

Thought for Today: October 4, 2007

Psalm 47 (NASB)

**O clap your hands, all peoples;
Shout to God with the voice of joy.
For the LORD Most High is to be feared,
A great King over all the earth.
He subdues peoples under us
And nations under our feet.
He chooses our inheritance for us,
The glory of Jacob whom He loves. (Selah.)**

**God has ascended with a shout,
The LORD, with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;
Sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

**For God is the King of all the earth;
Sing praises with a skillful psalm.
God reigns over the nations,
God sits on His holy throne.
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.**

While it doesn't always make everything feel better, the most encouraging, most strengthening thing that I can know about God is that He is King over all things. When I'm tired, discouraged, or afraid—and we all have times characterized by these feelings and emotions—it is helpful to remember that there is still good reason to rejoice. The good news in this psalm is that “God has ascended with a shout,” and “He chooses our inheritance for us.” This holy God of power watches over our present and our future. There is no person and there is no thing that can keep God from taking care of the people whom He loves.

And do you know what? He loves you and He loves me. This God who is enthroned in power actually loves you and me. He loves every person who bows before His throne, who acknowledges that God is in control, and who rests in faith. If that characterizes our lives, then we can be encouraged by the joy of this psalm. We can join the ancient chorus of Israel in singing and shouting our praises to our God—the Lord Most High.

Take a moment and read this short psalm again. There is a place for joy in our lives. May they be lives full of worship!

Praise God,
Patrick Barber