Psalm 24: God's Grand Entrance
Read Psalm 24:7-10

The earth and all it contains belong to God, for He created it. From the very beginning, He brought order to this chaotic world. Those who accept the rule of such an orderly, righteous, holy God are welcomed into His presence and receive His blessing and protection. All this was the message of vv.1-6 of Psalm 24.

Now what is happening in vv.7-10? Someone wants to gain entrance, probably to the temple. They call out:

> *Lift up your heads, O gates,*
> *And be lifted up, O ancient doors,*
> *That the King of glory may come in!* (v.7, NASB)

The gatekeepers call back:

> *Who is the King of glory?* (v.8a, NASB)

Those seeking entrance respond:

> *The Lord strong and mighty,*
> *The Lord mighty in battle.* (v.8b, NASB)

Based on scriptural evidence, the scene is probably the arrival of the ark of the covenant in Jerusalem, specifically into the temple. Remember that the ark represented the presence of God among His people. That's why it was often carried out into battle with the troops. Here it is perhaps returning to the temple after victory in battle. Or perhaps it is being brought to Jerusalem for the very first time (2 Samuel 6:12-19).

In any case, it is God Himself who is being welcomed. Notice how He is described:

- The King of Glory; that is, a glorious King, aglow with the greatness and presence of God.
- He is a mighty warrior King, returning victorious from battle (v.8b).
- He is "Yahweh of hosts"; that is, Yahweh, the unchanging, eternal God, leader of all the armies of heaven (v.10).

Drink in the picture here. Almighty God, the Creator who brought order to the natural world, fights for His people. Though all the forces of evil and chaos seem beyond our control, our Glorious King, Yahweh, Lord of all the heavenly armies, fights for us. None can oppose Him.

He is among us! He is with us! He brings us victory over everything that threatens us! We receive Him and worship Him with joyful celebration!

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