

12-10-17 Sermon Title: Joy to the World

Joy to the World is one of my absolute favorite Christmas songs.

*Joy to the World* was published in 1719 by Isaac Watts and **is based on Psalm 98**

### **Psalm 98:1-9**

#### Stanza 1 – (Verses 1-3)

The Psalmist is telling us that we need to sing praises to God because of the things **He has done in our past and the things he is doing in our present lives.**

A great example for us this time of year is Mary the mother of Jesus

#### **Luke 1:46-55**

David- Sing to the LORD a new song

Mary - My soul glorifies/praises the Lord.

David -For He has done marvelous things

Mary - He has performed mighty deeds with his arm

David - He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel

Mary - He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful.

We also must remember that **God is the same today as he was when David wrote this Psalm**, loving and faithful, with the power to save.

#### Stanza 2 – (Verses 4-6)

It doesn't matter if you make music with an instrument or with your voice, it doesn't say what kind or type of music to make, but **David does tell us how we are to make music, joyfully.**

So how do we make sure we are joyfully praising God?

By taking the focus off of us and putting it back on to God.

#### Stanza 3 – (Verses 7-9)

David personifies the sea, the world, the rivers, and the mountains **giving them the ability to praise God.**

Other times creation cries out to God: Isaiah 55:12, Luke 19:40, Revelation 5:13.

**David tells us that creation is already singing to God because he comes to judge.**

Creation doesn't need to fear God's judgment because they do what they are supposed to do without sin.

We do not need to fear God's judgement either because of what Christ has done for us.

Challenges:

- 1) Look back upon your life and see all the wonderful things God has done for you, so you know what to praise him for.
- 2) **Praise God joyfully everywhere we go.**
- 3) Prepare room for Jesus in your heart.

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