

# Psalm 48

**Psalms 48:1-3** [New King James] *“Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in His holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is in her palaces; He is known as her refuge.”*

**Why is Mount Zion – Jerusalem – “the city of our God”?**

**Because the Temple was located in Jerusalem the city was seen as the centre of God’s presence in the world.**

**The Word of God pictures Jerusalem as the place from where the rule of Jesus Christ will flow in the “latter days” referring in particular to the time after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.**

**Isaiah 2:2-4** [New King James] *“Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, ‘Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.’ For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.”*

**“Mountain” and “hills” refer to central or national governments.**

Revelation refers to a new holy city, New Jerusalem, that will be the dwelling place of God among humans, [**Revelation 2:2-3**].

**Jesus Christ referred to Jerusalem as the city of the Great King, [Matthew 5:34-35].**

**Psalms 48:4-8** [New King James] *“For behold, the kings assembled, they passed by together. They saw it, and so they marvelled; they were troubled, they hastened away. Fear took hold of them there, and pain, as of a woman in birth pangs, as when You break the ships of Tarshish with an east wind. As we have heard, so we have seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God: God will establish it forever. Selah”*

**Because Jerusalem has been destroyed several times since this Psalm was written, the phrase “God will establish it forever” must refer prophetically to the New Jerusalem from where God will judge all the nations and live with all believers, [Revelation 21:22-27].**

The language of these verses is sweeping enough to celebrate the great victories of the past brought to Israel and Judah also anticipating the victory of the Creator God in the end.

**Verse 7** is echoed in **Ezekiel 27:26** where the east wind wrecks the treasure ships of Tyre, and this in turn becomes the symbol of the end of human rule [**Revelation 18:14-24**], the fall of the pagan end-time city of Babylon.

**Psalms 48:9-14** [New King James] *“We have thought, O God, on Your lovingkindness, in the midst of Your temple. According to Your name, O God, so is Your praise to the ends of the earth; Your right hand is full of righteousness. Let Mount Zion rejoice, let the daughters of Judah be glad, because of Your judgments. Walk about Zion, and go all around her. Count her towers; mark well her bulwarks; consider her palaces; that you may tell it to the generation following. For this is God, our God forever and ever; He will be our guide even to death.”*

**Again this can only apply to the New Jerusalem that we find described in Revelation 21:1-27.**

**Again what this Psalm is telling us can only be explained if we project it into the “*last days*” and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.**