

KING OF GLORY

What is your view or concept of God? This will determine how you try to relate to God, or whether you desire to have a relationship with him or not. Do you think of God as the all-powerful perfectionist who gets angry whenever we mess up, and is always threatening to strike us down? Do you see him as a “Santa Claus” figure where praying is like sitting on his lap and telling him all the things that you want, and if you are a “good” boy/girl, then you will get it? Is he the “Cosmic clock maker” who put everything together, wound it up, then left it all on its own to wind down to the end without any further interaction?

We could go on with even more analogies, but I think you understand. So, back to the original question - how do you view God? In Psalm 24, David paints a poetic picture of God as creator and ruler who acts within his creation for those who are loyal to him. As you read (and read again and again...) and meditate upon this psalm, try to set aside your own preconceived ideas and see the image of the LORD that David wants us to see.

In verses 1-2, David describes Yahweh's Possession. It all belongs to the LORD. Everything. The reason why everything belongs to him is because he made it all. That's all the reason he needs. Creation points back to God (remember the opening to Psalm 19). If God is so powerful that he could make everything that I see, then why would he be concerned with a tiny thing like myself? David addresses this in the next section.

Verses 3-6 describe Yahweh's Presence. God does desire to have a relationship with those whom he created. However, not just anyone can be in his presence. Only those who trust in him and are fully loyal to him and him alone may enter into his presence. Notice the similar language to Psalm 15. When a person pledges their allegiance to the LORD, then God is trustworthy and will fulfill every promise that he has spoken.

Finally, in verses 7-10, we see a Royal Procession. Along with the creator God and the holy and pure God, David shows us the LORD as the King of glory. He metaphorically announces to the city to open up in order to participate in this majestic parade. This King is strong and mighty. He will protect us. He will fight for us. He will deliver us as his loyal, faithful subjects.

As you meditate on this song, think about God and the one whom he sent to fully reveal himself to us. Think about Jesus, as God in the flesh, fulfills each of these images of Yahweh. As the Apostle John recorded the vision which he was shown, he describes Jesus as the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Have you pledged your allegiance to him? Does he have your undivided loyalty?

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