

Trading *Excuses* for the *Blessings* of Corporate Worship

INTRO: *The Psalms were Israel's inspired hymnal. We don't know the tunes to which they were sung, but like any worship song, the words are the most important feature. Psalm 84 celebrates the corporate worship of God through the expressed yearnings of a Jewish Pilgrim to Jerusalem.*

I. God's people should yearn for corporate _____

(1-4). *The psalmist used intense language to describe his total commitment to be in God's House. Do we feel the same way about worshiping with other New Testament Believers?*

II. Attending corporate _____ services can be a _____ and offer _____. As difficult as getting to church may be, the Old Testament saint had far greater challenges.

III. Trade _____ for _____; faithfully attend corporate _____ services (5-12). *There are two kinds of blessings.*

A. _____ (5-9).

The pilgrimage (journey) can itself be a blessing. There can be a joy in the journey!

B. _____ (10-12).

God rewards faithfulness and wants to answer corporate prayers consistent with His expressed purpose for the Church.