



9/17/25

I listened to a message speaking about Jesus as our King by Tim Keller. He said this ~ "If I'm created. What right does my creator have over me?" I think the answer is, "He has every right." Timothy Keller also pointed out the fact that we don't like to be under anyone's authority. He said, "All demands are unreasonable to a child." Yikes. That's so true. And I can be such a child with Him! I pray that you and I will see the incredible security we have in being under the authority of our Creator King. He never uses His authority to hurt us, only to make us more like Him... full of joy and peace... even when our circumstances are hard and chaotic. That's miraculous. And He's the God of miracles.

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Psalm 24

On the third day God said, "'Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so." What God says, He does. He has all authority and all power. The gospel starts with the premise of His miraculous power in creation. I see this in Psalm 24. It is a psalm of David that starts with God's power in creation and ends with speaking prophecy of "the King of glory," Jesus Christ.

Vs. 1-2 ~ "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers."

The Lord owns the earth and everything in it because He made it. He's the inventor and the creator. He is over everything in the world, and all the people in the world. Even those who shake a fist at Him while declaring that He doesn't exist shake their fists with the hands He formed and the breath He gives.

Where was I when He laid the foundations of the earth? I was nowhere, not to be born for thousands of years. I cannot even comprehend how big He is. He was there doing the work, and He is here now with me. He laid those foundations in the midst of water and then gathered the water so that there could be dry land where man could live. He did it in wisdom, power, and

love.

Vs. 3-5 ~ "Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully."

Who has the right to stand in the presence of the holy creator of this world? He who has clean hands and a pure heart. My hands work and carry out the desires of my heart. Clean hands are hands that have no guilt. My heart is where my feelings, thoughts, and desires live. A pure heart is one that doesn't place other things or people above the one true God. A pure heart desires and thinks what's true, and from the pure heart comes words and actions that are founded in truth. This is because God is true. God is holy. He can only do what's pure and clean.

Jeremiah 17:9 tells me, "The heart is deceitful above all things"! How can I possibly have clean hands and a pure heart? It takes a miracle. Vs. 5-6 help me to see my hope...

Vs. 5-6 ~ "He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah"

I have from scripture something David, the author of this psalm, didn't yet experience. I have Jesus. Romans 5:17 says that He gave me the free gift of righteousness... through faith. Faith is what ties both Old and New Testaments together. God counts faith as righteousness (Genesis 15:6, Romans 4:3, Hebrews 11). I RECEIVE God's blessing, and I RECEIVE God's RIGHTEOUSNESS. He is the God of my SALVATION. I cannot be pure and clean without Him. My job is not to try to measure up or earn my way to Him. My job is to seek Him, to seek His face. Keep my eyes on Him and He does the work in me. Praise His name.

Vs. 5- 6 point to Him as the "God of salvation" and the "God of Jacob." Jacob represents those who are in covenant relationship with God, the Israelites. God is so awesome. When Jesus came into the world, He extended that covenant relationship to ANYONE who calls on the name of the Lord. Ephesians 2 speaks of Jews and Gentiles and says that through Jesus, He creates "one new man in place of the two, so making peace." Jesus brings reconciliation of ALL who call on the Lord for salvation and righteousness, ALL who seek Him.

These verses close this section with the word "Selah." It means "ponder this." Ponder what makes it possible for me to be in the presence of the most powerful, important, sovereign, holy one who exists. Don't let the cares of the world distract me from the Creator of the world who is willing for me to be in His presence. He's so willing that He blesses me with His righteousness that I would have no way of getting without His merciful generosity.

Vs. 7-10 ~ "Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory

may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory! Selah"

Ponder this... These words are repeated twice to emphasize how important this is. This is a call for the gates of the city to be opened so that the King can be welcomed in. Let the gates of my heart be opened so that He can come in! Who is the King of glory??? JESUS. YAHWEH. He is strong. He is mighty. He is a warrior. There is no battle He can't and won't win. He is the LORD of hosts... angelic armies. His power is beyond comprehension. It is miraculous.

The King of glory wants to come and dwell with me! It's not me banging at His gates and begging to come in. It's Him coming to MY gates! Will I welcome HIM in? In Revelation 3:20, Jesus says, "Behold, I stand at the door (of your gates) and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to eat with him, and he with Me." Whoa. That's all about fellowship... relationship. Yes, Lord, my door is open to You.

Why is it so important that I believe His power in creating this world? It is the beginning of the gospel. The same God who miraculously and meticulously created this world is the same God who stepped down from His throne and entered the gates of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and gave His life for me on Good Friday. His sacrifice would mean nothing if there was anyone greater than Him. There isn't. He can't be overthrown.

The same God who miraculously and meticulously created this world is the one who miraculously and meticulously places His righteousness in my heart.

The same God who miraculously and meticulously created this world is the one who comes to the gates of my heart so that I can welcome Him in.

What is my job? Seek Him.