

Psalm 24: The Sovereign

Most experts agree that this psalm is connected with the removal of the ark of the covenant from the house of Obed Edom to Jerusalem as described in 2 Samuel 6. It could be that David wrote this psalm to accompany the ark on its journey or possibly it was written for one of the anniversary celebrations of this event. Often the psalm is interpreted as being prophetic of Christ's ascension after his victory over death and sin.

1. What does the psalm reveal about God's character in these first two verses?
2. What are the implications for us of the statement that this earth and all who live in it belong to God?
3. Verses 3 – 6 focus on what this sovereign God demands from those who worship him. Look at the four requirements that David lists in v 4 & 5. Try to work out what each of these means in today's world.
4. If these were the preconditions for coming into God's presence, then how could anyone ever "ascend the hill of the Lord or stand in the holy place?"
5. What does verse 5 tell us those with clean hands and pure hearts receive from the Lord.
6. How does this psalm use gates and doors to tell us about the Lord in verses seven and nine?
7. How is the "King of glory" described in the closing verses?
8. Why should this psalm give us confidence for daily Christian living?