

**Text: Psalm 93**

**Theme: Series: Songs fit for a King**

**Sermon delivered by Rev Adam Pymble during Service of the Word on 06/08/2017 at 4.00pm**

There are times when God's people need to be reminded, afresh and anew, whose we are and whom we serve. Psalm 93 helps us to do that. A number of theologians and Bible teachers in our day, recognises this psalm to be associated with the messianic kingdom. The messianic kingdom is that kingdom the Lord Jesus Christ taught His disciples to pray for in Matthew 6.10: "Thy kingdom come." The messianic kingdom is also that kingdom the Lord Jesus Christ, who of course is the Messiah of Israel, will establish here on earth at the time of His second coming in power and great glory.

Are you a Christian who is being persecuted? Be comforted by the fact that Christ reigns. Suffering affliction from unconverted family members? Be comforted by the fact that Christ reigns. Enduring physical ailments that leave you miserable? Be comforted by the fact that Christ reigns. Facing an obstacle in your life that seems insurmountable? Christ reigns.

Perhaps you are discouraged. I tell you that Christ reigns. Perhaps you feel weak and impotent in the face of temptations and trials. On the authority of God's Word, I remind you that Christ reigns. All praise to Him Who reigns above, in majesty supreme.

Why did Joseph persevere in prison, knowing that he had done no wrong? Why did Daniel continue to pray as at other times, knowing that it might cost him his life? Why did the three Hebrews refuse to bow down to the idols, when faced with the fiery furnace? How could Paul and Silas have rejoiced after being beaten and imprisoned in Philippi?

How is it that the gospel continues to spread in the face of fierce liberal agenda and Islamic opposition? Why do young girls boldly evangelize and bring others to Christ in the face of beatings, rapes, and even martyrdoms in such countries as Nigeria, Pakistan, and Indonesia? There is only one answer. It is the same answer to every question of its kind. It is the answer of the ages. Christ reigns.

In contrast to our mere existence and minute position on earth, stands our eternal God! Psalm 93 heralds this immortal God as from "everlasting" (93:2) and as "forever" (93:5). The psalm's emphasis is clearly on the LORD, as His name is repeated five times in these five brief verses. Though the Book of Psalms overflow with concerns, appeals, apprehensions, and questions from the pens of the writers, this psalm separates itself as only and all about Him.

And this statement "It's all about Him" clearly rings loud in the Scriptures: It is the Lord himself who chose us (John 15:16); Eternal life is a gift from him (Romans 6:23), it is His Spirit who keeps us safe, sealed and secure (Ephesians 1:13); it is He who began a good work in us who will be faithful to complete it (Philippians 1:6), it is He who is preparing a place for us (John 14:2); it is He who is building His church (Matthew 16:18); The list can go on and on...

What a refreshing psalm to keep us focused on the One above as we live life below. How necessary it is for us to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who is the Author and Finisher of our faith.

A.W. Tozer used to illustrate that if a person had 4,000 pianos and tried to tune them all to each other, he would fail miserably. But if the same individual instead used a tuning fork, he could successfully tune all the pianos to it. The one tuning fork all believers need to tune to is not each other but the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Psalm 93 can be broken down as follows:**

- 1. God reigns as King of creation – gloriously and powerfully. Vs.1-2**
- 2. God reigns eternally and triumphantly. Vs.3-4**
- 3. God reigns in truth and holiness. Vs.5.**

**God reigns as King of creation- gloriously and powerfully Vs.1-2**

The bible never leaves us with any doubt that God had no beginning. In Genesis we are told that in the beginning God was. And in Colossians 1:15-18 (The Message) we read *“We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God’s original purpose in everything created. For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels—everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment. And when it comes to the church, he organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body.”*

Revelation 1:8,12-18 (NLT) *“I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end,” says the Lord God. “I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One.” A.W. Pink, The Attributes of God. “There never was a time when He was not; there never will come a time when He shall cease to be. God has neither evolved, grown, nor improved. All that He is today, He has ever been, and ever will be”*

In Exodus 3:14, God discloses His name to Moses as “I Am Who I Am” which is the definition of the Hebrew Yahweh. The Jews consider YHWH too sacred to utter. The name proclaims God as self-existent, self-sufficient, eternal, and sovereign”.

The kings of this earth have their royal clothes? Well, my king is said to be “clothed with majesty.” But what is majesty? Majesty is defined as stately dignity and as imposing character. It is supreme greatness and sovereignty. And the Lord Jesus Christ is clothed with it. Simon Peter once wrote that the apostles were “eyewitnesses of his majesty.” Listen to what the apostle John wrote about Christ being clothed in majesty: “and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

J.I. Packer in Knowing God writes: “This name Yahweh is not a description of God, but simply a declaration of His self-existence and his eternal changelessness.”

God’s truth does not change. God’s ways do not change. God deals with the sinner, making opportunities for him or her to be saved. God loves humanity~ He hasn’t changed His mind with regards to salvation. It has always been by grace and not on our human effort.

God’s Character Does Not Change. Whatever the attributes of God were before the universe was called into existence, they are precisely the same now, and will remain so forever.

Having considered in all quarters the worldly rule of idols, and earthly deities or kings, the Psalmist at last bursts forth into the words which attribute supreme government to none other, but to Jehovah the true God.

Next, OUR LORD REIGNS POWERFULLY

The psalmist continues in verse one with these words: “the LORD is clothed with strength.” He is not only clothed with majesty, as a prince in his court, but He is clothed with strength, as a general in his camp. By this, we understand that He has the wherewithal to support His greatness and to make it truly formidable. We see Him not only clad in the robes of royalty, but also clad in the armour of

conquest. Both strength and honour are His clothing. **This shows us that He can do everything, and that with Him nothing is impossible.**

He has His strength of Himself, and does with it whatsoever He pleases. Therefore, let us not fear the power of man, which is both borrowed and limited, but let us fear Him Who has power to kill and to cast into Hell.

#### **God reigns eternally and triumphantly. Vs.3-4**

The imagery in this portion of the poem is of a threatening storm. "The seas have lifted up, LORD, the seas have lifted up their voice." This speaks of terror. "The seas have lifted up their pounding waves." This is worse, for this speaks of real danger. The allusion is of a tempestuous sea. Yet Isaiah 57.20 compares the wicked to such a scene: "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt."

Isaiah 54.11 shows that God's people are sometimes "afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted." But Praise be to God, then, that the Lord Jesus Christ, who once walked on the rough waters and quieted the wind, is still able to calm the stormy seas. Notice what Psalm 93.4 tells us about our sea anchor, who provides stability during times of distress: "The LORD on high is mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea."

The point being made is that the wicked people or forces cannot disturb His rest or rule. They cannot defeat His designs and purposes. Our most powerful foes are nothing more to Him than the noise of many waters. There is more sound than substance to them. Look back over your life's experiences. Have you not typically been more frightened than hurt? Why is this so? This is so because Christ is mightier than this noise which so frequently troubles us and robs us of sleep. After all, He is the One Who can, according to Psalm 65.7, still "the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people."

#### **DOES THE LORD REIGN IN YOUR LIFE?**

I am not talking about being saved. I am not asking you if God has saved you from your sins. Salvation and Lordship are not the same. We struggle with that today as did God's chosen people, the Israelites. We see this throughout Scripture. For one example, we can look at God's saving them from their bondage in Egypt, and then we find them in the wilderness complaining; we also find it in the New Testament, and just one example is Paul's writing to the churches of Galatia, stating "You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?" (Galatians 5:7 NIV)

#### **Finally, 3. Our Lord reigns in truth and holiness. Vs.5.**

"Your statutes, LORD, stand firm; holiness adorns your house for endless days."

This, of course, means that all of His promises are reliable. You can take them to the bank. You can rely on His word. So, what should your response to His trustworthiness be? He promises safety and keeps His promises. He says you are secure from harm. So, what should your response be? The psalmist puts the proper words into our mouths: "Holiness adorns your house for endless days."

This is a reference to Christ's household, so I will apply it to both this church and the household of faith. Whether you are a member of this church or a Christian who is our guest this afternoon, this church and the household of faith at large can be likened to God's house. It is cleansed from sin, consecrated by God, and it should be employed in His service. The holiness of this church is our beauty (saints are never so attractive than when conforming to the image of Christ).

**Conclusion**

If you are not now discouraged, you have been. If you are not now discouraged, you will be. This is because life is properly likened to changing weather conditions, and sometimes the storm winds blow and the waves crash in on us.

Psalm 93 shows that our Lord Jesus Christ reigns, that His throne is established from everlasting, and that He is mightier than the noise and even the mighty waves of the storm-tossed seas of life. He is clothed with majesty and strength, and His testimonies are very sure.

What safety and security is guaranteed to that one who belongs to Christ. What holiness will be his response, and will be the response of that congregation he worships and serves Christ with and in. But how dangerous it is to be unconverted, to be accounted as noise and waves, to be a Christ-rejecter.