

Psalm 98 – A Song of Victory and Righteous Judgment

*“Oh, sing to the Lord a new song!
For He has done marvelous things;
His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.” — Psalm 98:1, NKJV*

A Fresh Song for a Faithful God

Psalm 98 opens with the command: *Sing a new song!* Why? Because God has done *marvelous things*. The psalmist doesn’t invite us to praise based on emotion or tradition but on the reality of who God is and what He has done.

This “*new song*” is not about novelty but about *renewal*—fresh praise for fresh works. God is not silent or passive. His holy arm has won the victory—not by human strength, but by divine action.

Personal Application: Has your worship become routine? Ask the Lord to renew your heart. Consider the recent victories He’s brought in your life—deliverance, provision, forgiveness, healing—and respond with fresh praise. God’s works are not leftovers; they are living and active today.

*“The Lord has made known His salvation;
His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered His mercy and His faithfulness to the house of Israel;
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.” — Psalm 98:2–3*

God's Salvation Is Public and Global

God’s salvation is not hidden. It’s not confined to a single people group, nor is it reserved for a private few. His righteousness has been revealed for *all nations* to see. From Israel to the ends of the earth, the grace and truth of God have gone forth.

The God who made a covenant with Israel is the same God who extends mercy to the world. His faithfulness to His promises is not just a blessing to one people, but a beacon to all.

Personal Application: God’s salvation is not a secret to be kept—it’s a message to be shared. Your life can be a testimony of His righteousness and mercy. Do others see His salvation in you?

*“Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth;
Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.
Sing to the Lord with the harp,
With the harp and the sound of a psalm,
With trumpets and the sound of a horn;
Shout joyfully before the Lord, the King.” — Psalm 98:4–6*

Joyful Praise to the King of All

The response to God's salvation and faithfulness is joyful worship. Not quiet or restrained, but expressive—using voice and instrument alike. This is not entertainment; it is exaltation. God is not only Savior—He is *King*.

And this praise is not limited to Israel. The whole earth is summoned to rejoice before the throne of the King. This is a preview of the coming Kingdom, when all nations will bow before Him.

Personal Application: Is your praise joyful or half-hearted? Are you worshiping out of obligation or awe? Remember, worship is our natural response to the reality of who God is—worthy, righteous, and reigning.

*“Let the sea roar, and all its fullness,
The world and those who dwell in it;
Let the rivers clap their hands;
Let the hills be joyful together before the Lord,
For He is coming to judge the earth.
With righteousness He shall judge the world,
And the peoples with equity.” — Psalm 98:7–9*

Creation Rejoices at Righteous Judgment

Here, even nature joins the celebration. The sea roars. Rivers clap. Hills rejoice. Why? Because the Lord is coming—not just as Savior, but as *Judge*. His coming judgment is not feared by the righteous—it is longed for.

Why? Because *He will judge in righteousness and equity*. His justice will not be swayed by corruption, politics, or bias. He won't be fooled by appearances or manipulated by systems. Every person, every nation, every injustice will be weighed perfectly.

Personal Application: We live in a world of flawed courts and skewed verdicts. But God's justice is pure. When He comes, truth will be honored, wrongs will be made right, and His judgment will be final and fair. If you've been treated unjustly, don't lose hope—He is coming.

Final Reflections: Why This Psalm Matters Now

Psalm 98 stands as both a celebration and a prophecy.
It celebrates God's mighty acts of salvation in history.
And it looks ahead to His future reign and righteous judgment.

Like Psalm 96, it calls us to joyful worship, global proclamation, and reverent anticipation of the return of the King. The psalmist doesn't present God's judgment as a dark or dreadful thing—but as the long-awaited answer to injustice.

The world is not out of control.
The righteous will not be forgotten.
The Judge is coming—and He will judge *rightly*.

Takeaway Truths for Today

- **Sing a new song:** Keep your worship fresh by remembering what God has done.
- **Show His salvation:** Live in a way that makes His righteousness visible.
- **Shout for joy:** Don't hold back your praise. Worship God with enthusiasm and awe.
- **Stand in hope:** Don't fear His coming—long for it. He will judge the world, not by man's opinion, but with righteousness and truth.

"He is coming to judge the earth...

With righteousness He shall judge the world,

And the peoples with equity." — Psalm 98:9

Let that hope steady your heart, lift your song, and direct your life.