

This Is the Day Which the Lord Has Made

Psalm 118:24 is a common verse sung in Sunday School.

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

In my experience, I have often sung this as a wake-up song. This is a song saying, "Good morning, God. Thank You for another day." I am not so sure that this verse is intended as such.

For many of the Jewish people, this was part of the song called Hallel used during the Passover meal. Traditionally, they would sing Psalms 113-114 during the meal to remind them of the goodness of God during the Passover and release from Egypt. They would then sing 115-118 to conclude the Passover celebration in praise and thanksgiving to God for their salvation.

And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives (Mt 26:30; Mk 14:26).

It is very likely Hallel would have been what was sung by Jesus here.

What must have been going through the mind of Jesus as He sang those words. He knew what was about to transpire. He understood He was to be the Passover Lamb. He would have sang those words, This is the day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The psalmist uses the definite article: The. He doesn't use the indefinite article: a or an. He doesn't say, "This is a day which the Lord has made," he says, "This is the day."

This was the day that had been planned for since before the creation of the world. As Jesus was creating the days and nights and setting their parameters, He knew the day that He would be slain to give us salvation. He waited patiently through the time of the Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Elijah, Daniel, and the Maccabees (intertestamental period) for this day to come.

THE day finally came. It came at the right time and in the right place. Finally, Jesus was here to give full rest.

This is the that Jesus had made, He was able to rejoice and be glad in it because He was going to give up everything He had to obtain that pearl of great price!

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