

Psalms 97

Chapter 97 of 150 · 12 Verses · Authorized King James Version

The Lord Reigns, Let the Earth Rejoice

- 1** The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.
 - 2** Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.
 - 3** A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.
 - 4** His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.
 - 5** The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
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- 6** The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.
 - 7** Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods.
 - 8** Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O LORD.
 - 9** For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.
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- 10** Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.
 - 11** Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.

- 12** Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Heaven — שָׁמַיִם (Shamayim)

Heaven, sky

The Hebrew **shamayim** (שָׁמַיִם) means heaven or sky—God's dwelling place and the realm above earth. 'The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's' (Psalm 115:16), yet 'the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him' (1 Kings 8:27).

Judgment — מִשְׁפָּט (Mishpat)

Judgment, justice

The Hebrew **mishpat** (מִשְׁפָּט) means judgment or justice—God's righteous decisions and ordinances. God is the Judge of all the earth who 'shall do right' (Genesis 18:25), executing perfect justice.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — אַהֲבָה / חֶסֶד (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אַהֲבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (חֶסֶד) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Righteous — צַדִּיק (Tzaddik)

Righteous one

The Hebrew **tzaddik** (צַדִּיק) describes one who is righteous, just, or lawful—conforming to God's standard. From the root tzedek (צֶדֶק), meaning righteousness or justice.

CROSS REFERENCES

Psalms 97:1 **Kingdom:** Psalms 93:1; 99:1; Mark 11:10; Colossians 1:13; Revelation 11:17.

References Lord: Isaiah 49:13; Zephaniah 2:11. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 10:5

Psalms 97:2 **Righteousness:** Psalms 89:14; 99:4; Genesis 18:25; Proverbs 16:12. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 19:9. **Judgment:** Romans 11:33

Psalms 97:3 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 18:8; 50:3; Deuteronomy 32:22; Daniel 7:10; Malachi 4:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:8; Hebrews 12:29

Psalms 97:4 **Light:** Psalms 77:18; Revelation 11:19. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 104:32

Psalms 97:5 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 46:6; 83:18; Nahum 1:5; Habakkuk 3:6. **References Lord:** Psalms 47:2; Joshua 3:11; Isaiah 54:5; Zechariah 4:14; 1 Corinthians 1:2

Psalms 97:6 **Righteousness:** Psalms 50:6; 67:4. **Glory:** Psalms 19:1; Isaiah 6:3; 40:5; 66:18. **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 22:47; Isaiah 45:6

Psalms 97:7 **Worship:** Hebrews 1:6. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 20:4; Jeremiah 10:14. **References God:** Leviticus 26:1; Isaiah 42:17

Psalms 97:8 **Judgment:** Psalms 48:11. **Parallel theme:** Zechariah 9:9

Psalms 97:9 **References God:** Psalms 95:3; 96:4; 135:5; Exodus 18:11; Jeremiah 10:10. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 83:18; Ephesians 1:21

Psalms 97:10 **Evil:** Psalms 34:14; Proverbs 8:13; Jeremiah 15:21; 2 Thessalonians 3:2. **Love:** Psalms 31:23; 145:20; Amos 5:15; Romans 12:9. **Parallel theme:** Daniel 3:28. **Holy:** Proverbs 2:8

Psalms 97:11

Light: Psalms 18:28; Esther 8:16; Job 22:28; John 12:46; Revelation 21:23; 22:5. **Righteousness:** Psalms 112:4; Proverbs 4:18; Micah 7:9. **Parallel theme:** Galatians 6:8

Psalms 97:12 **Holy:** Psalms 30:4; 60:6; Hebrews 12:10. **References Lord:** Philippians 4:4

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