

Sunday, November 8, 2020

Text: Psalm 24

Title: Waiting for the King's Return

*Proposition:*

In Psalm 24, God's people are taught how to wait for the King's Return so that we worship Him while waiting for Him.

*Outline:*

Wait Confidently Looking Backward (vv.1-2)

Wait Optimistically Looking Upward and Humbly Looking Inward (vv.3-6)

Wait Expectantly Looking Forward (vv.7-10)

*Study Guide Questions:*

(As always, leaders who use these questions can pick and choose which they think are best for their group. I include more than enough so you have freedom to give direction, and not so you feel like you need to ask or answer them all.)

1. In your own words, come up with a title for each of the three stanzas of this psalm: vv.1-2; vv.3-6; and vv.7-11.
2. In some ways, the psalm doesn't "flow" smoothly on first reading. Imagine yourself as a worshiper in Jerusalem while the armies of Israel are out battling enemy nations. How does each stanza of the song develop the story?
3. What have you been waiting for recently? How has waiting affected your heart and holiness?
4. We can take for granted that God is Creator. What does David say in vv.1-2 that helps you meditate on that truth?
5. How is our confidence upon God linked to Him being the Creator, especially when our lives feel chaotic?
6. Vv.3-6 describes a scene where a worshiper is eager to be at the Temple (or Tabernacle). What motivates the worshiper to go to the temple (v.3) and to seek God (v.6)? (Verse 5 provides some potential answers, but there may be others!)
7. V.4 describes those who are walking in a right relationship with God. What do each of the four phrases mean?

8. Does v.4 tell someone how to *enter* into a right relationship with God? What does the scene (priests, sacrifices, altars, curtains/gates, Holy of Holies) remind us about how we are made right with God? How does the Gospel fit in with this Psalm?
9. As you experience so many unknowns, has your attention been directed appropriately upward toward God? Have you been seeking Him (v.6) and seeking blessing and approval from Him (v.5)?
10. As you experience so many unknowns, have you been attentive to your heart toward God and others (v.4)? Has there been anything you've been trusting in falsely?
11. Vv.7-10 ends triumphantly. What will the King of Glory make right when He returns to earth?
12. What has been causing your head to be downcast recently? How does the return of the King of Glory cause you to lift your head?
13. How have the last months focused your attention on Christ's return? What else have you been tempted to hope in?
14. Who in your life have you been reaching out to who needs to be ready for the return of your King?
15. What from Psalm 24 will change the way you wait for the King to return?