

Psalm 24 The God of the Universe

By Pastor Roy Hogan

24:1-2

The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. 2 For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

The vastness of God's universe is awesome and undeniable. Able scientists have proven over-and-over that there is no end to it as man knows it. There are *worlds unknown*.

We live on a planet called Earth that is part of our solar system. The center of our solar system is the sun. But where is our solar system? It's a small part of the galaxy called Milky Way.

A **galaxy** is a huge collection of gas, dust, and *billions* of stars and their solar systems. A galaxy is held together by gravity. Here are a few facts about our galaxy, the Milky Way:

Milky Way Galaxy Profile

Type:	Barred Spiral
Diameter:	200,000 ly
Distance to Galactic Centre:	27,000 ly
Mass:	800 - 1,500 M_{\odot}
Age:	13.6 Billion years
Number of Stars	100 - 400 billion
Constellation:	Sagittarius
Group:	Local Group

What is the speed of light? Light travels at a speed of 186,282 miles/sec. This is 670,616,629 miles/hour. If a person could travel at the speed of light, the person could circle the earth 7 ½ times in one second. The distance across our galaxy, the Milky Way, is approximately 200,000 light-years. This is 1200 *million billion* miles. (1,200,000,000,000,000,000,000 miles.)

There are many galaxies besides Milky Way, though. There are so many, we can't even count them all yet! The *Hubble Space Telescope* looked at a small patch of space for 12 days and found 10,000 galaxies, of all sizes, shapes, and colors. As the power of the telescope increases, more galaxies are discovered. Some scientists think there could be as many as *one hundred billion* galaxies in the universe.

So, the conclusion is simple; the earth is as speck of dust, a grain of sand, relatively speaking. Secondly, there are as many stars as there are sands of the sea. We serve a great, big God.

With the innumerable galaxies, why, then, does God pay any attention to a single speck in the Milky Way galaxy called planet *earth*? Why doesn't God deal with Mars or Jupiter? Why does he not deal with a planet in the Andromeda Galaxy, the galaxy closest to the Milky Way, instead of earth? Why do the eyes of an all-seeing God pass over billions of galaxies and focus on earth? This is because *earth* has a problem. No other portion of God's universe has a problem requiring his attention. Earth has a problem, and it is called sin. Earth needs God. Thankfully, we have his undivided attention.

The earth is the Lord's. As far as I know, the only portion of God's creation that has rebelled against him is earth. It was not the animals or vegetation kingdom that sinned against him, it was man made in his image. For 6000 years the inhabitants of planet earth have done God wrong. Yet, he put it in writing in verse 1 that he that made the earth still claims it. Alexander Bell was a great inventor. One morning he arrived at his workshop only to see a pile

of ashes. His remarked: “Now, all our mistakes have been destroyed.” Why did God not destroy this planet when Adam and Eve ate the fruit. God is abundant in mercy.

A zillion years prior to Adam, God had a problem in heaven. An angel named Lucifer rose up against God seeking to unseat him from his throne so he could take over. What was God to do? God never panicked. Before Lucifer ever had a thought of defying God, God knew how to handle the situation. God had a plan. God had to find a battlefield wherein he could confront his arch-enemy. There is no war in heaven. In his infinite wisdom and divine providence, God chose planet earth as the battle theater of the universe. When Satan fell to the earth when he was expelled from heaven, he did not know what he was getting into. He fell into an ambush. God’s plan was to let Satan invade earth and corrupt mankind. Let him have his way a while. Let him settle in and get comfortable. Then, God would send an invader from on high to confront him. The invader bears the name Jesus Christ, Son of God. The warrior of all warriors came as a babe in a manger. Through Jesus coming, forever the mystery of iniquity was settled on a hilltop called Calvary just outside Jerusalem.

24:3-4

Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? 4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

I love the saying that goes like this: *this world has not yet heard the last word from God.* God created the earth. He put creatures in his likeness on this planet. He chose this planet as the battle theater of the universe in that he gave his Son to die on this earth to settle the greatest confrontation of the all the ages. This earth belongs to God. There is coming a day when he will retake this planet from the forces of evil. Her will set forth a worldwide kingdom centered in the land of Palestine. Jerusalem will be the capital city. The son of god will rule form the Holy Mount Zion. The Palestinians better get ready to move. The PLO better get ready to lay their weapons

down. The King of the universe is coming. The chief of the forces of heaven is ready today to lead an invasion to retake that which was lost to S-I-N.

Are you ready for this day? I am not only ready, but I am getting excited. *Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place?* The question is: who shall walk into his seat of power on Mount Zion and who shall walk into the place of worship, the temple, on Mount Moriah? Verse 4 declares that it will only be those who have clean hands and a pure heart, whose soul is not filled with vanity and whose lips have not used deceit. I know a lot of people who are presently disqualified. This is the age of vanity. This is the age of lying and scheming. Whatever you own, lock it up. Thievery is rampant. Stealing is a cottage industry. Whose side are you on?

24:5-6

He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. 6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah

Great will be the day when the Lord's kingdom over Israel is set up. The first time he came, they refused him. He did not wear shinning apparel. He did not ride on a golden chariot. He had no horsemen or footmen. The next time will be different for Israel. God has a blessing in store for them, verse 5. Israel shall receive from God his righteousness that you and I already enjoy through salvation by faith in God's Son.

Israel will seek him, coming from the four corners of the earth looking for his throne. What a gathering that will be! I will look upon the house of Israel as they seek the king they once rejected and will now receive. Perhaps, I can serve as a flagman and point the house of Israel to the one they long to see.

24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye 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. 9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. 10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.
Selah

Swing open the gates, and swing open the doors. The king has arrived. Who is this King of glory? Verse 8 declares that this king is *The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle*. I do not see Mohammed's name or Buddha's name. The name I see is the Lord. I see the name of the one who carried the sin of humanity up Calvary's hill. I see the one who lay down his life on a rugged cross. I see the one who cried "it is finished," and that moment, God departed from the man. God went into paradise and got the keys of death and hell while the man-body went into a sealed tomb. He took bodies from off the streets of Jerusalem and from the cemeteries nearby. He went to his father in heaven. He returned back from heaven and walked forty days upon the earth. He then ascended to heaven from the Mount of Olives where he is seated this day at the right hand of the father. He that has the nail-scarred hands and feet is coming back as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

He is the Lord of hosts, verse 10. I wonder how many, through the ages, have placed faith in God. I sure hope we have more in eternity than the Devil does.