

PSALM 24 – Anticipating the King of Glory and His Kingdom! The Messiah as our King!

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Come, Thou Almighty King – Author Unknown Felice de Giardini; Maranatha Promise Band

Come, Thou Almighty King, Help us Thy name to sing, Help us to praise. Father, all glorious, O'er all victorious, Come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

2 Come, Thou incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty sword, Our prayer attend: Come, and Thy people bless, And give Thy word success; Spirit of holiness, On us descend.

3 Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear In this glad hour: Thou who Almighty art, Now rule in every heart, And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

4 To Thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises be Hence evermore. Thy sov'reign majesty May we in glory see, And to eternity Love and adore.

PSALM 24 – The Chief Shepherd

Jewish tradition says that this psalm was written to commemorate David's returning the ark to Jerusalem (1 Chron. 13-15). It was probably sung by different choirs and soloists, each answering the other. The choir would sing [Psa 24:1-2](#), a voice would respond with [Psa 24:3](#), and then another voice would answer with [Psa 24:4](#). Then the chorus would sing [Psa 24:5-6](#). As the people entered the gates of the city, the chorus would sing out [Psa 24:8-9](#), and the voice would ask again, "Who is this king of glory?" Then the entire group would shout, "**The Lord of hosts! He is the king of glory!**" What a wonderful spectacle it must have been! But an even greater wonder awaits Jerusalem when the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ, appears to claim David's throne. **This psalm describes the return of the King to Zion; see [Rev 19:11-16](#).** This present earth is under the sway of sin and Satan. Though it is the Lord's by creation and redemption, it has not yet been delivered from bondage. But thank God, one day Jesus will return to the earth to claim His inheritance. Then the earth will be filled with the glory of the Lord. The question in [Psa 24:3](#) is important: who is worthy to rule over the earth from Mt. Zion? It reminds us of [Rev 5:1-14](#) when the question is asked, "Who is worthy to open the book and break the seals?" There can be only one answer: **Jesus Christ the Son of God. [Psa 24:4](#) describes Him as the Perfect Man, the Perfect King.** David did not have clean hands, for he murdered a man; nor did he have a pure heart, for he lusted and committed adultery. He lifted up his soul to vanity and pride when he numbered the people. Solomon could not qualify, for he was an idolater. Even great King Hezekiah fell because of pride. No, the only king who can qualify is Jesus Christ. When Jesus Christ claims Jerusalem, He will come as one fresh from the battle ([Psa 24:8](#)), for He will have defeated the nations of the world at Armageddon ([Rev 19:19-21](#)). Before Jesus was born, it was promised that He would sit on David's throne ([Luk 1:30-33](#)). Today He is seated on His Father's throne ([Rev 3:21](#)), but when He returns to this earth in judgment and glory, He will claim David's throne and reign over the house of Jacob. Of course, He will first return in the air to take the church to heaven ([1Th 4:13-18](#)). Then will follow seven years of awful tribulation on the earth, "the time of Jacob's trouble." When Satan and his evil associates have done their worst, Jesus Christ will return to judge and to deliver the world from evil. Then there will be a renewed earth, a restored Israel, and a righteous kingdom for a thousand years ([Rev 20:1-5](#)). If Christ is your Good Shepherd because you have received Him as Savior, **then let Him be your Great Shepherd to guide and bless your life. Then when He returns as the Chief Shepherd, you will be ready to meet Him.**

PSALM 24 - Anticipating the King of Glory and His Kingdom! The Messiah as our King! A Psalm of David

Psa 24:1 The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.

- At the time of writing, The Jews thought that the holy land is God's and the seed of Abraham are His only people!
- Jesus Christ has made an end of the exclusiveness of nationalities. There is neither barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free; but we are all one in Christ!

Psa 24:2 For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters.

- The reason why the world belongs to God, is that He created it!

Psa 24:3 The King says: Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place?

- The next four verses give us a definition of the true Israel.
- The men who shall stand as advisors to the living God are not distinguished by race, but by character. They are not Jews only or Gentiles only, nor any one branch of mankind, but a people purified and made to dwell in the holy hill of the LORD.
- The King then asks two questions - ***Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place?***

Psa 24:4 He who has clean hands (behavior) and a pure heart (attitude), Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.

- The first choir answers, citing four criteria of character. – Clean hands, pure heart, no idols and no deceitful swearing

Psa 24:5 He (who receives) shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

- Then the second chorus answers that ***He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.*** We, His blood-washed saints are going to walk up there!

Psa 24:6 This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, Who seek Your face. Selah

- This continues until the procession is nearing the gates of the city, then the King began again in this grand and exalted strain:

Psa 24:7 Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting (ancient)doors! And the King of glory shall come in.

- This is repeated again in the same way, by the general chorus

Psa 24:8 Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.

- Then the person who was in charge of the gates on this high occasion would ask, ***Who is this King of glory?***
- The first chorus would answer: ***The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.***



Psa 24:9 Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in.

Psa 24:10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah

- Then the second chorus would answer ***The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!***

SUMMARY:

This is the psalm of the crown. It speaks of the coming of the Chief Shepherd. Tradition says it was composed by David and sung when he brought up the ark from Kirjath-Jearim to Mount Zion (***1Ch 13:1-8***). It was sung in an antiphonal way. It has been suggested that it was sung by the chorus of the procession and by solo voices. Josephus, the Jewish historian, says that seven choirs of singers and musicians marched before the ark as it was brought to Mount Zion where David had prepared a tabernacle for it until the temple was built. The psalm divides itself into two sections: the companions of the King who enter the kingdom (***Psa 24:1-6***), and the coming of the King to set up the kingdom (***Psa 24:7-10***). It must have been wonderful to have heard this psalm sung in David's day. It has been sung every first day of the week in Jewish worship.

Lead On, O King Eternal – Shurtleff, Smart – Festival Choir

1. *Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest thy tents shall be our home. Through days of preparation thy grace has made us strong; and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.*
2. *Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace. For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums; with deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.*
3. *Lead on, O King eternal, we follow, not with fears, for gladness breaks like morning where'er thy face appears. Thy cross is lifted o'er us, we journey in its light; the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might*

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