Psalm 96:1-2 (NLT)

Sing a new song to the LORD! Let the whole earth sing to the LORD! <sup>2</sup> Sing to the LORD; praise his name. Each day proclaim the good news that he saves.

#### Psalm 96:4-5 (NLT)

Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! He is to be feared above all gods.

<sup>5</sup> The gods of other nations are mere idols, but the LORD made the heavens!

#### Psalm 96:9-10 (NLT)

Worship the LORD in all his holy splendor. Let all the earth tremble before him. <sup>10</sup> Tell all the nations, "The LORD reigns!" The world stands firm and cannot be shaken. He will judge all peoples fairly.

#### Psalm 96:12-13 (NLT)

Let the fields and their crops burst out with joy! Let the trees of the forest rustle with praise <sup>13</sup> before the LORD, for he is coming! He is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice, and the nations with his truth.

# Sovereign KING and JUDGE

Psalm 96:1-13

Missions exists because worship does not.

Worship is ultimate, not missions,

because God is ultimate, not man.

## → It is NOT enough to merely LIVE the gospel - it will take WORDS

<sup>2</sup>...PROCLAIM His SALVATION day after day.

Romans 10:14 (NLT)

But how can they call on Him to save them unless they BELIEVE in Him?

And how can they BELIEVE in Him if they have never HEARD about Him?

And how can they hear about Him unless someone TELLS them?

### → God does NOT want to share MY Heart with Idols

- <sup>4</sup>...He is to be **FEARED** above all gods.
- <sup>5</sup> The **gods** of other nations are mere **idols**, but the **LORD** made the heavens. (NLT)

#### Isaiah 44:18-19 (NLT)

<sup>18</sup> Such stupidity and ignorance! Their eyes are closed, and they cannot see. Their minds are shut, and they cannot think. 19 The person who made the idol never stops to reflect, "Why, it's just a block of wood. I burned half of it for heat and used it to bake my bread and roast my meat. How can the rest of it be a god? Should I bow down to worship a piece of wood?"

Isaiah 42:8 (NET)

I AM the LORD. That is my NAME. I will NOT share MY glory with ANYONE else,

OR the praise DUE ME with idols.

### → It is Impossible for FINITE humans to Fully Grasp an INFINITE God

<sup>4</sup>...He is to be FEARED above all gods.

<sup>6</sup> Honor and majesty surround Him; strength and beauty fill His sanctuary.

In this call for the universal worship of God, we hear the missionary heartbeat of this psalm.

Williams

### There is an Invitation to ALL NATIONS to Worship the True God

<sup>7</sup> O nations of the world, recognize the LORD; recognize that the LORD is glorious and strong.

<sup>8</sup> Give to the LORD the glory he deserves. Bring your offering and come into his courts. (NLT)

#### Galatians 3:8-9 (NLT)

What's more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would declare the **Gentiles** to be righteous because of their FAITH.

God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you." <sup>9</sup> So all who put their FAITH in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith.

Mark 11:17 (NIV)

...Is it not written: My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations? ...

Isaiah 9:7 (NIV)

Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign ON David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and FOREVER...

Instead of ongoing international chaos in human history the world will be SETTLED and efficiently managed by the Messiah in the millennial kingdom.

Romans 8:19-21 (NIV)

The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

### → There is Anticipation and JOY Waiting for God to come and JUDGE

resound... <sup>12</sup> let the fields be jubilant... all the trees of the forest will sing for joy...

13 they will sing before the LORD

...He comes to judge the earth

The ancient near east was a world where judges usually needed to be bribed and right judgment was exceedingly hard to come by, ESPECIALLY for weak, poor, or disadvantaged persons.

Say among the nations:
 The LORD REIGNS. The world is firmly established; it cannot be shaken.
 He JUDGES the peoples FAIRLY.

(HCS)

John 3:16-18 (NIV)

For God did not send his Son into the world to **CONDEMN** the world, but to **SAVE** the world through Him. 18 Whoever **BELIEVES** in Him is **NOT** condemned, but whoever does NOT BELIEVE stands condemned already because he has not believed in the NAME of God's one and only Son.