

Part 2 – He Cometh to Judge the Earth

In chapter ninety-eight, part 1, we saw the Psalmist call us to ‘sing a new song unto the Lord’, just as Psalms 96 did. However, this call to ‘sing a new song’ was a bit different because it calls us to sing for what God will do *for Israel* (in redeeming them), when Jesus Christ returns. Thus, we were also called to praise God for the ‘marvellous things’ He has done in regards to His ability to save His children. Thus, we also saw the Psalmist speak of the Lord’s (YHVH’s) salvation, but he pointed out that God’s salvation will be ‘made known’ and *that’s because*, when Jesus Christ returns, the *entire* world will see Him return to the earth (Mth 24:27; Rev 1:7). Thus, it is the punishment of the wicked ones on earth that *saves* those who are righteous. And, we also learned that it’s not just Israel who will be redeemed when Jesus returns, but *all* those who *remain* faithful to Jesus Christ and *don’t* worship Satan, the fallen angels nor his wicked ‘beast’ system. And then we also learned that, when Jesus Christ returns, He will remember His mercy and truth towards the house of Israel. Now, *this doesn’t mean He forgot!* It simply means that He will do the things God has long promised to do for Israel. Some of God’s promises are time related; meaning, they cannot be fulfilled *until the right time*. Jesus’ First Advent was like that (Rom 5:6) and so is His Second Advent (1 Pt 5:6). And we also learned that, just because everyone on earth will ‘see’ the salvation of the Lord (YHVH), that does *not* mean *everyone* on earth *will* be saved; it simply said everyone *will see* the salvation of God. In other words, even the wicked ones will see Jesus Christ return and save the righteous from their wicked hands... but they will *not* be saved by Jesus. Instead, all those who have made themselves God’s enemies will receive His wrath *instead of* His salvation. But still, they will *see* the righteous ones (who remained faithful to the Lord, YHVH) be saved (from them) when Jesus Christ returns. And that’s why those who remain faithful on earth will have *much* to rejoice in, at the return of Jesus Christ, as the latter part of this lovely Psalm will declare...

Psalm 98

4 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

Now we see the Psalmist call us to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. The words ‘**joyful noise**’ means (in the context of this verse) *to split the ears with sound*, i.e. *to shout for joy* (#7321) and the word ‘**Lord**’ here is again God’s sacred (and covenantal) name, **Yehovah**, which means (the) **self-Existent** or **Eternal** (#3068) [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/946>]. So, His name *reveals* that our Heavenly Father (Yehovah) is the *only* one who has *always* existed and *always* will, which is why He is *eternal* (Rev 1:8, 4:9, 11:17, 16:5, 22:13). And that’s why all the earth is called to make a joyful noise (shout for joy) when He *finally* returns as Jesus Christ. After all, Jesus’ return means that *all* the wicked ones *will be deposed* and a righteous government (headed by Jesus Christ as King) *will finally* rule over the earth (at large, #776). And then the Psalmist details what he meant, in the first part of the verse (making a joyful noise), by explaining we

should *make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise*. The words ‘**loud noise**’ means *to break out in joyful sound* (#6476) and the word ‘**rejoice**’ means *to creak* (or emit a stridulous sound), i.e. *to shout* (usually *for joy*) (#7442) while the words ‘**sing praise**’ mean *to touch the strings or parts of a musical instrument*, i.e. *play upon it*. It can even mean *to make music, accompanied by the voice*; hence *to celebrate in song and music* (#2167). And truly, there are many other Scriptures that call for the earth to sing unto the Lord when He finally returns to the earth (via Jesus Christ). We’ll see ‘a new song’ spoken of further on in the Psalms (144:9, 149:1). And we’ve seen it back in Ps 33:3 when David was calling the righteous to ‘sing a new song’ to praise God for all of His wonderful attributes. That was *in response to* the atonement he (and we) received when he repented sincerely (as Ps 32 spoke of), thanks to the blood shed by Jesus Christ (Rom 5:11). And, in Psalm 40:3, David said that God had put a ‘new song’ in his mouth *because*, when he patiently waited for the Lord (YHWH), He heard his prayers *and helped him*. And, it’s not just the Psalms that speak of singing a ‘new song’ to the Lord (YHWH). Isa 42:10 also calls the people of the earth (even the gentiles) to *sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth*. And, of course, Revelations speaks of how the twenty-four elders sang a ‘new song’ to God to praise Him for Jesus’ victory over death *and* the redemption He offers all who come to Him (Rev 5:8-10). And further on, in Rev 14:1-4, we see that the 144,000 of Israel (who were sealed in Rev 7) will also sing a ‘new song’ to the Lord (YHWH) because they too were redeemed by Jesus *and* are the ‘first fruits’ of the earth. So again, *this* ‘new song’ speaks of what happens *at the return of Jesus Christ*, which is the *only* time that *true* ‘peace on earth’ (i.e. rest for the earth) will *ever* come.

So clearly, the return of Jesus Christ will be an incredibly jubilant time... for those who have remained faithful to Him! Those who hate Him, have actively worked against Him, or even those Christians foolish enough to worship Satan and his wicked ‘beast system’ (Mth 7:21-23) *won’t* be rejoicing, but rather crying their eyes out and trembling for fear (Isa 2:10-22; Mth 13:40-42, 49-50; Rev 1:7, 6:15-17, 18:14-19, etc.). But, the joy that those who have remained faithful to the Lord (YHWH) will have – as well as the creation itself (Ps 48:11-14, 96:11-13, Rom 8:21) - will be *incredible*. As Rev 18:20 tells us, we will rejoice for the vengeance God (via Jesus Christ) takes upon the wicked ones, even ‘Babylon’ which is Satan’s wicked governing system (the beast, Rev 13). And Ps 53:6 also prophesied that, *when God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad*. And Ps 58:10-11 also prophesied: *The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked. So that a man shall say, Verily there is a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth*. So, the rejoicing will be intense because God has proved – to all the earth – that there truly are great rewards for those who remain faithful servants to Him and don’t follow Satan’s wicked says. As Ps 37:11 also prophesies: *the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace*. And so it is that, when the righteous are exalted to power (to rule with Jesus Christ), and thus given great honor for their faithfulness to Him

(eternal life), *the wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish* (Ps 112:9-10)...

Psalms 98

5 Sing unto the LORD with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.

6 With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the LORD, the King.

So, the Psalmist continues to call us to sing (the ‘new song’) unto the Lord (YHVH, #3068) and details more about how we’ll do so. The word ‘**sing**’ in the 5th verse is the same as in verse 4, so it means *to touch the strings or parts of a musical instrument*, i.e. *play upon it*. It can even mean *to make music, accompanied by the voice*; hence *to celebrate in song and music* (#2167). And then the word ‘**harp**’ means (not surprisingly) *a harp* (#3658) and the word ‘**voice**’ means *a voice* or *sound* (#6963) and is rendered as ‘sound’ in verse 6. This Hebrew word comes from an unused root meaning *to call aloud*. And the word ‘Psalm’ in verse 5 is different than the subscription. It’s the Hebrew word *zimrah* (#2172) and means *a musical piece or song to be accompanied by an instrument*. And the word ‘**trumpet**’ does mean (unsurprisingly) *a trumpet* (#2689) and a ‘**cornet**’ not only means *a cornet* (which is a valved brass instrument resembling a trumpet in design and range but having a shorter partly conical tube and less brilliant tone) but can also be a *curved horn* (#7782). And the words ‘**joyful noise**’ is the *same* Hebrew word that was also rendered as a ‘joyful noise’ back in verse 4. So, it means (in the context of this verse) *to split the ears with sound*, i.e. *to shout for joy* (#7321). And then the word ‘**before**’ does mean *before*, when used as a preposition, but can also mean *the face* (as the part that turns) and is used literally *and* figuratively (#6440). It was also rendered as ‘presence’ back in Ps 95:2 and 97:5, so it essentially means ‘in the presence of the Lord’, who is Yehovah (#3068). And the word ‘**king**’, of course, does mean *a king* (#4428) and comes from a prim root that means *to reign, to ascend the throne, to induct into royalty*, and (by implication) even *to take counsel* (#4427).

So, the Psalmist is clearly calling those who are happy about the return of Jesus Christ (i.e. who remained faithful followers of Him) to ‘sing the new song’ with ‘all they’ve got’. Not just in a physical sense (with their voice and an instrument) but also in a spiritual sense, meaning to sing and praise the Lord (Jesus Christ) wholeheartedly - i.e. with all our heart (desires, emotions) and mind (thoughts) and soul (our body), which Paul calls us to do even now (Eph 5:19). And the reason is clear, when Jesus Christ returns, His righteous government will *finally* be ruling the earth, *forever*. As Isa 51:3 prophesies: *For the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody*. Isa 25:7-9 also tells us that, when Jesus Christ returns, *He will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations* [i.e. Satan’s wicked ‘beast’ governing system; Rev 18, Jer 52]. *He will swallow up death in victory* [1 Cor 15:51-58]; *and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces* [Rev 8:14-17; 21:2-4]; *and the rebuke*

*of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, **we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation**. And a few chapters later we're also promised that *the meek also shall **increase their joy in the LORD**, and the poor among men **shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel**. For the terrible one is brought to nought, and the scorner is consumed, and all that watch for iniquity are cut off* (Isa 29:19-20). So, it's clear that this beautiful 'New Song' will be sung, with great joy, **because of** the great vengeance that Jesus Christ will take upon the wicked ones of the earth, including Satan, his fallen angels and evil 'beast' governing system (Rev 13). In other words, God's 'cup of wrath' will be poured out (Ps 11:4-7; Isa 51:17-23; Jer 25:15-31; Zech 14; Rev 14:9-10; 16:19-21, 18, 19:11-21, etc.) and *that's* what will cause the righteous ones to sing so jubilantly with all their heart, mind and soul!*

Psalms 98

7 Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Now the Psalmist turns his attention to calling the creation to 'sing the new song', just as back in Psalms 96:11. This lets us know that it's not just the faithful Christians who will be greatly rejoicing at Jesus' returns, the earth will too. As Paul noted, in Rom 8, the creation itself currently groans and travails in pain, even now. And that's not only because of the pollution that mankind causes but also because the earth is not on its original axis, which is why there will be great natural calamities (hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, volcanos, etc.) that will continue to only get worse (as labor pains, Mth 24:7-8) until Jesus Christ returns. But, once the King of kings (Jesus) does finally return, the earth's axis will be set back upright, cleansed and rejuvenated (Rom 8:21; Ps 65, 93:1, 96:10; 2 Pt 3:9-13) which is why the creation itself will also rejoice at Jesus' return.

Now, the word 'sea' does mean **a sea** (as breaking in noisy surf) but also a **large body of water**; and, specifically (with the article), it can refer to *particular* seas, such as the *Mediterranean Sea* or even sometimes **a large river**, or an **artificial basin**; and, it can even mean *the cardinal directions* such as **the west**, or (rarely) **the south** (#3220). And the word 'roar' here is a prim root that means **to tumble**, i.e. **be violently agitated**; specifically, **to crash** (*of thunder*) and, figuratively, **to irritate** (*with anger*) (#7481). And the words '**fulness thereof**' do mean **fulness** (literally or figuratively, #4393). And this is likely referring to the way that the seas of the world will react to the great earthquake that will accompany Jesus' return (Zech 14:1-5, Isa 24:1-4, 19-23; Rev 6:12, 11:11-13, 19, 19:17-21) as we learned of earlier in Ps 96. After all, Jesus' return not only cleans out the rebels, but also the earth itself (2 Pt 2:10-11). And, as Paul wrote in Rom 8:20-22, even the earth longs to be free from the corruption of this world. And that's why we're also told that the 'world' and 'they that dwell therein' will also rejoice at the return of Jesus Christ too (Ps 98:7). And there's truly many more Scriptures (such as Isa 35, 41:8-20, 66:5-17;

Jer 31:10-14) that speak of the joy the righteous ones (Jesus' faithful servants) will have when He returns.

In short, those who love our Heavenly Father long for peace and prosperity to come; and they know that can *only* come when Jesus Christ returns, for that's the *only* time that evil will be *totally* rooted out of the earth (Mth 15:13, 13:37-43, 47-50, etc.) and righteousness installed to replace it (Rev 20:4-6; Eph 3:17; Col 2:7, etc.). Jesus explained this quite clearly in a parable (of the vineyard) in Mth 21:33-44...

Psalms 98

8 Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together

Again, the Psalmist is calling (prophesying of) the creation to 'sing the new song' at Jesus' return, and it will. And this is similar to Ps 96:12 which said: *Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice*. The word '**floods**' here means **a stream, including the sea** (such as the Nile, Euphrates, etc.) and, figuratively, it can also mean **prosperity** (#5104). And the word '**clap**' means **to rub or strike the hands together, in exultation** (#4222) while the word '**hand**' means **the hollow hand or palm** and is also used, figuratively, for **power** (#3709). The '**hills**' can mean **a range of hills** but also **a mountain range** (#2202) and is used figuratively at times too (Isa 2:2-3, 11:9; Jer 51:25; Ezek 6:1-3, 17:22-23, Ezek 36:1-9, Ezek 38:8, 18-23, Ezek 39:1-4; Dan 2:35,44-45; Zeh 4:7, 8:3, Rev 17:9-11). And the word '**joyful**' is the same Hebrew word rendered as 'rejoice' in verses 4, so it means **to shout for joy** (#7442) while the word '**together**' means **as a unit, i.e. unitedly** (#3162). So, in a physical sense, the creation itself will be elated at the return of Jesus Christ, for the earth *will* be cleansed and put back into its proper (original) order. As Rom 8:21 says, *the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God*. The word '**creature**' here actually means **original formation** (#2937) and comes from a word that means to found, as in form originally (#2936)! Again, that's why creation itself will be so happy. Further, Isaiah also uses similar language for the creation rejoicing at Jesus' return...

12 For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Isa 55:12-13

Isaiah gives us great understanding here as to just why (and how) the creation itself will 'rejoice' at the return of Jesus Christ. The creation 'rejoices' by *flourishing* (as David also spoke of in Ps 65) and *that* will be an everlasting sign which *proves* the Lord is righteous! And *that's* why God's

faithful servants (who remain faithful to the true Jesus Christ and don't worship Satan) will be called **trees of righteousness**, *the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified* (Isa 61:3). Further, as Paul also points out (in Rom 8:23), those of us who are *faithful* Christians also *groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body*. So, just as the earth eagerly awaits to be 'put back in order' so too do we long for an eternal body, which is not corruptible, as this flesh body is. As Paul said in Phil 3:21, Jesus Christ will *change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body*. So truly, there is so much to look forward to and we should not forget these precious promises from our Heavenly Father (i.e. that which is written in these 'calls' to sing a 'new song' [Ps 96, 98], as well as *the 'new songs'* [Ps 97, 99]). When times get tough, remember these things!

Psalm 98

9 Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.

This verse picks up with the thought from the prior verse (8) which was speaking about the 'floods' clapping their hands and the 'hills' being joyful together... *before the 'Lord'*, who is Yehovah (#3068). So again, even creation itself will be greatly rejoicing at Jesus' return because the earth itself will be cleansed and rejuvenated. But, this verse 9 directly tells us that Jesus' judgment of the earth, world and people is also very pleasing to creation. That again is because, *the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God* (Rom 8:21). And remember, the word '**creature**' here actually means **original formation** (#2937), so it really should have been rendered as 'creation' as it was in verse 22. And the word '**delivered**' here means **to liberate** (#1659) while the word '**bondage**' means **slavery** (#1397) and the word '**corruption**' means **decay or ruin** (#5356). And then the word '**glorious**' means **glory, as very apparent** (#1391) and **liberty** means **freedom** (#1657). So, this Rom 8:21 makes it *very* clear why the creation will be **so** joyful when Jesus Christ returns; it will be cleansed and rejuvenated and thus, it will prosper greatly. Which, again, is why Isaiah 55 (which we read above) says that the *mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands* and then goes on to speak of how good trees will grow up instead of the bad ones. So, God's original creation will be restored, as will His perfect Law system, through the perfectly righteous governance of Jesus Christ and His righteous government (the Body of Christ).

Now then, let's look at some of the Hebrew in this verse 9 (here in Ps 98). The word '**judge**' is a prim root that means **to judge**, i.e. **pronounce sentence** (for or against); and, by implication, it also means **to vindicate or punish**; and, by extension, it also means **to govern**; and, passively, it also means **to litigate** (literally or figuratively) (#8199). And, while there's a lot of parts to the meaning of 'judge' our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ will do *all of them* when He returns! And, while the word '**earth**' can mean *a partitively of land* (as it was used in Noah's flood, Gen 7-8

[<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/413>], it's meaning here is ***the earth at large***, i.e. all the earth (#776), because Jesus Christ is *not* coming back to rule just *a part of* the earth, but all of it. And He will do so with '**righteousness**', which ***the right*** (natural, moral or legal), ***equity*** or (figuratively) ***prosperity*** (#6664). And it comes from a prim root that means ***to be*** (or, to ***make***) ***right*** (in a moral or forensic sense) (#6663). And Jesus will rule rightly because (as He said in John 12:48) He won't be judging by His *personal opinions*, but by ***God's righteous Laws***. And then we see the 'world' will be judged by God's righteousness too. This word '**world**' is similar to the meaning of the 'earth', for it does mean ***the earth*** (as moist and therefore inhabited) but it also means (by extension) ***the globe*** and, by implication, ***its inhabitants***; it can even mean (specifically), *a particular portion of land*, as Babylonia, Palestine (#8398). So, the reason it's used is because it implies *the inhabited parts of the world*.

Thus, the use of the word 'earth' and the 'world' (even though their meanings are very closely related) is to teach us **Jesus Christ's reign really will be all encompassing** (in heaven and earth, Col 1:20; Phil 2:10). And then the word '**people**' does mean ***a people*** (as a congregated unit), as well as (specifically) ***a tribe*** (as those of Israel) or even (collectively) *troops or attendants* and (figuratively) *a flock* (#5971). So, no matter what race, gender or nationality they are, all people on earth will be gathered by Jesus' angels (Isa 24:17-23; Matt 13:40-42, 47-50, Matt 24:29-31, 25:31-46; Mark 13:24-27; Rev 20:1-5) and *judged* by Jesus Christ. And He will then *rule over all people* with His righteous government (the body of Christ, Ezek 44, Rev 20:4-6, etc.) 'with **equity**', which means ***evenness***, i.e. (figuratively) ***prosperity*** or ***concord***; but, it can also mean ***straightness***, i.e. (figuratively) ***rectitude*** (#4339). It's also been rendered as *right* and *upright*. You could even say that (like His Father, Yehovah) Jesus Christ will judge all people with fairness, i.e. not showing favoritism or partiality in any way, shape or form. And that's because everyone will be judged by God's Laws (John 12:48) so *that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad* (2 Cor 5:10).

However, those who have repented for their sins wholeheartedly (and have the good 'works of faith' to prove it) *will not have their past sins on record*. That's an important point to remember! When you repent of your sins sincerely, and honestly work to learn and obey God's Word (from the heart) *your sins are done away with by the atoning blood of Jesus Christ* (Rom 3:24-25, 5:10-11, etc.). So, 'judgment' for those who have honestly repented of their sins *and* faithfully served Jesus Christ (not worshiped Satan or his wicked 'beast governing system') don't have to fear 'judgment day' because, for them, that means *great* rewards (Mth 5:10-12). Which is why they'll receive *eternal* life and be allowed to govern with Jesus Christ when He returns (Rev 20:4-6; Phil 3:21; Col 3:3-4). As it is written, *let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ* (1 Thess 5:8-9). God's wrath is thus, appointed for the 'children of disobedience' (Eph 5:6, Col 3:6) who *received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved* (2 Thess 2:10) because *they believed not the truth,*

but had pleasure in unrighteousness (2 Thess 2:12). As Palms 95 taught us, that's why it's so important not to harden your heart to God's Word and Holy Spirit, for that's truly *what saves us* (John 6:63) from our sins, *and* Satan's deception [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/380>], *and* God's wrath [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1215>, <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/484>].

Now, this last verse (here in Ps 98) is very similar to Psalm 96's closing verse (13) which stated that: *for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth*. So, 'equity' (here in Ps 98:9) could even be rendered as 'truth' which (again) is God's Word (John 17:17). The bottom line is that our Heavenly Father is not a 'respector of persons' (Deut 1:17, Acts 10:34, Rom 2:11, 1 Pt 1:17, John 12:46-48, Col 3:24-25), for He shows no favoritism, or partiality, in judgment; He judges *all by His Word* yet with 'mercy and truth', because *that's* what cleanses iniquity (a corrupted heart) and teaches us how to depart from evil (Prov 16:6). As Ps 25:10 so well said: *All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep* [#5341] *his covenant and his testimonies*. So, in order to obtain mercy from God you *have* to be willing to repent for your sins *sincerely*, honestly work to learn His truth (Word) and strive to obey Him (keep His covenant and testimonies, which are written in His Word). And that's why those who *don't* do these things will be on the receiving end of God's wrath when Jesus Christ returns!

So, this 'summons' (call) to sing the 'new song' (here in Ps 98) is another beautiful Psalm that looks forward to the return of Jesus Christ. And, while it specifically spoke of Israel, truly it looks forward to all those who have accepted Jesus Christ and thus have a part with Israel's inheritance (Gal 3:26-29; Rom 8:14-28) ...

23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

*24 Knowing that of the Lord **ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance:** for ye serve the Lord Christ.*

25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

Col 3:23-25

AMEN.