

Psalm 47:1-9

Introduction

The following simple rhyme was once one of the best known taunts in the English-speaking world: **“I’m the king of the castle; you’re the dirty rascal.”**

Sadly, there have been no shortage of men and women, boys and girls in human history, who have asserted, “I’m the king of the castle.”

The Bible warns all men from such arrogant assertion and reminds them that there is only one who can legitimately make claim to, and assert, such sovereignty.

Summary

In Psalm 47, God is praised clearly as King of all the earth and people of all nations are invited to praise him, anticipating the final day on which all the nations will have been subdued before God, and the kingdom of this world will have become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

1. Celebrated Sovereignty vv. 1-2; 7

God is sovereign over all his creation.

He is to be praised as "King of all the earth" (**Ps. 47:7**).

Since God is the Creator and Lord of all the earth, every human being owes him true and full obedience. Whatever our view and preference for human government, the Bible is clear with regard to God's royal, sovereign authority over all of this created reality. **Psalm 22:28; 135:6; Isaiah 46:9-10.**

The doctrine of God's sovereignty is not popular with most people because men and women, boys and girls want to believe in their own sovereignty.

God refutes such human pride and vanity **Deut 32:39; Isa 45:7.**

Divine sovereignty does not deny or abrogate human responsibility.

As well as teaching divine sovereignty, the Bible equally teaches that man has a real will, though now fallen and enslaved to sin and makes decisions, and is responsible for his actions. Nevertheless, God's will is accomplished in all things even in and through the sinful acts of wicked men **Lam. 3:37-38.**

2. Sovereign Judgment and Salvation vv. 3-4

The psalmist praises God for His sovereignty in judging His enemies (**Psalm 47:3**).

The psalmist also praises God for His sovereignty in saving His people (**Psalm 47:3-4**).

3. Appropriate Praise vv. 5-9

Verse 5, sets the scene for Psalm 47. It was most likely composed in response to the event of the original bringing of the ark into Jerusalem or in later years to remember David's enthronement of God's ark on Mount Zion.

As God's people celebrate the ascension of the Lord to his throne over the earth, we are reminded again this morning, that God's sovereignty is a cause for the greatest joy.

Psalm 47 gives five descriptions of praise that should characterize all of our worship.

- The praise of God is to be joyful (**Psalm 47:1**)
- The praise of God is to be reverent (**Psalm 47:2**)
- Christians are to worship God in singing His praise (**Psalm 47:6**)
- The worship of God is to be thoughtful (**Psalm 47: 7**)
- The worship of God is to be Universal (**Psalm 47:9**)

Conclusion

Are you part of this glorious chorus, this morning, believing in Jesus so as to lift your praise to the sovereign, reigning King in heaven?

If you are, sing His praise joyfully, reverent, and thoughtfully with all of God's people.