

## **Psalm 47 New American Standard Bible**

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God, the King of the Earth.

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

Shout to God with a voice of joy.

<sup>2</sup>For the Lord Most High is to be feared,

A great King over all the earth.

<sup>3</sup>He subdues peoples under us

And nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup>He chooses our inheritance for us,

The pride of Jacob whom He loves. *Selah*

<sup>5</sup>God has ascended with a shout,

The Lord, with the sound of a trumpet.

<sup>6</sup>Sing praises to God, sing praises;

Sing praises to our King, sing praises.

<sup>7</sup>For God is the King of all the earth;

Sing praises with a psalm of wisdom.

<sup>8</sup>God reigns over the nations,

God sits on His holy throne.

<sup>9</sup>The princes of the people have assembled *as* the people of the God of Abraham,

For the shields of the earth belong to God;

He is highly exalted.

## **We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions**

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

## **The clapping of hands in the Scriptures**

This study examined the biblical bases of the clapping of hands particularly in the Old Testament to see if there is any theological basis for the current practice

of clapping in the church. The study shows that the gesture of clapping pertaining to people can either be positive or negative. However, it is always positive when the gesture is pertaining to God. It was an expression of religious adoration and worship during the time of Israel. Clapping of hands in the Temple is only to exalt God as King. It was used in recognition of Him as the Sovereign Lord, the Ruler of the Universe, and the Savior. Thus, rightly understood and practiced, clapping can be suggested to be a part of worship

1. What does it mean to clap your hands?
2. Why do we do it?
3. Why do we shout to the Lord?
4. What benefit does it bring? We know God is not deaf!
5. To clap is to appreciate and to exalt.
6. To shout is to capture the attention of everything within you, to focus on God and to give to Him your undivided attention.
7. Notice David said 'all peoples' - everyone on earth should give praise to God.
8. What is the 'voice of joy' compared to the 'voice of sadness'?
9. The Lord is the one at the top. He is and there is no one like him.
10. 'Most high' means there is no one more worthy of your attention than God almighty - we were made for His glory.
11. To be 'in fear of Him' is to be in awe and reverence of God, for who He is and for what He can do.
12. 'A great King' how does someone become a great King? There have been many ordinary Kings but what makes a great King?
13. A great King can humble nations in order that our enemies serve us and we do not serve our enemies.
14. A great King makes the provision needed for the future possible and available.
15. What is the glory of Jacob? It is the inheritance of Israel's long-term future?
16. We are the new Israel, not that they are no more, but that we have been grafted into the family of God. Together we are the new Israel, one day the Jewish Israel will return to God.
17. 'To ascend' means He rises because of the shout of praise.

18. We get Gods attention just like Bartimaeus did when he cried out ‘Son of David have mercy on me’.
19. What happens to us inside when we hear the trumpet?
20. We sing praises, make melody around declaration of truths about who God is, what God has done and what He can do.
21. God can do all things - He is a glorious King who has made wonderful promises to those who serve Him - the subjects of the Kingdom.
22. Singing is to open up your inner person through music and declaration of truth.
23. God is Everything - if you will believe this truth you will position yourself at His feet, you will offer up your prayers and petitions to Him.
24. What is a skilful song? It is a song that meets you where you are and takes you somewhere better.
25. To know God reigns over the nations is to know He is in control and all will be well with you no matter what you face.
26. A Holy throne is a place of right and not a place of wrong.
27. God has an expectation on His people that they will assemble before Him to worship.
28. What are the ‘Shields of God’? They are the protection He uses to protect all those He loves.
29. For God to be highly exalted is to give him first place in the whole of your life, in everything you are and in everything you do.