



HARVEST CHURCH

This week's sermon

Raise up Your Heads

Mark 13:24-27

1. Man who was destined to become spiritual even in his flesh, if only he had kept the commandment, became, instead, fleshly even in his soul. –Augustine, City of God
2. At the right moment, Jesus offered His holy body to die on a cross, at the hands of wicked mankind, and thereby broke the power of Satan over us all.

Digging Deeper into the Message

Jesus, the lifter of our heads.

Read Psalm 3 and note that David wrote this as he was fleeing from his son, Absalom.

- If you are not familiar with the story of Absalom, read 2 Samuel 13-19.
- As you reflect on Psalm 3, what gives David confidence to call on the Lord after all his misdeeds? What do you see about God's character in the way that David prays?

Psalm 24 is broken down into 3 sections: The declaration of God as Creator (verses 1-2), The entrance of humans into God's sphere (verses 3-6) and the entry of the Lord into the human sphere (verses 7-10).

- What does the psalmist say about ownership in the first 2 verse
- What are the requirements for entering God's sphere? Who does this describe?
- As we approach Christmas, think about how the Lord of Glory came to walk among us.
- It's interesting that in the ancient world to lift your head to someone meant to acknowledge the entrance of someone greater.

Read Psalm 27.

- How does David describe the Lord in verse 1?
- In verse 5 David says, "For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock,". Do you think that this confidence of safety David is writing about is because of what he desires/seeks in verse 4?
- Sometimes it seems that God is silent or far away. When you read the rest of Psalm 27, it seems that perhaps David felt that way sometimes as well. What is his response? What does David ask of the Lord and encourage himself to do in verses 7-14?

Pastor Mike told us to raise our heads. Let's consider how Jesus bowed his head (John 19:30) so that we could become the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5: 17-21). He lifts us up and never leaves us.