

Psalm 24

Title: Jehovah the King of Glory

Author and Date: David

Key Verse: Psalm 24:7

Outline

- A. The king and his world (verses 1-2).
- B. The king and his worshippers (verses 3-6).
- C. The king and his welcome (verses 7-10).

Notes

Title: "A Psalm of David." See the notes on Psalm 3.

Verse 1: For the "earth" and the "fullness" belonging to the Lord, see Psalm 89:11. This first part of this verse is quoted by Paul in 1 Corinthians 10:26 when he writes about the inherent right or lawfulness to eat meat. The earth belongs to the Lord (verse 1) because he made it (verse 2). See Job 38:4 and the notes on Psalm 8:3 and 19:1-6.

Verses 3-6: Compare the question and answer mentioned here with Psalm 15:1-5. This is a description of the person who ascends to God's holy place in order to be in fellowship with God and to properly worship him (see the notes on Psalm 15). Note that there are both positive (what he should do) and negative (what he should not do) requirements listed here.

Verse 4: "Clean hands" (outward action) and a "pure heart" (inward attitude) refer to moral innocence; a righteous life and attitude without sin; a clean and faultless life and attitude (Psa. 18:20, 24; 26:6). For "falsehood" and "deceitfully", see Psalm 101:7; 119:118; 144:8, 11.

Verse 6: For the term "Selah" following this verse (and verse 10), see the comments on Psalm 3:2.

Verse 7: The focus shifts from the worshipper (verses 3-6) to the one worshipped (verses 7-10). David may have composed this psalm after he conquered Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5), or when he brought the ark of the covenant back into Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6). Note that the "gates" and "doors" in verse 7 and 9 are personified as lifting up their head in praise to the King of glory. These gates and doors are at the entrance to the city of Jerusalem.

Verse 10: "Hosts" refers to the angelic multitudes that do the Lord's will (see Gen. 32:1-2 and 1 Kings 22:19).

Questions

1. What belongs to the Lord (verse 1) and why (verse 2)?
2. What question does the psalmist ask (verse 3)?
3. What kind of person can be in fellowship with the Lord and properly worship him (verse 4)?
4. What will this person receive from the Lord (verse 5)?
5. What does this person do with the Lord (verse 6)?
6. What is lifted up and for whom is it lifted up (verses 7 and 9)?
7. How does the psalmist describe the Lord, the King of glory (verses 8 and 10)?

Applications for Today

1. Everything on earth and everyone on earth belongs to the Lord (verse 1). What are Christians to be since everything belongs to the Lord (1 Pet. 4:10)?
2. The character of God determines the character of his worshippers. Only certain ones who live morally pure lives have a right to be in fellowship with God and worship him properly (verses 3-4). Why is it important for the Christian to live a pure life (2 Pet. 3:13-14)?
3. The Lord blesses all those who live right in his sight (verse 5) and seek him (verse 6). It is important to seek the Lord above all other people and things on the earth. Who does the psalmist seek (Psa. 27:8). Why did God create us (Acts 17:26-27)?