

Come, Let Us Worship the King

Psalm 24

Pastor Adam McMurray

David wrote Psalm 24 for a very special occasion in the life of the community of Israel—when the Ark of the Covenant was brought to Mt. Zion. The ark signified the presence of God among his people. Whoever had the ark of God in his presence was blessed beyond measure. Psalm 24 is a glorious and exultant song of worship and praise to celebrate the arrival of David—the victorious King—bringing with him that thing which guaranteed and secured his victories, the ark where God was seated between the cherubim. The people lifted their hearts in worship and adoration because God was going to meet His people on Mount Zion.

Who May Ascend the Hill of the Lord?

Throughout scripture any opportunity or invitation to come into the presence of the Lord is met with reverent awe, even fear at the absolute, consuming Holiness of God. Such is the case in Psalm 24 as the psalmist asks in verse 3, “who may ascend the hill of the Lord?”—the answer, “he who has clean hands and a pure heart.” In other words, no one! The psalms tell us that no one, not a soul on earth is righteous, (Psalm 14, Psalm 53, Psalm 143.) Romans 7:23 says, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” In fact, Psalm 24 describes a righteousness which cannot be achieved. It can only be received from a God who saves, who gives it “to those who seek him” (vs. 6).

Who is this King of Glory? His name is Jesus!

All of this of course, points to Jesus Christ, the one who suffered and died—the one who was resurrected in power, defeating sin and death for all eternity. He is the answer to all these questions! “Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?” Who is this King of Glory? Jesus Christ, the Lion of Judah, the Lord mighty in battle. He invites us to meet Him in that holy place. This is true worship.

The Church of Jesus Christ: God’s Eternal Mount Zion

All of these truths come together to form a beautiful picture of Christ’s church as we worship. Hebrews 12:22 informs us that the true Mount Zion, the Holy Place where God communes with His people, is the “joyful assembly...the church of the firstborn.” The goal of our worship is the entrance of the “King of Glory.” To invite and lift up the king...” Like the city of Jerusalem that day when the ark and the King arrived, we are to open our gates and our doors that the King of Glory may come in. As we call upon the Lord—as we submit to Him we are inviting Him to be present in our midst in all His glory. Our hearts will be satisfied with nothing less. Come, let us worship the King.

Ideas for Reflection and Discussion

This week spend time reading, praying through and meditating on Psalm 24.

How Can I come into the Holy Place?

What do verses 3-6 teach us about our standing before the Lord? How about Psalm 15? Why is righteousness a prerequisite to stand before God? Now read Hebrews 10: 19-22. How would you summarize this “good news”?

My Role as a Worshipper

Read verses 7-9 again. Summarize the meaning of this text as it pertains to the worshipper. What does it mean that the gates and doors would be lifted up? In your personal experience of worship, what does this look like? Pray, and ask the Lord to show you the areas of your heart and in your life that are not "open" to Him.

Upcoming Events:

SUNDAY 9/2

Worship Services

9am, 11am, & 5:30pm @

RWLG

We're Back! After weeks of renovation, we are finally back at Lake Grove...although not totally complete.

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER:

Fall is here & there are many opportunities to get connected!

Financial Peace University

Contact Julie Messinger at 699.2226 or julie@riverwest.org

Womens Bible Studies

Contact Marty Layton at 624.8787

Mens Bible Studies

Contact Pastor Adam McMurray at 699.2226 or adam@riverwest.org

Community Groups

Contact Pastor Adam McMurray at 699.2226 or adam@riverwest.org

FitBody Conditioning Class

Contact Gina Kulper @ 636.8294 or gina6855@hotmail.com