

## HIS PRESENCE SINKS THE PROUDEST HILLS.

Isaac Watts

The LORD reigns! Let the earth rejoice;  
let the many coasts and islands be glad.

<sup>2</sup> Clouds and thick darkness surround Him;  
righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.

<sup>3</sup> Fire goes before Him  
and burns up His foes on every side.

<sup>4</sup> His lightning lights up the world;  
the earth sees and trembles.

<sup>5</sup> The mountains melt like wax  
at the presence of the LORD—  
at the presence of the Lord of all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> The heavens proclaim His righteousness;  
all the peoples see His glory.

<sup>7</sup> All who serve carved images,  
those who boast in idols, will be put to shame.  
All the gods must worship Him.

<sup>8</sup> Zion hears and is glad,  
and the towns of Judah rejoice  
because of Your judgments, LORD.

<sup>9</sup> For You, LORD,  
are the Most High over all the earth;  
You are exalted above all the gods.

<sup>10</sup> You who love the LORD, hate evil!  
He protects the lives of His godly ones;  
He rescues them from the power of the wicked.

<sup>11</sup> Light dawns for the righteous,  
gladness for the upright in heart.

<sup>12</sup> Be glad in Yahweh, you righteous ones,  
and praise His holy name.

## REIGNING NOW

PSALM 97

While the ultimate reign of God is foretold in the psalms. Psalm 97, this psalm hints at the reign of God today. His righteousness is proclaimed even by the heavens and mountains. His people respond by hating evil and worshiping His name.

The idea of fire going before Him is a poetic description reminding us of the phenomena that happened at Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:16-20).

Spurgeon says, "Men cannot move the hills, with difficulty they climb them, with incredible toil do they pierce their way through their fastnesses, but it is not so with the Lord. His presence makes a clear pathway, obstacles disappear, a highway is made, and that not by his hand as though it cost him pains, but by his mere presence, for power goes forth from him with a word or a glance."

