

Psalm 24ⁱⁱⁱ

¹The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, *
the world and all who dwell therein.

²For it is he who founded it upon the seas *
and made it firm upon the rivers of the deep.

³"Who can ascend the hill of the LORD? *
and who can stand in his holy place?"

⁴"Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, *
who have not pledged themselves to falsehood, nor sworn by what is a
fraud.

⁵They shall receive a blessing from the Lord *
and a just reward from the God of their salvation."

⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him, *
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.

⁸"Who is this King of glory?" *

"The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle."

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.

¹⁰"Who is he, this King of glory?"

"The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory."

ⁱⁱⁱ About Psalm 24

This psalm is part of a processional liturgy, perhaps to be used by a procession of people and priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant into the sanctuary for an annual celebration. It declares God to be the Creator of all things; that God is not just a local deity. It begins with a brief hymn (vv. 1-2) to God as creator. Then comes a teaching dialogue (vv. 3-6) on the

conditions for entry into the sanctuary. These first two sections may have been sung by a choir inside the temple gates. The last section (vv. 7-10) then would be sung by a group outside the gates, likely carrying in procession the ark of the covenant, with which God's presence was associated.