



Anthem: Great Day

Arranged by Philip Kern

**I went to a psychologist friend and said if 500 people claimed to see Jesus after he died, it was just a hallucination. He said hallucinations are an individual event. If 500 people have the same hallucination, that's a bigger miracle than the resurrection. Lee Strobel**

Zion of the Old Testament was part of Jerusalem, the City of David. Solomon's temple was built on Mount Zion. After the Temple was destroyed and the Jewish people were enslaved in Babylon, they longed to return to Zion. In the New Testament, Zion refers to the dwelling place of God where Christians long to live eternally.

The assurance of one day residing in God's dwelling place is based on faith in Christ's atonement for human sin by his death, burial, and resurrection and on every Christian's personal experience with the risen Christ.

If further assurance of Christ's resurrection is needed, Paul gives it in I Corinthians 15:5-8. He recalls some of the eyewitnesses of the resurrected Jesus--- Peter, the Apostles, more than 500 people (at the same time), James the brother of Jesus (who had not previously believed Jesus was the Messiah), and to Paul himself.

The lyrics of the anthem *Great Day* are filled with imagery of the anticipated "day of jubilee"

*\*Chariot rode on the mountain top* --- The Christian's earthly life is a journey leading to God's dwelling place.

*\*God spoke, the chariot stopped* --- At God's command, Christ will come again. This is the day of jubilee!

*\*God is building Zion's walls* --- Until the day of jubilee comes, God is still working to build His kingdom.

*\*The righteous marching*--- While awaiting the day of jubilee, Christians serve God for the building of His Kingdom and to share Christ in the present world.

**Prayer:** Lord, it is because of the Good News of Jesus' redemption of my sin, his death, and his resurrection that I can confidently anticipate the day of jubilee! Count me among the "righteous marching" as I offer my music, service, and faith in the Good News for the building of your Kingdom.

**Anthem Text**

Chorus: Great day! Great Day, the righteous marchin'. Great day!

The chariot rode on the mountain top,  
My God, He spoke and the chariot stop.  
This is the day of jubilee,  
The Lord has set His people free.

I'll see the chariot come my way,  
I'll shout for joy on that great day!  
He'll save me with His mighty hand,  
And carry me off to the Promise Land.