

Psalm 100

Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before his presence with singing. Know that the Lord, he is God; it is he who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. Be thankful to him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endures to all generations.

The psalmist gives us several avenues to express our worship to God; a joyful shout, serve, singing, thanksgiving, thankful, praise and bless. Let's take a quick look at the Hebrew word for each one.

Joyful shout:

Ruwa-to split the ears (with sound), i.e. shout (for alarm or joy).

Serve:

Abad- to work (in any sense); to serve, till, (causatively) enslave, to be in bond service.

Many times we don't see service as worship, but it is. To be in bond service means we serve willingly, not out of coercion. (Romans 12:1)

Singing:

Renanah-a shout (for joy): singing.

Thanksgiving:

Towdah- properly, an extension of the hand, i.e. (by implication) avowal, or (usually) adoration; specifically, a choir of worshippers.

Praise:

Tehillah-laudation; specifically (concretely) a hymn, a song of spontaneous worship, a new song.

Thankful:

Yadah-literally, to use (i.e. hold out) the hand; physically, to throw (a stone, an arrow) at or away; especially to revere or worship (with extended hands).

Bless:

Barak-to kneel; by implication to bless God (as an act of adoration).

Using the Hebrew worship words, you might interpret Psalm 100 this way: Make a shout to the Lord that will split the ears. Be enslaved to the Lord, not out of coercion, but willingly. Come before his presence with loud shouting and singing. Know that the Lord, he is God; it is he who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with uplifted hands and adoration and into his courts with a hymn of spontaneous worship; a new song. With uplifted hands kneel before him as an act of adoration. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endures to all generations.

We are encouraged by the psalmist to worship in the truth about who God is and our relationship to him. In verse three he says, *Know that the Lord, he is God; It is he who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.* As in many of the psalms this one ends by giving us the reason for our many

expressions of worship. *For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endures to all generations.*

Scripture references:

Psalm 66:13

I will go into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows...

Psalm 95:1

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.

Psalm 116:17-19

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

Psalm 136:1

Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! For his mercy endures forever.

Ezekiel 34:31

You are my flock, the flock of my pasture; you are men, and I am your God, says the Lord God.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.