

Psalm 24:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Analysis

The command to gates—'Lift up your heads, O ye gates'—personifies Jerusalem's entryway, calling them to prepare for the King's arrival. The question 'Who is this King of glory?' creates dramatic anticipation. Reformed theology sees Christ's triumphal entry (Palm Sunday) and His ascension fulfilling this imagery. When Christ enters, all barriers must yield. The repetition in verse 9 emphasizes the importance and certainty of the King's victorious entrance.

Historical Context

This may have been sung when the Ark entered Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6) or during festival processions. The antiphonal question-answer format created liturgical drama, teaching congregants about God's character through participatory worship.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What 'gates' in your life need to 'lift up' to welcome the King of glory?

2. How does Christ's victorious entry into heaven affect your daily confidence?

Interlinear Text

עֲזָל מִפְתַּח מִשְׁעָר יְמִין וְהַנְּשָׁאוֹן	Lift up	O ye gates	your heads	Lift up	doors	ye everlasting
	H5375	H8179	H7218	H5375	H6607	H5769
מִלְּאָמֵן וְיַבְּאָה	shall come in	and the King	of glory			
	H935	H4428	H3519			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 26:2 (Parallel theme): Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in.

Revelation 4:11 (Glory): Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Psalms 97:6 (Glory): The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

1 Corinthians 2:8 (Glory): Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Haggai 2:7 (Glory): And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

Malachi 3:1 (Parallel theme): Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

1 Kings 8:11 (Glory): So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.

1 Peter 3:22 (Parallel theme): Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

2 Samuel 6:17 (Parallel theme): And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

Psalms 132:8 (Parallel theme): Arise, O LORD, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

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