

Lesson 140
Psalm 132

I. Introduction

- A. Psalm 132 is the thirteenth of the “ascent Psalms.” The title of the Psalm is “The Eternal Dwelling of God in Zion.” To me, the “ascent” of this Psalm is another component of worship: remembering the promises of God, enjoying the presence of God, and anticipating our future with God!
- B. John Calvin said, “wherever we see the Word of God purely preached and heard, there a church of God exists, even if it swarms with many faults.” Steve Lawson adds, “what truly counts is the spiritual reality of what happens inside that place: the purity of the pulpit, the fidelity of the ministries, and the sincerity of the hearts. God’s house should be that place wherever his truth is openly declared, his glory is clearly revealed, and his Son is publicly magnified.”
- C. The human author is unknown as is the time in which it is written. My best guess, without being dogmatic, is that Solomon wrote this Psalm. I do not believe that David wrote this Psalm because verses eight through ten are direct quotes from Solomon and verse ten is in the third person. This Psalm fits with the dedication of the original temple by Solomon in II Chronicles 6 where he speaks of the building of the house of the Lord, the promise to David, and the inhabitation of the house by God himself! Ezra may have placed the chronology of the Psalm here, in the ascents, to encourage the people as they returned from Babylon to the rebuilt temple.

II. Remembering the promises of God (The Davidic Covenant) (v 1-6)

- A. Promises given after much affliction (1 Sam 17-31) God has chosen to use affliction as a primary means for our sanctification!
 - 1. With Goliath (Chp 17)
 - 2. With Saul (Chps 18-31; Psalm 57;59)
 - 3. With Doeg (Chp 22; Psalm 52)
 - 4. With Ziphites (Chp 23; Psalm 54)
 - 5. With Nabal (Chp 25)
 - 6. With Philistines, Amalekites (Chps 29-30; Psalm 56)
- B. Vow to God (v2-5)-The vow recorded in this Psalm is not recorded anywhere else in scripture; the circumstances surrounding the vow are! (2 Sam 6; I Chron 13-17) David had a true passion for God’s glory and His presence? Do we?
- C. Ark of the Covenant- The subject of verses five, six, and eight. The terms that represent the ark of the covenant were: a place for the LORD, a dwelling place for the Mighty, one for Jacob, it, ark of Your strength! (Ex 37:1-9; Lev 16:2; I Sam 4:3,11; Heb 9:3-5; Rev 11:19) The ark symbolized God’s presence, atonement, and covenant with His people. It was lost and it was found in the fields of Jaar (woods; I Sam 7:1-2). It was found after twenty years when David moved it. (2 Sam 6)

III. Enjoying the presence of God (v6-12)

- A. Typified by the name Ephrathah (Bethlehem) (Gen 35:16,48:7; Micah 5:2; Ruth 4:11; I Sam 16:1) House of Bread, Man of Sorrows, Son of my right hand!
- B. Description of the temple (v 7,8) His tabernacle, His footstool, His resting place, His strength! This quote is taken from Solomon’s dedication of the temple. (2 Chron 6:41-42; Isaiah 66:1; Psalm 99:5)
- C. Work in the temple-Typified by the clothing of the priests and the reaction of the saints! What did the righteous clothing represent? Why do the saints (sanctified ones) shout for joy? (Ps 130:3,4; 131:3) The nation, as well as the church, rejoice because the faithful high priest forgives sins; our hope is the truth of who he is and what he does!
- D. Do not turn away your face from Your Anointed. (commissioned one, Messiah, Christ) Literally, this refers to the promises of God to David in the covenant. But it points to a greater than David, Jesus Christ, who would be the final fulfillment of the covenant! (2 Sam 7:12-16)
 - 1. I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body (v11)
 - 2. Your sons shall sit upon your throne forevermore (v12)

IV. Anticipation of future with God (v13-18)

- A. The LORD has chosen Zion. (Ps 87:2,125:1-2, 126:1-3; Heb 12:22; Rev 14:1)
- B. He has desired it for His dwelling place.
- C. It is His resting place forever.
- D. He has given promises of blessing. (Ps 2, 89:3-8, 24-37, 110:1-7, Isaiah 9:6-7, 25,26; Jer 23:5-6; 33:14-17; Dan 2:44-45; Zech 14:1-11)
 - 1. I will abundantly bless her supply of food.
 - 2. I will satisfy her poor with bread.
 - 3. I will clothe her priests with salvation.
 - 4. Her saints shall shout aloud for joy.
 - 5. I will make the government of David grow.
 - 6. I will prepare a lamb for Messiah.
 - 7. I will clothe my enemies with shame.
 - 8. His crown shall flourish!

- V. Application-What a glorious Savior we have and what a glorious hope He affords. Let us with humility worship our great Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us remember the promises He has given, let us enjoy His presence now, and let us anticipate our glorious futures!