

## The Ascended King

Jesus in the Psalms

Psalm 47

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### I. The Coronation of the King (cf. 2 Sam 6:12-15; 1 Kgs 1:39f; 2 Kgs 11:12-14)

Coronations are joyful affairs. Important officials gather together; oaths of office are administered; large crowds shout, clap, feast, and celebrate. Take, for example, Solomon's coronation:

*So Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the Cherethites, and the Pelethites went down and had Solomon ride on King David's mule, and took him to Gihon. Then Zadok the priest took a horn of oil from the tabernacle and anointed Solomon. And they blew the horn, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!" And all the people went up after him; and the people played flutes and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth seemed to split with their sound. (1 Kgs 1:39f)*

This same festal joy characterized King David and all Israel when they brought the ark of the covenant to the city of Jerusalem. We are told that "David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet" (2 Sam 6:15). This was like a coronation ceremony. When David and the Israelites brought the ark into Jerusalem, \_\_\_\_\_ was, as it were, ascending His throne to rule and reign on behalf of His people Israel.

### II. The Ascended King

Psalm 47 contains \_\_\_\_\_ imperatives that make clear that the goal of our psalm is "to urge all peoples to sing praises to the Lord, the \_\_\_\_\_ of all the earth" (Greidanus, 458).

- A. Summons #1: All nations, clap and shout to the King of all the Earth (1-4)
- B. The Coronation of the King (5 cf. 2 Sam 6:15)
- C. Summons #2: Sing praises to our King, the King of all the earth (6-9)

### III. Application

- A. The Glory of God our King (cf. Ps 24:7-10; 95:1-5; 97:1; 99:1-5)

Who is the God we worship and adore? Yahweh our God is \_\_\_\_\_ High – no one and nothing can be compared with Him. As God speaks to Israel through Isaiah:

*"To whom then will you liken Me, Or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing. (Is 40:25-26)*

Charles Misner wrote about Albert Einstein's rejection of classic theism:

*The design of the universe... is very magnificent and shouldn't be taken for granted. In fact, I believe that is why Einstein had so little use for organized religion, although he strikes me as a basically very religious man. He must have looked at what the preachers said about God and felt that they were blaspheming. He had seen much more majesty than they had ever imagined, and they were just not talking about the real thing. My guess is that he simply felt that religions he'd run across did not have proper respect... for the author of the universe.*

Unfortunately, our worship as God's people is often shallow because our understanding of God is so shallow. A.W. Tozer writes, *"We commonly represent God as a busy, eager, somewhat frustrated Father hurrying about seeking help to carry out His benevolent plan to bring peace and salvation to the world..."* The psalms have none of this. God is a Great King! We worship the God who works all things according to the counsel of His will (Eph 1:11).

B. The Glory of Christ our King (cf. Lk 24:50-53; Act 1:9-11; Eph 1:19-23)

The counsel of God's will is to bring all the nations of the earth to acknowledge Him as \_\_\_\_\_. Even as Psalm 46:10 declared: *Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!* so Psalm 47:3-4 declares: *He will subdue the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet. He will choose our inheritance for us, the glory of Jacob whom He loves.*

God will subdue the nations under His people, but this subjection is will be for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the nations (v. 1) As John Piper has written, *"All of history is moving toward one great goal, the white-hot worship of God and his Son among all the peoples of the earth."*

So how will God accomplish this? He has already begun! Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus has taken His seat at the Father's right hand as King of all the nations. *God the Son has gone up with a shout, Yahweh with the sound of a trumpet* (cf. 47:5). God the Father has said to Him, *"Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." The Lord shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies.*" (Ps 110:1-2)

C. The Delightful Duty of Praise (cf. Ps. 67; Rev 5:8-14)

So what do we say to the nations? We summon them, in the words of Psalm 47, to *clap, shout, and sing praise* to their rightful King, the Triune God, the King of all the nations.

*Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because \_\_\_\_\_ is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.* (John Piper)

Note Psalm 67:

<sup>1</sup>*God be merciful to us and bless us, And cause His face to shine upon us, Selah*

<sup>2</sup>*That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.*

<sup>3</sup>*Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.*

<sup>4</sup>*Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge the people righteously, And govern the nations on earth. Selah*

#### IV. Conclusion