

## All Shall Praise HIM

*“All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O Lord, when they hear the words of your mouth. Yes they shall sing of the ways of the Lord; for great is the glory of the Lord. Though the Lord is on high, yet He regards the lowly but the proud He knows from afar...(Psalm 138: 4-6)*

The Psalmist has just declared his commitment to praise the Lord Who has magnified His word and truth more than His Name, all He is known for. Every living creature ought to praise the Creator with all his heart and soul because of what the Creator means to him personally. But we should not think ourselves unique in this irrepressible gratitude and wonder. All shall praise Him! Even kings, the mighty of all the earth.

Since that is a chorus that we have not yet heard, the question may rightly be asked: “When shall they do so? We do not hear them doing it now. We rather hear them boasting and rehearsing their own praise. They, like we all, shall praise Him when they hear the words of His mouth. It is not enough that they be told what God has said: they, like all of us, must hear Him first hand. His people are all taught of Him. Like all dead sinners, the voice of the Son of God shall raise them from the dead (John 5:25).

What else shall all these who hear God’s word out of God’s mouth do? They shall sing! It will be no longer the pop songs of this world, the silly songs of fools who have nothing to sing about and who should be mourning. They will sing praises to the ways of the Lord. How wondrous and unsearchable they are! They are utterly unlike the carnal scheming and planning, the devious and crooked ways of men. They are utterly unexpected, pure, just, powerful, invincible and glorious. It is in these that the greatness of His glory bursts our silence. The stones would cry out if we did not.

Consider the wonder of God’s condescension. Here is His exaltation, His dominion, His power. His status is the Most High. Yet in all of this, without abandoning His throne, He stoops, listens, hears and receives the lowly. The Immutable, Almighty, is *moved*, is *turned*, by the cry and plea of their plight! He who dwells is light inapproachable, hid from our eyes will be found and sweetly entreated. He Who is absolutely free and sovereign, who does whatsoever he pleases according to His good purpose, will be prevailed upon to deliver the least of us!

But God resists, stands afar off from the proud and haughty. He knows them indeed, but His knowledge of them is not like His knowledge of the humble suppliant. He knows them as His enemies who challenge Him for dominion and power. These “kings of the earth” shall all perish under his wrath. Better that we should abandon the thrones of our power, climb down off our “high horses”, lay aside our hard won prerogatives, become as little children and “hear the words of His mouth”.

-C.M.