

8th November 2009

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Reading - Psalm 24 v 1-10

This reading divides into three sections:

- 1 - Verses 1-2 = Awesome power of God
- 2 - Verses 3-6 = Absolute holiness of the Lord
- 3 - Verses 7-10 = Announcement of His triumph

The One who has entered is “the captain of our Salvation bringing many sons to glory”

Those who believe have a place assigned for them. This prospect is open to all if they recognise their need of a Saviour and bow the knee and receive the Salvation on offer.

1. Awesome Power of God

What right does God have to take notice of us?

What right does God have to make demands?

Why should I think about God?

We are living in days where man try to undermine the truth that “the earth is the Lord's”. As Creator, He has a right. He will gather together all things in Christ. We will see Him in all glory and power.

“He commanded and it was done...” (Psa 33:9)

As Creator He has rights over all - “in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ” (Eph 1:10)

He can claim that right at any time.

“It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness” (Lam 3:22-23)

Instead of condemning He sent His Son to redeem. Every person in this world is His creation and must answer to Him. “Unto Me every knee shall bow and tongue shall swear” (Isa 45:23)

We all have an opportunity to willingly bow the knee and believe Salvation.

He has prepared a place for those who love Him. For those who will not bow the knee today there is coming a day when they will see Him not as a Saviour but as a judge - He will condemn the sinner to everlasting judgment and the everlasting fire. His judgment is righteous.

The power available to us for salvation today is the same power that will condemn in a coming day - “Depart from me unto everlasting fire, into place prepared for devil and his angels” (Matt 25:41)

Flooding causes much devastation and tragedy. The Lord can command the sea - He is sovereign over all creation. Fishermen fear the power of the sea and yet the Lord has established the world - He is mighty in power nothing can withstand Him. Yes there is a God who is mighty in power and wants to use this power and wants to use this power to bless us. The seas and floods are not tamed by man - “neither shalt thou come and here shall thy waves be silenced”

Nothing can withstand God the sea must listen to His voice and stop when He says. He is a God of power and He wants to act in blessing to us but His character demands He act in holiness.

2. Absolute holiness of the Lord

His holiness means that sin cannot be permitted in His presence. What must I do to enter?

There is a God who knows every part of our lives.

“My ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts are higher than your thoughts” (Isa 55:9)

This God is interested in me and you. He is looking for holiness. His demands are outlined:

“He that has clean hands” - If your hands carried a stain for everything you have ever done wrong in your life what would they look like?

“A pure heart” - Every thought and intention behind each action in our life to be perfect. Our motives for doing things may be wrong. Have you ever given a part of your life to something that has no value? The law demands, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me” (Exodus 20:3). Nothing can take the place of God in our lives.

“nor sworn deceitfully” - Whole life open to any test put to it. Have you ever done anything in life without thinking about God?

That is the standard God expects anything less and God will shut us out of His presence.

3. Announcement from heaven.

There is an answer. Someone who has the right to enter into the presence of God - The Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Lord of Glory. He could challenge His enemies, “Which of you convinceth me of sin?” (John 8:46), but He showed His heart by receiving all (James 2:1).

He was hated on this earth because people saw He was perfect and could not prove He had done anything wrong. Not just in the eyes of men but also in the sight of God. He did no wrong.

God opened the heavens and said:

“This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased” (Matt 3:17)

The Lord was able to meet the demands of God and enter heaven - He has fought a battle.

“Destroyed him that have the power of death” (Heb 2:14)

Who is this King of glory?

Not only is the Lord able to answer the demands of God. He has triumphed over sin, broken the power of sin and the grave. There is a battle that was fought at Calvary. He did it for each one who will put their trust in Him.

God raised Him from the dead and received Him into glory at the right hand of God. Nothing more needs to be done. He will give a new life to all who will put their trust in Him. The old life is finished - dead and buried.

Our declaration must be that everything I have is in the Lord Jesus Christ. He and He alone can save, This power will take you through life. There is a power seen in creation, in Calvary and in all who will trust Him.

Tonight if you bow the knee, confess your sin your place in heaven is secure.

If you will not think of all that mighty power - It will be set against you and you will see Him as judge.

We have done nothing He has done everything. He cannot fail.