

SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

**“The Sovereign King:
The Conquest of Christ”
Psalm 24**

¹The earth is Yahweh's, as well as its
fullness,
The world, and those who dwell in it.²For He
has founded it upon the seas
And established it upon the rivers.³Who may
ascend into the mountain of Yahweh?
And who may rise in His holy place?⁴He who
has innocent hands and a pure heart,
Who has not lifted up his soul to
worthlessness
And has not sworn deceitfully.

Psalms 24:1-10

⁵He shall lift up a blessing from Yahweh
And righteousness from the God of his
salvation.⁶This is the generation of those
who seek Him,
Who seek Your face—pay heed O Jacob.
Selah.⁷¶Lift up your heads, O gates,
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may come in!⁸Who is
this King of glory?
Yahweh strong and mighty,
Yahweh mighty in battle.

Psalms 24:1-10

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates,
And lift yourselves up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may come in!¹⁰Who is
He, this King of glory? Yahweh of hosts,
He is the King of glory. Selah.
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Introduction

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B. When "The Hallelujah Chorus" was sung, containing the powerful words, "For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth," the king stood to his feet. The entire audience also stood to their feet.

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C. They remained standing throughout the entire chorus, acknowledging the greatness of heaven's one true King who reigns over all, even earthly kings. It is still customary to stand when "The Hallelujah Chorus" is sung.

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D. Whether standing, kneeling, or bowing, the heart of true worship is a humble recognition of the sovereignty of God and responding appropriately by offering our praise, devotion, and lives to Him.

Introduction

E. Psalm 24 is seen as a part of a trilogy of psalms. In Psalm 22 we see "The Suffering King: The Cross of Christ." In Psalm 23 we see "The Shepherd King: The Care of Christ." Now in Psalm 24 we see "The Sovereign King: The Conquest of Christ."

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F. Big Idea: We are to worship Jesus Christ because He is our Creator, Savior, and victorious King.

I. The Earth Belongs to Our King (24:1-2)

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Psalms 24:1-2

I. The Earth Belongs to Our King (24:1-2)

A. The first two verses are a prelude to the psalm that celebrates Yahweh as the great and victorious Warrior-King. Anyone or anything that attempts to lay claim on any part of creation invites Yahweh to become his enemy. Why?

I. The Earth Belongs to Our King (24:1-2)

B. The earth is completely His (24:1). Anything and everything belongs to Yahweh. The land and the seas, the individuals and the nations, and all people and every single thing belongs to our King.

I. The Earth Belongs to Our King (24:1-2)

C. The earth is rightly His (24:2). He created the earth and all that exists. Of His own sovereign will and pleasure He created everything out of nothing (creatio ex nihilo). Who is this Creator?

I. The Earth Belongs to Our King (24:1-2)

D. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being” (John 1:1-3).

I. The Earth Belongs to Our King (24:1-2)

E. “Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him” (Colossians 2:15-16).

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F. The earth belongs to our king, Jesus Christ.

II. The Righteous Are Welcomed by Our King (24:3-6)

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³Who may ascend into the mountain of
Yahweh? And who may rise in His holy
place?⁴He who has innocent hands and a pure
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Yahweh And righteousness from the God of
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who seek Him, Who seek Your face—pay heed
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Psalms 24:3-6

II. The Righteous Are Welcomed by Our King (24:3-6)

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A. Such a holy and sovereign God may not be approached lightly or irreverently. He's not your buddy or the man upstairs.

B. He is Yahweh. He's the eternal, faithful, holy, merciful, righteous, gracious, covenant-keeping God. So who can enter into His presence? (24:3)

II. The Righteous Are Welcomed by Our King (24:3-6)

C. To enjoy intimacy and fellowship with God, you have to have "innocent hands" (holy in deed, purity of your outward actions) and "a pure heart" (inward holiness, an inner soul that is holy and undefiled). (24:4a)

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D. Both your private and public life must be pure and clean if you are to approach God in worship and fellowship.

II. The Righteous Are Welcomed by Our King (24:3-6)

E. To enjoy intimacy and fellowship with God, you must not lift up your soul to worthlessness. (24:4b) Worship the living and the true God, not idols. An idol is anyone or anything that a person loves, fears, or serves more than God.

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E. To enjoy intimacy and fellowship with God, you must not lift up your soul to worthlessness. (24:4b) Worship the living and the true God, not idols. An idol is anyone or anything that a person loves, fears, or serves more than God.

F. To enjoy intimacy and fellowship with God, you must not swear deceitfully. (24:4c) There can't be any deception or false motives in your heart.

II. The Righteous Are Welcomed by Our King (24:3-6)

G. Who among us could perfectly keep these four requirements? There is only one who has "innocent hands" and "a pure heart," who never loved or feared anyone or anything more than God, nor had any deceitful motives. There is only one who can ascend the holy hill of Zion and stand forever in the holy place and that one is Jesus!

II. The Righteous Are Welcomed by Our King (24:3-6)

H. But now by His perfect work of atonement and vicarious sacrifice we can be found in Him, not with a righteousness of our own, but with His righteousness imputed to us by faith.

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I. Now in Christ you can come clean, pure, undivided in loyalty and with integrity. In Christ you are welcomed into God's presence.

II. The Righteous Are Welcomed by Our King (24:3-6)

J. How can this be? (24:5-6) In these verses we see the beautiful doctrine of justification by faith. Yahweh declares the sinner righteous and places His righteousness on our account.

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J. How can this be? (24:5-6) In these verses we see the beautiful doctrine of justification by faith. Yahweh declares the sinner righteous and places His righteousness on our account.

**K. “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him”
(2 Corinthians 5:21).**

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M. The righteous are welcomed by our King.

III. The Victory Has Been Won by Our King (24:7-10)

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And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
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this King of glory? Yahweh strong and mighty,
Yahweh mighty in battle.⁹Lift up your heads, O
gates, And lift yourselves up, O ancient doors,
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He, this King of glory? Yahweh of hosts,
He is the King of glory. Selah.

Psalms 24:7-10

III. The Victory Has Been Won by Our King (24:7-10)

A. We do not know the exact historical context for these verses. They could be a poetic description of the Ark of the Covenant's return to Jerusalem (2 Samuel 6; 1 Chronicles 13) or a song of worship celebrating Yahweh's kingship over His people.

III. The Victory Has Been Won by Our King (24:7-10)

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C. “And the Word became flesh, and dwelt (tabernacled) among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).

III. The Victory Has Been Won by Our King (24:7-10)

D. The early church viewed Psalm 24 as depicting Christ’s ascension into heaven. “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem” (Hebrews 12:22).

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D. The early church viewed Psalm 24 as depicting Christ's ascension into heaven. "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem" (Hebrews 12:22).

E. They saw this entry into heaven as the ascended Lord Jesus being met by the host of heaven welcoming home the victorious warrior, Christ the mighty King of glory.

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G. Through the literary device of personification, the gates were commanded to lift up and open their doors as the King of glory entered.

III. The Victory Has Been Won by Our King (24:7-10)

H. Our King is the Lord of glory. He is strong, not weak. He is mighty, not timid. Start the battle and when the dust settles, He will be standing victorious over death, hell, and the grave.

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H. Our King is the Lord of glory. He is strong, not weak. He is mighty, not timid. Start the battle and when the dust settles, He will be standing victorious over death, hell, and the grave.

I. Jesus is called the King of glory five times in verses 7-10. He is the glorious King, Yahweh of hosts, who commands heaven's armies!

III. The Victory Has Been Won by Our King (24:7-10)

J. The victory has been won by our King!

Conclusion

A. On Calvary's hill, our warrior King, God's anointed Son engaged the forces of evil and destroyed death by death.

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B. Having finished the enemy off on the field of battle, He took a brief repose in a throne room of a tomb before bursting forth in glorious resurrection.

Conclusion

C. Remaining for forty days to prepare His troops for further battles, He then ascended the Mountain of Olives and from there He ascended from earth into heaven leading captivity captive and giving gifts to men.

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D. He entered the holy sanctuary in heaven as our High Priest and He sits at the right hand of the Father ruling and reigning the universe.

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F. The Gospel Definition

The gospel is the good news that the just and gracious God of the universe looked upon hopelessly sinful people and sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection so that everyone who turns from their sin (repentance) and believes in Him (faith) will be reconciled to God forever.