



Brown CG Discussion Guide

Psalm 24 – August 23, 2020

I. Starter Thoughts and Context:

Have you had a time in your life where you felt like you were truly seeking the face of God? Was this a time that you truly felt God's guidance? Or was there silence from your viewpoint? In our time of need, did we tend to focus on God's sovereignty and the need for righteousness in our own lives? Or were we focused more on our personal demands and needs? Were we stressing and praising the glory of the Lord? Ultimately, our need for the savior and His sufficiency through salvation is all we need, even though it certainly may not seem like that in our time of need.

II. Discussion of Scripture:

Psalm 24: The King of Glory

¹The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, ²for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. ³Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? ⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. ⁵He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation. ⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. ⁷Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in? ⁸Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! ⁹Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. ¹⁰Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

This psalm may have been written on the occasion of David's retrieval of the Ark and its placement at Jerusalem (2 Sam 6). The psalm is clearly divided into two parts: a processional song emphasizing God's sovereignty and man's need for righteousness before God (verses 1-6), and a song stressing the glory of the Lord (verses 7-10). These passages describe our need for a savior and Christ's sufficiency in his salvation.

III. Group Discussion:

1. Why would David begin in verse 1-2 by talking about God as Creator? What did this do to help prove his point in the Psalm?
2. Where is this Holy Hill and what is this referencing? It is also listed in scriptures below:
 - a. Psalm 2:6 – "I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain."
 - b. Psalm 15:1 – "Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain?"

- c. Gen 15 –Covenant with Abram – “On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram and said, “To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates
- 3. Verse 4 begins to describe who may ascend the “Holy Hill”:
 - a. What are these peoples characteristics?
 - b. Is this referencing Christians life on earth? Why or Why not?
 - c. What does a holy life look like to ascribe to Davids comment to approach Gods Holy Hill?
- 4. In Verse 5-6, what does it mean to seek God’s face?
- 5. Does Verse 7 seem confusing talking about gates and doors opening? What is the purpose of this verse?
 - i. This verse reveals to us the great representative man, who answered to the full character laid down, and therefore by his own right ascended the holy hill of Zion. Our Lord Jesus Christ could ascend into the hill of the Lord because his hands were clean and his heart was pure, and if we by faith in him are conformed to his image we shall enter too. We have here a picture of our Lord's glorious ascent. The ancient gates of the eternal temple are personified and addressed in song by the attending cohorts of rejoicing spirits. They are called upon "to lift up their heads," as though with all their glory they were not great enough for the All glorious King. Let all things do their utmost to honour so great a Prince; let the highest heaven put on unusual loftiness in honour of the King of Glory. He who, fresh from the cross and the tomb, now rides through the gates of the New Jerusalem is higher than the heavens; Lift up your heads, O ye gates.
- 6. If as we answered in the first few verses and questions that our salvation and cleansing is all we need, then why do we need to continually seek holiness and righteousness in our lives?

IV. Responding in Prayer:

- 1. Pray for teachers, students, and parents during this season to have patience, wisdom, and flexibility in the midst of changing schedules.
- 2. Pray for our church leadership. Pray that they might make wise decisions in the face of a changing world and that our congregation would support them well.
- 3. Pray for the application of the sermon this week in our church. Pray that we might have opportunities to glory in God this week and that we might genuinely seek His face with humility and confidence.