

UPWARD CALL

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but this is my one aim: to forget everything that's behind, and to strain every nerve to go after what lies ahead. I press on toward the finish line, where the prize waiting for me is the upward call of God

IN KING JESUS.

(Philippians 3:13-14)

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For He is Coming!

Sing a new song to the LORD because he has done miraculous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gained victory for him. The LORD has made his salvation known. He has uncovered his righteousness for the nations to see. He has not forgotten to be merciful and faithful to Israel's descendants. All the ends of the earth have seen how our God saves them. Shout happily (joyfully) to the LORD, all the earth. Break out into joyful singing, and make music. Make music to the LORD with a lyre, with a lyre and the melody of a psalm, with trumpets and the playing of a ram's horn. ***Shout happily in the presence [paniym; the face, the Bread of His Presence] of the king, the LORD.*** Let the sea, everything in it, the world, and those who live in it roar like thunder. Let the rivers clap their hands and the mountains sing joyfully ***in the LORD'S presence (paniym; before the Lord) because (for) he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice and its people with equity*** (Psalm 98:1-9)

Truly, a new song began to be sung when the Son of God, Immanuel—God with us—appeared on earth two millennia ago. As Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, the large crowd proclaimed: *Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel* (John 12:13). At the time, even His closest disciples did not understand the magnitude of what was transpiring before their eyes (John 12:16). But there was a song building in the heart of heaven that reached a crescendo when the empty tomb was discovered and God's exalted Son appeared to His disciples and then to over five hundred others. Stephen, full of the holy spirit, saw an open heaven and proclaimed: *Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God* (Acts 7:56). Yes; a new song was building, only this song was in the heart of God's people. They could proclaim the miraculous things that Jesus did and document them in what we call the *gospels*. They had been in the Presence of the King, even though they did not fully appreciate it nor fully understand it at the time.

This is to say that there was an historical context to the above psalm and many more like it. But these psalms also point toward a glorious fulfillment when the King once again manifests His Presence on earth. This day is coming. This song is once again building to a new crescendo, one all creation, in heaven and on earth, will unite in singing. Eyes will be opened to God's reality in His Son. Ears will be opened to hear the melodious songs of heaven as all creation joins the heavenly chorus.

All creation will shout for joy, happily, in the Presence of God's King. For He is coming to judge the earth. This is the longing of creation, for it is creation's release from its bondage, as humanity is released from its bondage to sin and death.

Today, the nations have lost sight of their Creator, and they need to be told His name. He is Jesus, the Lord, the Son of God, the firstborn of all creation, for in Him and by Him all things were created (Colossians 1:15-16). He is the King of all kings, the ruler of the kings of the earth. Fear God and give Him glory, for He created all things through His Son, the image of the invisible God.

As the world and its systems are continually shaken, as has begun in our day, people will wonder if the world, as they know it, will survive. The nations need to be reassured that the world will not be moved because the Lord cannot be moved. His kingdom is unshakable and unchangeable.

Tell the nations that ***the LORD is King!*** The world stands firm and cannot be moved. He will judge all people—all the nations—with equity. (Psalm 96:10)

Today, the world has the wrong view of God and His Son. They believe God is a harsh and unjust taskmaster; however, as the next eon unfolds, the inhabitants of the earth will begin to understand how great God's Son is as they see and experience His righteous and equitable judgments and are taught righteousness. He is faithful, and He will judge the people in His faithfulness.

The Lord reigns—the world cannot be moved. It is firmly established because God's King is firmly established. *But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain* (Psalm 2:6). Zion is firmly set with God's King seated upon His throne. Absolutely nothing can move this throne, and from His throne, He will judge the peoples with equity. The nations have never known true and perfect equity, but in the Presence of the Lord Jesus, they will see it and rejoice in it.

In that day, all creation will begin to rejoice. A new sound will fill the earth—the sound of rejoicing, gladness, and joy. The inhabitants of the earth will hear the trees and the sea sing for joy at the coming of the Lord as He reigns over the earth along with His conquerors. May your heart be encouraged that a new day is on the horizon. The earth is about to hear this new song.

The new song that will be sung to the Lord will bless His name and proclaim the good news of His salvation. It will speak of His glory and His wonderful deeds done among the peoples. It will lead the nations to praise the Lord and to fear Him.

Today, the world's leaders have no fear of God. They are not in awe of His love, His faithfulness, His righteousness, His justice, His mercy, and His grace, to name a few attributes that speak of His character and nature. Rather, the world rejects much about the Lord and cares little that He alone is the answer to all the world's challenges and problems. Many gods have been created in man's own image. They are idols that cannot hear or walk, and they have no creative power. But the Lord created the heavens. What god of man's making can make such a claim? Many reject that all things that are visible and invisible came into being by God. But the Lord is the Creator God, for in His Son all things were created, in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible (Colossians 1:16).

As the glory of the Lord begins to go forth throughout the earth and the nations see His glory, especially through the King's conquerors, they will begin to see His splendor and majesty and His strength and beauty in the face (*paniyim*) of a people that have been conformed into His image. They will look upon His people and see the face of Christ, the glory of the Lord, as in a mirror. They are the ones who stand in the Presence of the Creator. In their awe, the families of the peoples will be exhorted to ascribe, that is, give unto the Lord all the praise, honor, and glory that He so richly deserves. All the earth will be led to worship the Lord, not in some religious and ritualistic fashion but in spirit and truth. Creation knows that its emancipation comes with the manifestation of the sons of glory—Christ's conquerors. Creation is waiting and groaning in anticipation of its freedom. When it comes, all creation will rejoice. The earth itself will have a different sound as creation sings of the glory of God. We wait! Why? ***For He is coming!***

See: *Bread of His Presence (Paniym)*— <https://www.kingdomandglory.com/tuc/tuc721.pdf>