

## Psalm 24

### The Ascension of Jesus

**Text: Psalm 24**

**Introduction:**

1. God had promised that the seed of woman would crush the head of the serpent and the enemy of man would be defeated (Genesis 3:15).
2. He showed that this victory would include blessedness for all through the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3).
3. This Victor would be a mediator (Job 19:23-27), a ruler (Genesis 49:10), a star (Numbers 24:17), a prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-19), a priest (1 Samuel 2:35), and a king (1 Samuel 2:10) - ruling from the throne of David (1 Chronicles 17:11-14).
4. During the time of David, the "sweet psalmist of Israel" (2 Samuel 23:1) recorded many prophecies of Jesus in the Psalms.
5. Psalm 24 reveals details of the ascension of the Messiah...

I. THE SETTING OF THE PSALM

- A. This psalm is simply identified as "a psalm of David."
- B. It is closely related to the two previous psalms and their portraits of the Messiah.
  1. Psalm 22 reveals Jesus, the Lamb.
  2. Psalm 23 reveals Jesus, the Shepherd.
  3. Psalm 24 reveals Jesus, the King.
- C. The context seems to indicate that this psalm was written for the bringing of the Ark of the Covenant to Zion from the house of Obed-Edom (2 Samuel 6).
- D. Spurgeon titled it: The Song of Ascension
  1. It glorifies the true God (vs. 1-2).
  2. It describes the true Israel (vs. 3-6).
  3. It pictures the true Redeemer (vs. 7-10).

II. THE STUDY OF THE PSALM (PSALM 24:1-6)

- A. The Sovereignty of God (vs. 1-2)
  1. God is Creator of the universe.
  2. Therefore, He is the Owner or Possessor of all - including man.
  3. This pictures His might, His majesty, and His magnificence!
  4. This demonstrates His holiness and supremacy!
- B. The Character of Those Accepted by God (vs. 3-6)
- C. The vital question: "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord and stand in His holy place?"
- D. The four-part answer:
  1. One who does not swear deceitfully - a person of honest character.
    - a. Not deceptive to God
    - b. Not deceptive to self
    - c. Not deceptive to others
  2. One who does not lift up his soul to falsehood - a seeker of truth.
    - a. Does not follow the ideas, philosophies, or traditions of men
    - b. Only follows the Truth of God

## Prophecy of Jesus

3. One who has clean hands – innocent of sin.
4. One who has a pure heart – clean in motive.
  - a. James 4:6-10
  - b. 1 Peter 1:22-25; 3:21
- E. The illustration: (2 Samuel 6; 1 Chronicles 13)
  1. David attempted to ascend the hill of the Lord by the will of man (vs. 1-9).
  2. He failed because of several sins:
    - a. The wrong method (Numbers 7:1-9)
    - b. The wrong example (1 Samuel 6)
    - c. The wrong people (Numbers 3:10; 4:15)
    - d. The wrong joy (1 Chronicles 13:8)
    - e. The wrong action (1 Chronicles 13:9-10)
  3. Only when he sought and obeyed the Word of God was he able to ascend the hill and restore the Ark (1 Chronicles 15:1-2, 13-15; 2 Samuel 6:12-15).
  4. When it was accomplished, there was great joy and rejoicing!
- F. The prophecy: This only prefigured the joy at the return of Jesus to Heaven!

### III. THE SAVIOR IN THE PSALM (PSALM 24:7-10)

- A. While this psalm was written by David and had meaning for his life, it is also clearly a prophecy of the Messiah.
- B. Picture David escorting the Ark through the gates into the city of Jerusalem.
- C. Yet, understand that this was just a glimpse of the Lord's return to the Father through the gates into Heaven as a conquering hero (cf. Mark 16:19; Acts 1:9ff).
- D. Jesus had the right to enter Heaven because of His sinless, sacrificial submission and service to God.
- E. Jesus had the right to enter Heaven because of His victory over Satan, sin, and death.
- F. Jesus had the right to enter Heaven because He is the King of Glory!
- G. As King, He also grants that right to the citizens of His kingdom – those with clean hands and pure hearts (Revelation 22:14; 2:7; John 1:12; 10:7, 9; 14:6).

Conclusion: This detailed prophecy demonstrates the foreknowledge of God and the inspiration of the Bible.