

Dead Idols and the Living God

Bursting with trust, verse 9 rises forth in the center of the psalm. The cry is the exploding result of the growing awareness in the previous verses of the emptiness and the powerlessness of all idols and false gods.

Further your inventory of those persons, places, and things that sometimes elbow their way into the sacred center of your life where God alone is to dwell. However much your physical senses may delight in them, in contrast to the power of God they are as dead idols “that have mouths but do not speak, eyes, but do not see.”

As you conclude your list, feel the shift in today’s verse into the second part of the psalm that tilts toward intercessory prayer, especially in verses 14 and 15. Join in with the exuberant ending: **Alleluia: Praise the Lord!**

Psalm 115

1 Not to ús, O LÓRD, not to ús,
but to your náme give the glóry,
for your mérciful lóve and fidélity.
2 Why should the nátions sáy:
“Whére is their Gód?”
3 But our Gód is ín the héavens;
he dóes whatéver he wílls.
4 Their ídols are sílver and góld,
the wórks of húman hánds.
5 They have móuths but they cánnót spéak;
they have éyes but they cánnót sée.
6 They have éars but they cánnót héar;
they have nóstrils but they cánnót sméll.
7 They have hánds but they cánnót féel;
they have féet but they cánnót wálk.
They máke no sóund from their thróats.
8 Their mákers will cóme to be líke them,
as will áll who trúst in thém.

9 House of Ísrael, trúst in the LÓRD;
hé is their hélp and their shíeld.
10 House of Áaron, trúst in the LÓRD;
hé is their hélp and their shíeld.
11 Those who féar the Lord, trúst in the LÓRD;
hé is their hélp and their shíeld.
12 The Lord remémbers us, and hé will bléss us;
he will bléss the hóuse of Ísrael.
He will bléss the hóuse of Áaron.
13 He will bléss those who féar the LÓRD,
the líttle no léss than the gréat.
14 To yóu may the LÓRD grant íncrease,
to yóu and áll your chíldren.
15 Máy you be blést by the LÓRD,
the máker of héaven and éarth.
16 The héavens, the héavens belóng to the LÓRD,
but to the chíldren of mén, he has gíven the éarth.
17 The déad shall not práise the LÓRD,
nor thóse who go dówn into the sílence.
18 But wé who líve bless the LÓRD
both nów and forévermóre. Alleluia!

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