

Weekly Devotions: GOD IS SOVEREIGN 12

Do You Know Who You Worship?

Knowledge and understanding play an important part in our worship. How we worship depends on what we know and believe about the God we worship. Christians do not worship “an unknown God,” but a God who has made Himself known to His people as well as to the whole creation.

Read Psalm 100

Our joy and trust in God come from knowing who He is. What then are we to know? “Know that the LORD (Yahweh) is God (Elohim or God above all gods)! It is He who made us and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture” (v. 3, NIV). The gods of the heathen are idols; they can neither see, nor speak, nor act. Our God is the Creator God.

God has redeemed us and brought us to Himself. He has made us and we belong to Him. Patiently and skillfully, He made His people to be a vessel of honor, fit for His own use. He also watches over us, protects and guides us with all the conscientious tenderness of a Shepherd. We are what we are because of God’s grace; this should be a cause for praise, not for pride.

Like the Psalmist, our joy and confidence come from knowing who God is. The Lord is not only a great God; He is a good God whose love for us endures forever (v. 5). We should praise Him not only for what He has done, but for who He is.

Wherein does His goodness consist? It consists in His love and faithfulness which endures forever. Our God is a covenant-keeping God and His promises are trustworthy. He is neither fickle nor faithless and His word is dependable. From generation to generation, He remains the same. From everlasting to everlasting, He is God. (Edited Extract from John Stott’s *Favorite Psalms*.)

Questions to ponder

1. The Psalmists always experienced God's comfort and joy in the face of life's struggles. What did the Psalmist exhort us to do in Psalm 100? Of the list of exhortations, which do you find most difficult? Why?
2. The secret of the Psalmist's joy is because he knows who his God is. How did he describe God and his relationship with Him (vv. 3, 5)? If an unbeliever were to ask you who God is, how would you describe God to this person?
3. Joy flows from a heart of thanksgiving and praise. List three things in your life you'd like to give thanks and praise. Commit to praise and thank God daily for His goodness towards you.