

# Psalm 24: The King of Glory



## Introduction

- ❖ Ascension Day (last Thursday): 40 days after the Resurrection ([Acts 1:3](#))
  - Eastern Orthodox Church: the *troparion* (~ short hymn) of the day is sung, which says:
    - O Christ God, You have ascended in Glory,  
Granting joy to Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit.  
Through the blessing they were assured  
That You are the Son of God,  
The Redeemer of the world!
  
- ❖ **History:** Ascension → Pentecost ~ “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.” [John 16:7](#)
  
- ❖ **Text:** [Psalm 24](#)
  
- ❖ **Context:** Wisdom Literature ← Covenant/Law/Godly
  - OT Wisdom Literature → Definitions: Knowledge/Understanding/Wisdom
    - “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.” [Proverbs 9:10](#)
  
- ❖ **Background:** *Psalm of David* → (Poss.) Bringing of the Ark (~ Presence) to Jerusalem (Cf. [2 Samuel 6:12-19](#)—dancing!) OR Return of the King/Ark from Battle.
  
- ❖ **Big Idea:** *The LORD is King of His universe and we should bring Him glory!*

## Exposition

(\*Outline ~ Dr. Willem A. VanGemeren, *Psalms*, EBC)

- ❖ **(A) The Creator King** ([verses 1-2](#))
  - Creator → Authority!
  
- ❖ **(B) The Holy King** ([verses 3-6](#))
  - NB: ~ Antiphonal Q&A by priests...
  - Requirements: Integrity 1) Clean Hands (external) and 2) Pure Heart (internal) *versus* Idolatry and Deceit!
    - **\*\* Psalm 15**
  - Reward: Blessing and Righteousness
  
- ❖ **(A') The Mighty King** ([verses 7-10](#))
  - King (described): Glory / Strong / Mighty / Mighty in Battle / *LORD of Hosts* → **\*\* Divine Warrior!**
    - “Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: “I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! The LORD is my strength and song, And

He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him. The LORD is a man of war; The LORD is His name." **Exodus 15:1-3**

- ABS: "Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied." **1 Samuel 17:45**

➤ \*\* Presence (~ Ark!)

## So What?

➤ NB: Ascension "Psalm" ~ Movement of the people in worship procession.

### ❖ The earth is the LORD's!

➤ Creator → Authority (judges) → Existence (sustains and cares) ~ \*\* Providence

- "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence." **Colossians 1:15-18**

➤ **Transition:** Authority to Requirements → ""And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good? Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God, also the earth with all that is in it. The LORD delighted only in your fathers, to love them; and He chose their descendants after them, you above all peoples, as it is this day. Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer. For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe." **Deuteronomy 10:12-17**

### ❖ What does that mean for us?

➤ Lives of Integrity (**Psalm 15**) ~ "Wholeness" (vs idolatry and deceit) ← → *Blessing and Righteousness* (imputed)

- "What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin."" **Romans 4:1-8**

### ❖ What should that look like in our lives?

- The “Lifting” (vv. 4, 5, 7, 9) → Joy and Anticipation because of:
  - Who God Is ~ Divine Warrior → Protects His People!
  - “Where” God Is ~ Presence (Advent and Pentecost) → Indwelling and 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming!
  
- \*\* Soli Deo Gloria!

## ❖ Conclusion

- **Quote** (Georg Weisell ~ Advent): Lift up your heads, ye might gates! / Behold, the King of glory waits; / The King of Kings is drawing near, / The Savior of the world is here. / Life and salvation he doth bring, / Wherefore rejoice and gladly sing.
  
- **Big Idea:** *The LORD is King of His universe and we should bring Him glory* (with our lives and attitudes!)

Soli Deo Gloria