

Psalm 99ⁱⁱⁱ

¹The LORD is King; let the people tremble; *

he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

²The LORD is great in Zion; *

he is high above all peoples.

³Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *

he is the Holy One.

⁴“O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; *

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and fall down before his
footstool; *

he is the Holy One.

⁶Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call
upon his Name, *

they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

⁷He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *

they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

⁸O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *

you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and worship him upon his holy
hill; *

for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

ⁱⁱⁱ About Psalm 99

Psalm 99 is a hymn celebrating God’s kingship. This hymn is written in three stanzas, each of which closes with a refrain about God’s holiness (vv. 3, 5, 9). The first stanza (vv. 1-3) celebrates this holiness as revealed by God’s kingship, the second (vv. 4-5) as revealed by God’s justice, and the third (vv. 6-9) as revealed by God’s faithfulness in history.

Moses and Aaron represent the priests and Samuel the prophets who intercede for the welfare of the people. The references to the sacred ark (vv. 1, 5) indicate that the psalm was probably written before the exile into Babylon.