’ to this song repeating the same thought
 - a. Verses 1-3 parallel verses 4&5 – expressing similar thoughts with different words.
 - b. The question I leave you with today is this... “Are we as a church; do you as a Christian; accept this invitation and hold these motives?”