

Psalm 98

Compose a new song, and sing it to the Eternal
because of the unbelievable things He has done;
He has won the victory
with *the skill of* His right hand and *strength of* His holy arm.
The Eternal has made it clear that He saves,
and He has shown the nations that He does what is right.
He has been true to His promises;
fresh in His mind is His unfailing love
for all of Israel.
Even the ends of the earth have witnessed how our God saves.
Raise your voices; make a beautiful noise to the Eternal, all the earth.
Let your joy explode into song and praise;
Make music to the Eternal with the harp;
sing a *beautiful* melody with the harp *and chorus*.
With trumpets and horns,
fill the air with joyful sounds to the King, the Eternal.
Let the sea *rumble and* roar, and all *the creatures* it holds *shout praise*;
let the *whole* world and all those who live in it *join the celebration*.
Let the rivers applaud
and the mountains join in joyful song
In the presence of the Eternal because He is coming
to judge the earth.
He is coming,
and His judgment will be what is right for the world
and just to all people.

Isaiah 65:17-25

“Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth,
and no one will even think about the old ones anymore.
Be glad; rejoice forever in my creation!
And look! I will create Jerusalem as a place of happiness.
Her people will be a source of joy.
I will rejoice over Jerusalem and delight in my people.
And the sound of weeping and crying will be heard in it no more.
“No longer will babies die when only a few days old.
No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life.
No longer will people be considered old at one hundred!
Only the cursed will die that young!
In those days people will live in the houses they build
and eat the fruit of their own vineyards.
Unlike the past, invaders will not take their houses and confiscate their vineyards.
For my people will live as long as trees,
and my chosen ones will have time to enjoy their hard-won gains.
They will not work in vain, and their children will not be doomed to misfortune.
For they are people blessed by the Lord, and their children, too, will be blessed.
I will answer them before they even call to me.
While they are still talking about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers!
The wolf and the lamb will feed together.
The lion will eat hay like a cow. But the snakes will eat dust.
In those days no one will be hurt or destroyed on my holy mountain.
I, the Lord, have spoken!”