
Sermon Notes

April 9, 2017

First Congregational Church of Pomfret

All Hail King Jesus Psalm 24

The King is Coming

- ❖ The chant and cheer of the crowd: “The king is coming!”
- ❖ Who is this? Who is this King?
 - the question of the crowd outside the Temple
 - the question intoned by the priests inside the Temple from Psalm 24
- ❖ Both groups were simultaneously giving honor to Jesus as the Lord Almighty and as the King of glory

Psalm 24

- ❖ A psalm of David, possibly composed for the moment when the Ark of the Covenant is transported from the house of Obed-Edom to Jerusalem (*cf.* 2 Samuel 6)
- ❖ In vv. 7 & 9, the Psalm repeats the same formula: ***Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.***
- ❖ A Messianic Psalm: the LORD, the King of glory, the LORD almighty

God is King of All (vv. 1-2)

- ❖ The earth is the LORD’s
 - God is master, ruler, sovereign and sustainer of everything and everyone
 - not one stray molecule
- ❖ God’s power in creation gives Him the right to rule over everything He has made
 - if God is not the Creator, He cannot be King
 - naturalism is a denial of creation and a denial of God’s sovereign rule
- ❖ God is not a nationalistic God, He is the King of the whole earth

God’s People Come to Their King (vv. 3-6)

- ❖ As King of all creation, EVERYONE owes God their allegiance
 - BUT, who has permission to enter the royal court and have audience with such an awesome, holy, powerful righteous King as this?
 - the answer is given in v. 4

- ❖ Those who come before God must have both outward obedience (clean hands) and inward integrity (a pure heart)
 - clean hands = keeping God's commands
 - pure heart = inward holiness (*Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God*, Matthew 5:8)
- ❖ Having a right relationship with God and a right relationship with others
 - worship the one, true, God
 - honest in our dealings with others
- ❖ Since none of us can meet these qualifications, we must *receive righteousness from the God of our salvation* (v. 5)
 - justification by faith
 - not a prescription for salvation by works
 - a description of one who has received the free, unmerited, cleansing, healing gift of God's righteousness

The Coming King (vv. 7-10)

- ❖ The arrival and entrance of the king into Jerusalem
- ❖ The antiphonal structure of the psalm
 - vv. 3, 8, 10 ask questions (solo or small group)
 - each question has its answer (the larger group)

- ❖ *Who is this king of glory?* is the repeated question
 - the only One who has ever come with clean hands, a pure heart, in truth, and in perfect love for God and man
 - the only One who has ever had the right to *ascend the hill of the LORD* and *stand in His holy place*
- ❖ We see the picture the psalm paints being magnificently and gloriously brought to life as Jesus makes His royal entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday
- ❖ Jesus has entered Jerusalem and He has reentered heaven, but there is one final place in which Jesus waits to make his royal entrance
 - your heart
 - open your heart and let the King come in!

Personal Application

1. Do you acknowledge that God is King over everything and everyone? Do you live a submissive life that gives testimony of your belief in this?
2. Do you have “clean hands” and a “pure heart”? How can you be sure of this?
3. Do you have a right relationship with God and with others?
4. Is the gate of your heart continually open to letting the King come into it?