

**Easter Trilogy – Part 3**  
**The Glorious Savior Trilogy**  
Psalm 24

**I. Intro**

- A. **Illustration:** During World War II, a B29 bomber took off from the island of Guam headed for Kokura, Japan, with deadly cargo. When the bomber reached its target area there was too much cloud cover for them to get a clear view of the target so B-29 circled for nearly an hour until its fuel supply became dangerously low. The captain and his crew, frustrated because they were right over the primary target but not able to fulfill their mission, finally decided they had better go for the secondary target. Changing course, they reached the secondary target and the skies were clear. The command was given, “Bombs away!” and the B-29 then headed for its home base. Some time later an officer received some startling information from military intelligence. Just one week before that bombing mission, the Japanese had transferred one of their largest concentrations of captured American soldiers to the city of Kokura. Upon reading this, the officer exclaimed, “Thank God for that protecting cloud! If the city hadn’t been hidden from the bomber, it would have been destroyed and thousands of young American men would have died.”
- B. God is sovereign over all things and all people; but He especially watches over those who have surrendered their lives in faith and trust in Him; *O how He loves you and me*
- C. Today, the last of the trilogies we’ve been looking at leading up to next Sunday – Easter; today, the Glorious Savior Trilogy
- D. **READ Psalm 24**
- E. Three things to see in passage – the Possessor of Earth, the Predicament of Man, and the Promise of Messiah

**II. The Possessor of Earth [SLIDE]**

- A. (v. 1) *The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof ... and those who dwell therein*; Look around – everything you see belongs to God
- B. **Question:** Why is this?
  - i. God has claimed it Himself; God’s idea to create everything from nothing; God’s idea to redeem mankind through His Son; God’s idea to establish a relationship with sinners like us
- C. **Illustration** – George Truett story: Was invited to dinner in the home of a very wealthy man. After the meal, the host led him to a place where they could get a good view of the surrounding area. Pointing to the oil wells, the wealthy man boasted, “Twenty-five years ago I had nothing. Now, as

far as you can see, it's all mine." Looking in the opposite direction at his sprawling fields of grain, he said, "That's all mine." Turning east toward huge herds of cattle, he bragged, "They're all mine." Then pointing to the west and a beautiful forest, he exclaimed, "That too is all mine." He paused, expecting Dr. Truett to compliment him on his great success. Truett, however, placed a hand on the man's shoulder and pointing heavenward with the other, simply said, "How much do you have in that direction"? The man hung his head and confessed, "I never thought of that?"

- D. Human beings are possessive people; we have tendency to think that all we've worked for in this life belongs to us but it doesn't – it belongs to God who has blessed us with the ability to obtain all that we have
- E. Account of Job in scripture; a very wealthy man; more importantly told - Job 1:1 (ESV)
  - <sup>1</sup>... was blameless and upright (Lit. Straight, righteous), one who feared God and turned away from evil.; God allowed Satan to test Job, Job lost it all including His family (all but His wife); Job's response - Job 1:20–21 (ESV)
  - <sup>20</sup>Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped.
  - <sup>21</sup>And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."
- F. [SLIDE] It's the Glorious Savior who is the possessor of all things on earth, in heaven, and even under the earth
- G. Which is why one day - Philippians 2:10–11 (ESV)
  - <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
  - <sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### III. The Predicament of Man [SLIDE]

- A. Truth about all of us as human beings – we're a mess, rebellious, cantankerous, and ornery; Bible calls us *stiff-necked* – my translation, dead from the neck up
- B. (v. 3) [SLIDE] Our character is questioned – what human is worthy enough to enter into and stand in God's presence? **Answer** – no one; Rom. 3:23 emphatically states *we're all sinners*
  - i. (v. 4) Only those with *clean hands and pure heart* (based on God's standard of *clean hands and pure heart*); only those who are not deceived into believing *what is false*; those who do not speak lies and words of deceitfulness

- C. (v. 5, 6) [SLIDE] God has put a plan in place so that our condition can be corrected – *blessing from the Lord ... righteousness from the God of [our] salvation; for all those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob*
- D. The only way our sin condition can be healed is by the Great Physician; Romans 12:1–2 (ESV)
- <sup>1</sup> [We are] ... to present [our] bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is [our] spiritual [act of] worship.
- <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
- E. **Illustration:** A certain man wanted to sell his house for \$2,000. Another man wanted very badly to buy it, but because he was poor, he couldn't afford the full price. After much bargaining, the owner agreed to sell the house for half the original price with just one stipulation: He would retain ownership of one small nail protruding from just over the door. After several years, the original owner wanted the house back, but the new owner was unwilling to sell. So the first owner went out, found the carcass of a dead dog, and hung it from the single nail he still owned. Soon the house became unlivable, and the family was forced to sell the house to the owner of the nail." The moral of the story is, "If we leave the devil with even one small peg in our life, he will return to hang his rotting garbage on it, making it unfit for Christ's habitation."
- F. Ephesians 4:27 (ESV)
- <sup>27</sup>... give no opportunity [foothold] to the devil.
- G. Only our Glorious Savior holds the answer for our sin predicament

#### IV. The Promise of the Messiah [SLIDE]

- A. (v. 7 – 10) Written centuries before Christ came to earth and died on the cross are given so that we can know that our Glorious Savior has won the war
- B. The [SLIDE] command given and repeated – *Lift up your heads, O gates ... be lifted up, O ancient doors (v. 7, 9)*
- i. Psalm written by David to celebrate the return of the Ark of the Covenant back to the Holy City of Jerusalem
  - ii. The Ark, believed to be the representation of God's very presence among His people – *that the King of glory may come in (v. 7, 9)*
- C. The [SLIDE] conflict involved – *Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty; the Lord mighty in battle (v. 8)*
- D. The [SLIDE] conquest guaranteed – *Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts ... (v. 10); hosts (Def.) - army, but not an earthly army, this is a heavenly, angelic, divine army*

V. **Close**

- A. **Wednesday nights, studying Joshua, how we can be Promise Land people, how we can live victoriously in Christ; we've seen as believers in Christ we're not to live in this life FOR victory, but we're to live FROM victory**
- B. **Our Glorious Savior declared on the cross – IT IS FINISHED**
- C. **Passage today is a song of victory; our Glorious Savior encountered the worst that man could possibly inflict on Him and He was victorious**
- D. **Question:** Are you resting and trusting in that victory that He won for you, or are you still trying to fight this life's battle on your own?
- E. **REFER v. 10**