

PSALM 47

God the King of the Earth

INTRODUCTION.

- A. To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. "God the King of the Earth"
- B. For centuries, this Psalm has been sung by the Jews in the synagogues on the Feast of Trumpets, the Jewish New Year.
- C. This psalm seems to be in two parts;
 - 1. Extol the deliverance of Israel from Sennacherib (47:1-4).
 - 2. Praise to God the King of the earth (47:5-9).

THE TEXT.

- O clap your hands, all peoples;
Shout to God with the voice of joy.
- 2 For the LORD Most High is to be feared,
A great King over all the earth.
- 3 He subdues peoples under us
And nations under our feet.
- 4 He chooses our inheritance for us,
The glory of Jacob whom He loves. Selah.
- 5 God has ascended with a shout,
The LORD, with the sound of a trumpet.
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises;
Sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- 7 For God is the King of all the earth;
Sing praises with a skillful psalm.
- 8 God reigns over the nations,
God sits on His holy throne.
- 9 The princes of the people have assembled themselves *as* the people of the God of Abraham,
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
He is highly exalted.

COMMENTS.

- A. Extol the Deliverance of Israel from Sennacherib (47:1-4).
[v2] "...He is a great King over all the earth." God was not just the king of the Jews. He moved and exerted influence over the whole earth, even as He still does today. We are not told how he works in specific instances today, but we are told that He is in control.
[v4] "He will choose our inheritance for us,..." The Lord knows better how to bless us than we know ourselves.
- B. Praise to God the King of the Earth (47:5-9).
[v5] "God has gone up with a shout,..." Coffman, and others see in this a prophecy of the ascension of Christ after His resurrection. It seems to me that it is more probable that God had "come down" to destroy the army of Sennacherib and has gone up to where He dwells. It may well be an expression to accommodate man's perspective.
[v6,7] "Sing praises..." this expression is repeated five times in these two verses. It is the celebration over this great deliverance. Certainly it is shown that God reigns over the nations, as Christ did after His ascension.