

## PSALM 95

Psalm 95 consists of two distinct parts. The first part is a summons to praise, a “call to worship”, an invitation to join in a liturgical procession into the presence of God. It has two parts to it; a summons and a reason. It calls the people to worship and kneel down before the Lord and then it gives the reason they should praise and worship God; “For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture...”

The second part is often referred to as a “prophetic address”. In this section Israel has arrived at worship and then is addressed by this prophetic voice that warns that a commitment to God is a serious matter and should not be taken lightly. It reminds Israel that they are to listen to God, something that is often a problem for them.

In many ways it follows our liturgical service today: We sing a “Processional Hymn” a “Call to Worship” we might refer to it as. An invitation to join in worshiping and praising God. After we are all gathered, there is a sermon, a reminder to listen to God.

By combining the two parts of Psalm 95 together we are reminded that our relationship with God is not simply an act of worship and praise, but also in listening to God’s voice and obeying it.

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