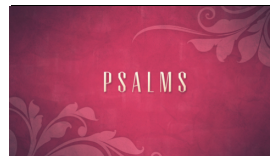


Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. Spend some time reflecting on how distinct God is from everything he has created. Why do you think this truth is not more obvious to everyone? (Cf. Rom. 1:18ff.)
2. Israel of old was given a way to receive God's blessings if they would only rely on him and call on him for help. How did they do with this gracious gift? Would we do any better if Jesus had not come to help us?
3. In what ways do you find yourself tempted to try to secure your own rescue? Can Jesus help you with that? Have you been asking for the help?
4. Has God graciously taught your heart to fear him and his perfect judgement? Have you also experienced the sweet relief found in the gospel promises? If so, rejoice again at God's amazing grace! If not, ask for this grace.
5. Who can you encourage with a reminder of this amazing gospel grace this week?

Sermon Notes



Sunday, August 23, 2020
Salvation Has Come Down to Us!
Psalm 24

Two Eucatastrophe Stories

- The Syrian Siege of Jerusalem & the **Four Lepers** (2 Kings 7)
- The Battle for Faith **Psalm 22-23**



Psalm 91:9-16

⁹ Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place— the Most High, who is my refuge— ¹⁰ no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. ¹¹ For **he will command his angels concerning you** to guard you in all your ways. ¹² **On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.** ¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot. ¹⁴ “Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. ¹⁵ **When he calls to me, I will answer him;** I will be with him in trouble; **I will rescue him and honor him.** ¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.”

Psalm 24 – Original Setting?

- I. Psalm of David
- II. The Ark Coming to Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6; 1 Chron. 13-15)
- III. Messianic Psalm

vs. 8 & 10 “Who is this King of glory? The LORD...”

“...the ancient rabbinical sources tell us that, in the Jewish liturgy, **Psalm 24** was always used in worship on the first day of the week. The first day of the week is our Sunday.” ⁱ (Palm Sunday!)

Our Victorious Champion Has Come!

- I. The Loftiness of God (1-2)

¹ **The earth is the LORD's** and the fullness thereof, the world **and those who dwell therein,**

² for he has **founded** it upon the seas and **established** it upon the rivers.

✓ The centrality of our Creator

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are **created** equal, that they are endowed by their **Creator** with certain unalienable Rights...”

✓ Created equal to one another... **not** to God

II. The Conundrum of Salvation (3-6)

³ **Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?**

And **who shall stand in his holy place?**

A. The Qualifications (4; Cf. Psalm 22)



⁴ He who has *clean hands* and a *pure heart*,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false (vain)
and does not swear deceitfully.

B. The Rewards (5-6; Cf. Psalm 23)

⁵ ***He will receive blessing*** from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶ Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *Selah*

✓ Jesus Went Up So We Could Go Up!

Ephesians 4:8–10

Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and *he gave gifts to men.*” ⁹ (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ *He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens*, that he might fill all things.)

✓ We can't secure our own salvation...

III. Throw Open the Gates! (7-10) (Resurrection Sunday!)

⁷ **Lift up your heads**, O gates!

And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

⁸ ***Who is this King of glory?***

The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!

⁹ **Lift up your heads**, O gates!

And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

¹⁰ ***Who is this King of glory?***

The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory! *Selah*

Genesis 40:13

¹³ In three days Pharaoh will *lift up your head* and restore you to your office, and you shall place Pharaoh's cup in his hand as formerly, when you were his cupbearer.

Psalm 3:3–4 (when David fled from Absalom; Cf. Ps. 27:5–6)

³ But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and *the lifter of my head.* ⁴ I cried aloud to the Lord, and he answered me from his holy hill. *Selah*

Luke 21:28 (mighty signs...return of the Son of Man)

²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and ***raise your heads***, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Throw open the gates, our victorious king has brought victory to his people!

Jesus has conquered:

- ✓ God (Jesus) has ascended God's holy hill
- ✓ God (Jesus) has brought himself, to his people!
- ✓ God (Jesus) has brought his righteousness & salvation to his people!
- ✓ Receive, Announce, & Remind

Next Sunday: James 2 – Ron Bridge