## THE KING OF GLORY

I am coming to you with another message from the great song book of the Bible, the book of Psalms. This Psalm will really encourage and strengthen you. Psalm 24 is a Psalm of exaltation of the King of Glory. The title, "King of Glory," is referred to four times in the Psalm.

This Psalm of all Scriptures shows us the glorious entrance of the King of Glory into heaven. It is sometimes called the Ascension Psalm. One person refers to it as the double ascension of our Lord, when He ascended to glory from the Mount of Olives and when He returns to glory from rapturing the Church, from gathering the saints together.

This Psalm 24 is sublime in its beauty. It is solemn in its focus and sacred in its subject.

- 1. The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof, the world, and they that dwell therein.
- 2. For he hath founded if upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.
- 3. Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?
- 4. He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.
- 5. He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
- 6. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.
- 7. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye ever-

lasting doors and the King of glory shall 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 ye gates, even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.
- 10. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the KING of glory. Selah.

In this Psalm the King of Glory is welcomed into heaven in three majestic ACCLAMATIONS.

AS THE ALMIGHTY CREATOR He is acclaimed. Look at that first verse: "The earth is the LORD'S and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein," All the earth belongs to the LORD Jehovah! He has made it!

In Genesis we have the record of how God made the world and everything in it. First He made the heavens and the earth. Then in six days God spoke and all plants, all fish, all birds, all land animals were created. Then God formed man out of the dust of the earth.

Now, friend, if you make something, you could rightfully say, "This is mine; I have made it." So the earth belongs to the LORD for He made it. Then the Psalmist adds, "and they that dwell therein." The word "they" surely refers to people. They all belong to the Lord. Now some do not know they belong to the LORD. Some rebel and do not want to acknowledge God's ownership of them. That does not change it.

The fullness of the earth is His. All the productive world belongs to Him. All they who dwell on earth belong to the LORD. None are excluded. Everyone is of equal value before God.

He called the land out of the water. We learn that in the opening chapter of Genesis. He called the dry land to appear, gathered the land together, and gathered the seas together. He stabilized and established the earth.

He is acclaimed as the Almighty Creator. Everything exists because of Him. He is the King of Glory as the Mighty Creator.

AS THE ALL HOLY REDEEMER He is acclaimed. Two most

searching questions are raised in verse 3. They are: "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?" These are excluding questions. Is there anyone who qualifies to stand in His holy place? These are questions that probe very deeply.

The answer is made plain to us. Who can stand in God's holy place? The answer is: "He who hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up His soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully." The person who presumes to come into the presence of God must be clean in heart and in act!

The act is indicated by the hands. And the heart, by the heart. He who comes to God's holy place must be neither proud nor dishonest. He must never lift up his soul unto vanity or swear deceitfully.

But you and I know how often we fail, how often we do not measure up to these two requirements. Everyone by nature does not have clean hands and a pure heart.

So our hands and our hearts must be cleaned. For this cleansing God has provided the precious blood of His Son. I John 1:7, 9: "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Jehovah is an All Holy Redeemer. And blessing will flow from Jehovah if the one who comes to stand in His holy place has been cleansed. Then blessings come from the LORD Jehovah and righteousness from the God of His salvation. O, praise the Lord! The King of Glory is acclaimed as the All Holy Redeemer. Everyone must come to Him.

THE ALL VICTORIOUS CONQUEROR is the final acclaim. These are wonderful verses! "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in." That call must refer to heaven because only heaven has everlasting doors. Who is the King of glory?" Who is He? He is Jehovah, strong and mighty. Jehovah, mighty in battle.

Then the announcement comes again in verse 9. "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the

King of glory shall come in." Make way for Him. Prepare for His entrance. Draw back the gates! Lift them up! Let Him come! Who is He? Who is the King of glory? The LORD of hosts, Jehovah Sabbaoth, He is the King of glory! The King of glory is the All Victorious Conqueror. Everyone will bow to Him.

How different His entrance into heaven from His entrance into earth. When He came to earth only a few knew or cared that He came. King Herod even tried to kill Him. During His teaching ministry some people were perplexed and some opposed Him. Those who should have rejoiced that He came were angry because His teaching exposed their wrong doings. At last He died on the cross. His blood was shed. He was buried.

But HE AROSE FROM THE DEAD! He conquered sin, death and the grave. He is now the King of Glory as the Victorious Conqueror! When He returned to heaven from earth He received a majestic welcome!

As the King of Glory He is the Almighty Creator. He is the All Holy Redeemer. He is the All Victorious Conqueror. My friend, this is your day to bow before Him, the King of Glory.

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