

**Welcome to the
Common Ground Café!**



Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024

**King of Glory!
A Study of Psalm 24**

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Did you have a sibling who came to your defense when you were bullied or belittled? (Or maybe you played that role for your siblings.) Share a story that illustrates this.

Psalm 24 reminds us that the God who claims dominion over all things rushes to defend those who worship him. We will break our study into three sections: verses 1-2, verses 3-6, and verses 7-10.

Maker and Manager (verses 1-2)

Read Psalm 24:1.

In ancient times, people believed that each nation or territory had a patron god, and this meant that if you were beyond that territory you were beyond the aid or interest of that god. Share an experience where you felt you were outside of the territory that God controls.

How does the claim in verse 1 correct that?

Read Psalm 24:2.

In ancient times, people believed that the sea was an uncontrollable and destructive chaos. Make a list of things that seem beyond our control, and then answer this question: How does it comfort you to know that, according to Psalm 24:1-2, these things are not beyond God's control?

Permission to Enter (verses 3-6)

What is the toughest hike or climb or endurance course you've ever made? How did you prepare for it?

Read Psalm 24:3.

How is public corporate worship like an ascent up a hill? (Think of the challenges and rewards of ascending a hill and compare them to the challenges and rewards of worship.)

How do you prepare for Sunday worship?

Psalm 24:4 answers the question of verse 3. Read verse 4.

In the sermon, Tom said that verse 4 should make us think of justification and sanctification. From what you can recall from the sermon, briefly define each word.

Read Psalm 24:5-6.

Verse 6 speaks about a **generation** seeking God, not just **individuals**. What obstacles have to be overcome before you see your "generation" committed to God? What can you do, what can your group do, and what can your church do to see this happen?

Lift Up Your Heads! (verses 7-10)

Read Psalm 24:7-10.

In the sermon, Pastor Tom said that these verses were a reference to an Old Testament event and a New Testament event:

- ❖ The Old Testament event was the return of the Ark of the Covenant to the Jerusalem Temple. Read 1 Chronicles 15:25-29. What was the Ark? (Raiders of the Lost Ark fans, here's your chance to shine!) How did the return of the Ark symbolize God's "return" to Jerusalem?
- ❖ The New Testament event was the ascension of Christ. Read Ephesians 4:10, Hebrews 4:14, and Philippians 2:9-11. Since Psalm 24:7-10 is about the King of Glory returning triumphant from battle, how do these verses celebrate Christ's ascent back to heaven?

How do verses 8 and 10 answer the question, "Who is this King of Glory?"

These verses describe him as "mighty in battle" and "the Lord of Angelic Hosts" ("the Lord Almighty"). So, ask members of the group about a battle that some of you are facing now. Pray that God will reveal how he's fighting these battles.

Close with praise reports and prayer requests