

Psalm 97:1-12

- The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice;
let the many coastlands be glad!
- ² Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
- ³ Fire goes before him
and burns up his adversaries all around.
- ⁴ His lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.
- ⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the Lord,
before the Lord of all the earth.
- ⁶ The heavens proclaim his righteousness,
and all the peoples see his glory.
- ⁷ All worshipers of images are put to shame,
who make their boast in worthless idols;
worship him, all you gods!
- ⁸ Zion hears and is glad,
and the daughters of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O Lord.
- ⁹ For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.
- ¹⁰ O you who love the Lord, hate evil!
He preserves the lives of his saints;
he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- ¹¹ Light is sown for the righteous,
and joy for the upright in heart.
- ¹² Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!

The Lord who Reigns

There is only one who reigns with true justice and righteousness. He is the only one whose majesty causes the earth to tremble at his works. What makes him worthy of this kind of response? Why would anyone want to worship his majesty?

1. Read Psalm 97:1-12 and place a triangle over every reference to **Lord** including (*LORD, his, him, your, you, he*).

Reflect: What do you learn about the one who reigns? What does he do?

Reflect: How does the earth respond to him?

Reflect: Who is this one who reigns? Is he a king? Is he God?

2. Read Psalm 97:1-12 again and circle every reference to **rejoice** including synonyms (*glad, joy*).

Reflect: Why does the Psalmist call the earth to rejoice? Why do the daughters of Judah rejoice?

Reflect: What does this one do for those who love him (v. 11)? How are they to respond to him (v. 12)? How do you respond to him?

In a time when many are looking for a leader to follow, you can bow before the Lord whose throne is built on righteousness and justice. In him you can rejoice and be glad! Take time to worship the one who is worthy today!