

How Amiable Are Thy Tabernacles Psalms 84

To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

Gittith is a harp, wherefore this Psalm was to be sung while playing upon a harp. Today, our harps are our voices as seen in: Re 14:2-3; 2 "And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: 3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth."

It was a Psalm for the sons of Korah. Korah, we remember, was the leader of the company that rose in rebellion against Moses and Aaron. God proved that Moses was his servant by causing the earth to open her mouth and swallowed them up, and they went immediately down into the pit of death. However, scripture teaches us that not all the children of Korah died in this incident, as seen in: **Nu 26:11 "Notwithstanding the children of Korah died not."** Wherefore, we know; God gave some, of the family of Korah, a right mind to separate themselves from Korah, in his sin of defiance of Moses and God.

In the time of King David, the lineage of Korah were porters and singers in the house that King David had prepared for the ark of God. Herein, we see; God in his mercy did not extinguish this lineage of the Levitical priesthood of Korah. The lesson for us is that we serve a merciful God, who, in his compassion for his people, does not destroy us because of the sin of our forefathers. If God was not so with people, there would be no salvation to be had. Praise God! We can be brought to repentance and restored to fellowship with God.

Ps 84:1 ¶ "How amiable are thy tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!"

Amiable means *boiling or fervent love*. King David is telling Israel, when you come to the places, which God has set aside to worship him, you are to be passionate in your worship of God. For us today, the tabernacles are representative of the organized church bodies, of the born-again Christians. This tells us that we are to be very passionate about our service to our God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We should also apply this in a personal way in our private worship of God. This should lead us to the question: Am I fervent about worshipping God?

It reminds us of God's commandment to us in: **Heb 10:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."** It reminds us that whenever we worship God, wherever we be, we are to worship him in Spirit and in Truth, as seen in: **Joh 4:23 "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him."**

2 "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the LORD: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God."

King David tells us that because God has been a faithful God and friend to him, he desires to worship God with his whole being. When we assemble to worship God, do we come with the attitude: well, it is time to go to church again? Or are we, like David, filled with passionate desires to worship God, praying for the anointing of the Holy Spirit presence, so that we may feel the near presence of God in our midst?

3 "Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God."

In this time of King David's reign, he had prepared a place in Jerusalem for the tabernacle of God to rest. This was a more substantial building than the normal tabernacle coverings. David says that my soul is envious of the birds, who have taken up residence, and are always near the altars of sacrifice to the Lord. Even the swallows raise their young in the tabernacles of the Lord, while I must be away on king's business much of the time.

Is our desire to worship the Lord, in Spirit and Truth, so passionate towards God? When we cannot attend church meetings, are we jealous, with a godly jealousy, to be with the assemblies of God's people?

4 "Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah."

Blessed means *happy*. Dwell means *to sit down or live*. Wherefore, we understand that those, who have made their public confession of faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ, have been baptized, and are part of the New Testament Church, they have seats in the congregations of God's chosen people and are filled with

happiness. Even when they are not assembled; they are so overjoyed by their experience, they are still praising God, and looking forward to the next time of assembling in the temple of God.

Is it not the same for us today? When the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached; we leave church meetings rejoicing, looking forward to the next time God will allow us to assemble again. In the meantime, we praise God for feeding us with the bread of life; for revealing Jesus Christ, our Saviour, from God's word of truth, the King James bible. We pray for the soon coming of the next assembly, and the felt presence of the Holy Spirit to be present with us. What a precious gift from God to us, to be filled with the desire to worship him.

5 "Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them. 6 Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools. 7 They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God."

Happy is the person whose strength is Christ in you. Happy is the person whose heart is trusting fully in the promises of God, and the finished work of Jesus Christ. Baca means *weeping*. This valley of weeping makes me think of what King David said in: ***Ps 23:4 "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."*** I declare to you: we must go through valleys of weeping, or we could not know what joy in the Lord is.

This gives us the picture of those who are trusting in the strength of God for deliverance. As we live out our Christian lives in this low land of sin and sorrow, God sends the Gospel of Jesus Christ to fill our hearts, and minds, and allows us to drink from the fountain of living waters. We live, the Christian life, going from blessing to blessing, from God. We live, the Christian life, going from promise to promise, from God. Because of Christ in us, we are always present before God, because Christ is God and God the Son is always in the presence of God.

8 ¶ "O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah."

David asks God to hear his prayer. David reminds God, of God's covenant promise to Jacob. When we pray to God, we should pray in accordance with God's will and purpose. To do this, we can present God with scriptural promises in our prayers, not to demand or control God, but rather, to remind God that we are his chosen people, and we are desirous that he will remember the covenant, which God the Father established with God the Son, as it is effectual in our eternal, and in our time, salvation. Wherefore, we can with King David say: ***"O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer."***

9 "Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed."

King David asks God to remember that God is his shield of protection. He asks God to remember that he has anointed him to be King over Israel. He asks God to look on my face and remember your promise to me.

For the Christian today, in this age of salvation by Grace, We ask God to look upon our shield, Jesus Christ. We ask God to look upon the finished work of Christ, whom God anointed to be the captain of our Salvation and eternal life. We ask this knowing that God the Father hears the prayers of God the Son always. Wherefore, we believe; God looks upon us and sees Christ in us, and therefore God continues to be merciful to us.

10 "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

Courts means *a fenced enclosure*. As we think of this definition, we remember the tabernacle and the court of the tabernacle, which was before the Holy place, which was before the Holiest of Holies. King David says to God, I would rather be in the court of thy tabernacle, where the altar of sacrifice for sins is made, than to live a life of sinfulness without your Holy Spirit presence. David says: Though I am not worthy to be in thy courts, I do not ask for a place of honor, but rather ask that you let me be as one that stands at the door. Just let me be where I can see the altar of sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins, then, I will know that I have favor in your sight.

Surely, this same thought is true for the Christian, who is walking in sync with "***thus saith the Lord.***" Being in the narrow pathway of Salvation by the Grace of God, is much preferred to being in the clutches of sin and Satan. Why? Because, in the house of God there is Joy, Peace, Comfort, and the hope of eternal life in Christ.

Understanding that we are the sinner, and without the mercy and grace of God, we are not worthy to be in the assembled congregation, wherefore, we would ask; just let us be at the door looking in, where we may see

the altar of sacrifice for our sins, Jesus Christ. Where we may hear the words of truth, the gospel of Jesus Christ, drop from your mouth like honey to our souls.

A parallel for us is seen in: if we cannot be in the assembly of God's people, continue to provide us ways to stand at the door so we may hear of thee. What do you mean? Continue to provide these digital methods of looking upon your assembled people, such as written messages, Facebook Live, websites, radio ministries, etc.

11 "For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. 12 O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee."

King David tells us: God is the light of my life my sun. God is my protector. Because God has been merciful to me, God has also glorified me by giving me salvation and eternal life. David says: God will pour out the abundance of his mercy and grace upon those, who trust in him fully, and walk in the way of salvation that God has provided. David concludes by telling us: blessed is the man that trusteth in God.

We declare to you today, as the sun was King David's light; in this age of Salvation by the grace of God, Jesus Christ the SON, is our sun. The source of light for our spiritual enlightenment, as seen in: ***Ps 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.***" The King James bible, which is the testimony of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit presence of Christ in us, is our shield of protection. True Christians are the recipients of the abundant graces of God. In the new birth: we have been filled with the glory of God. As we walk uprightly, in the strength of Jesus Christ; God opens the windows of heaven and pours his abundant mercies, and graces, in our lives. He gives us all good things.

As King David says: Blessed is the man that trusteth fully in God; so, we can say: blessed is the man that trusteth fully in the finished work of Jesus Christ. We are preserved in Christ to the point, that our end shall be eternal resurrection in Christ, to a life without the presence of sin. To live a life in incorruptible, and immortal, bodies. Forever, we will be in the place that Jesus has gone to prepare for us. Hallelujah! Praise ye the Lord!

Sing: Hymn 273, Old School Hymnal, #11 edition, I Love The Sons Of Grace

Lloyd Hymnal 195 S. M.

Love to the Saints.

- 1 I LOVE the sons of grace, The heirs of bliss divine,
Who walk in paths of righteousness, And fly from every sin.
- 2 They will my faults reprove, When heedlessly I err;
How do I prize their faithful love, Their kind and tender care!
- 3 They Jesus' image bear— How lovely is the sight!
They shall at length with him appear In everlasting light.
- 4 They love the Father's name, And gladly do his will;
They humbly follow Christ, the Lamb, In righteousness and zeal.
- 5 Their footsteps I'll pursue With vigor till I die,
Rejoicing in the pleasing view Of meeting them on high.
- 6 It is a sweet employ To join in worship here;
But how divine will be the joy To see each other there!