

EARTH: REFLECTIONS OF GOD



PSALM 24

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;
for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.

They will receive blessing from the Lord,
and vindication from the God of their salvation.

Such is the company of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.¹

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

Who is the King of glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

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PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

WRITTEN BY JO

Lord Almighty, our Creator and Redeemer,
Our Everlasting Father, Light of the World,
Wonderful Counselor, the Sun of Righteousness,
Alpha and Omega:
Guide us and teach us how to love Your world around us.
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!
Hallelujah! Lord, help us care for Your Creation.

Lord Almighty, You made the Heavens and the Earth:
All the stars in the night sky,
Every drop of water in the oceans, lakes and rivers,
The mighty trees and the delicate flowers.
You gave the butterflies their shimmering wings,
The sheep their woolly coats,
The birds their feathers and their song.
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!
Hallelujah! Lord, help us care for Your Creation.

Lord Almighty, every plant, every animal, every stone, every atom,
Everything on and in the Earth was designed and made by You.
Waterfalls and streams follow the paths You set,
Hedgerows and forests grow by Your design,
Animals breathe the oxygen You provide,
The sun and the rain obey Your command.
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!
Hallelujah! Lord, help us care for Your Creation.

Lord Almighty, we thank You
That we do not even have to ask,
Because You already know what we need,
And You answer our prayers, whether spoken or silent.
Thank You for loving us,
Thank You for dying for us,
Thank You for showing us Your way.
Thank You for everything in your majestic creation!
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!
Hallelujah! Lord, help us care for Your Creation.

Lord Almighty, we do not always live up to Your expectations,
And we constantly need Your help.
We have polluted the oceans,
We have cut down rainforests,
We have littered the countryside,
We have harmed Your animals.
Forgive us, Lord, and help us to think more carefully,
About how our actions affect Your world.
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!
Hallelujah! Lord, help us care for Your Creation.

Lord Almighty, teach us Your ways:
Show us how to live in harmony with the beautiful world around us.
Help us to reduce our use of plastic,
And to stop destroying the homes of animals for our own selfish needs.
Help us to find better ways to fuel our towns and cities,
And to use the energy we have more efficiently.
Help us to find more sustainable sources of food,
And to cut down the waste we throw away.
Help us to look after the world we live in,
So future generations may be able to enjoy it.
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!
Hallelujah! Lord, help us care for Your Creation.

Lord Almighty, we also remember at this time:
All affected by the Coronavirus,
All who grieve for loved ones,
All who have lost their jobs or are worried for their future,
All who feel alone or trapped,
All those unfortunately caught up in conflict,
All who fight for justice in an unfair world,
All who feel they have no voice,
All who need to feel Your Presence in their lives right now.
As we look around at Your beautiful world,
Help us to remember that we are the caretakers,
And we are responsible for sharing Your love.
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!
Hallelujah! Lord, help us care for Your Creation.

Lord Almighty, in Your mercy, hear our prayers.
Amen.