

Psalm 84

Introduction: Many believe that even though David's name is not in the title, that he penned this Psalm. The expressions in this Psalm are similar to King David's words of longing for and pleasure in the LORD GOD as we see in other Psalms that bear his name such as Psalm 63.

It is supposed this Psalm was written during a time of David having to be away from the holy city either by Absalom's rebellion or perhaps war. There is a holy lovesickness that is expressed by this Psalm. Yet, it matters little who wrote the Psalm or when it was written. It exhales the Radiance, Beauty, Majesty, and Holiness of the LORD GOD and the believer's delight to be in His presence.

When we read Psalm 81 we saw the term "gittith" in the title. There are two main thoughts as to what this term means. Some say it signifies winepresses by an expression such as "sweeter than the joy of winepresses" and others say it is most likely a musical term. Most think the word gittith is a musical instrument to which the Psalm was set and sung.

Read Psalm 84

Verses 1 - 4: The delight of the blessed man is to be in the presence of GOD. In Psalm 1 we are first given what the blessed man does not do – he does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers. Then we are told the blessed man delights in the Law of LORD and he meditates in His Law day and night. What we see in Psalm 84 is a progression of that blessed man. We are given an apt description of the Work of Christ in the hearts of His people – this Work is grace. We see the miracle of salvation and sanctification of man being humbled and desiring that GOD's glory be magnified and this shown by the satisfaction of those who Jesus declared as blessed. [Matthew 5:6 NASB] **6**

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. – We are not satisfied with the things of this world, but with Him. The essence of blessing is this

favor that the LORD GOD grants His people to be given an insatiable appetite for righteousness that He satisfies. This satisfaction is not to simply be appeased, but to be supplied fully. Being blessed is a work of the LORD GOD. We were created to delight in, love, and reflect His glory and this was destroyed in the Fall. We were created to be image-bearers of the LORD GOD. The ability to do anything to please the LORD was destroyed when man fell by the sin of our first father Adam. [Romans 5:12 NASB] **Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned** - For you and I to be blessed is a miracle – it must happen by the Will and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ mercifully giving and then taken hold of by a granted faith. This miracle is grace! The sin of those in whom the Father has set His love upon has been paid for, not in part, but completely, by the earned righteousness of Christ Jesus being mercifully applied by the Holy Spirit in order to restore that which was destroyed in the Fall. [Ephesians 2:8-9 NASB] **8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.** This Psalm demonstrates the way of life of the one whom GOD has blessed. The essence of being blessed is to be in the presence of the LORD GOD and know His mercy, His love, and His kindness by experience. [Numbers 6:24-26 NASB] **24 The LORD bless you, and keep you; 25 The LORD make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you; 26 The LORD lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace.'** At the end of verse 4 of Psalm 84 we are given the first "Selah". It is worthwhile to pause and meditate upon the prospect of dwelling with GOD and praising him throughout eternity. Our granted liberty to worship Him this Day is but a glimpse of the eternal repose and joy that awaits the saint.

The Church of GOD is not only a house for us, but a nest for our little ones. May the house of GOD be a delight to our children just as the swallows spoken of in verse 3.

Verses 5 - 8: Verse 5 - tells us of the blessedness of the saint; that our strength is in the LORD GOD, so that our hearts are fixed upon delighting in Him. Our hearts are fixed upon meeting

together to worship our LORD and to meet with Him by the means of grace such as the preaching of His Word, crying out to Him in prayer, singing praises to Him, and observing the Ordinance of His Supper that we are to partake of this morning. We will delight even in the journey to be here – the highways to Zion will be in our hearts. We are reminded of GOD’s abundant provision for His people. The progression that is seen in verse 7 of going on from strength to strength is seen throughout the Scriptures and speaks of our growth in faith, love, and service toward our King and Master that He so mercifully and graciously provides.

[Proverbs 4:18 NASB] **18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, That shines brighter and brighter until the full day.**

[Isaiah 40:31 NASB] **31 Yet those who wait for the LORD Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.**

[John 1:16 NASB] **16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.**

[2 Corinthians 3:18 NASB] **18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.**

We are given another “Selah” at the closing of verse 8 after which the psalmist earnestly closes with a plea for the LORD GOD to hear. A part of the plea is that he calls upon the GOD of Jacob, reminding himself of GOD’s Faithfulness and Provision throughout history, just as the LORD heard Jacob. The psalmist desires to be heard and blessed with the presence of the LORD GOD.

Verses 9 - 12: May we by the LORD’s mercy be able to declare as the psalmist that one day in His courts, in His presence, is better than a thousand elsewhere. May we be overcome with delight in yearning for His love and favor. May we rejoice this day and forevermore in the Person and Work of Christ. May we know by experience the promises of GOD and the power

of the Holy Spirit applying the precious Truth to our souls. May we rather be a doorkeeper in the house of our GOD than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. To be blessed of GOD is that we live with the LORD GOD looking upon our face and that we trust Him by His glorious grace. The LORD is our sun and shield. - [Revelation 21:23 NASB] **23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.** The Lord Jesus gives grace and glory to His people. He does not withhold it from those who walk uprightly. What more can the LORD give or we receive, or desire?

Closing: It is my desire dear saints to encourage you to delight in the LORD in the manner we see in the Word of GOD and as we see in this Psalm. May He in His great mercy "undo" each of us as evidenced throughout the Scriptures as men encounter Him and His Holiness that we go from strength to strength, that we are transformed into the image of Christ from glory to glory, that we shine brighter and brighter until the full day. May He be delighted to show each of us His majesty and holiness that we can say as the Prophet Isaiah, "Woe is me for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of Hosts." As stated in verse 12:

[Psalm 84:12 NASB] **O LORD of Hosts, How blessed is the man who trusts in You!** The miracle of delighting in the LORD, the desire to worship Him, to serve and love Him is peculiar to believers. Only those whom the LORD has blessed can enter into this secret. We must know the LORD by the life of genuine faith, or there can be no such delight as expressed by the psalmist in the LORD's worship, His house, His Son, or His ways. No good thing does He refuse His people. This is not reserved for a few favored saints, but for all of His people. I am not pleading with you to conjure up something within yourself, but that you run to the feet of Christ with urgency and plead for this yearning and delight to grow day by day.

Amen