

## Song of Ascents 3 - Ps 122 - Let Us Go To the House of the Lord

Psalm 122:1 I **rejoiced** with those who said to me, “Let us go to **the house of the LORD.**”

**“I rejoiced” - What is it that causes our hearts to rejoice?**

Oh that MEN would rejoice in spiritual things

**What is it about the House of the Lord that caused rejoicing?**

HOUSE - let's talk about the House of the Lord

## The House of the Lord -A Call to Relationship/Community

**House** can mean - literally a house, it can also mean a household (a group of people - family) or the temple.

**A family - how do we carry on with a family environment in the church?**

Genesis 7:1 (KJV) And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and **all thy house** into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

Genesis 7:1 The LORD then said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and your **whole family**, because I have found you righteous in this generation.

Ephesians 3:14-15 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom his whole **family in heaven and on earth** derives its name.

**Psalm 68:6 God sets the lonely in families [HOUSE], he leads forth the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.**

**His Presence - this is the primary purpose of our gatherings**

2 Chronicles 20:9 If, when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, **we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,)** and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.

**The church - a mission - the pillar and ground of truth**

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in **God's household, which is the church of the living God**, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

Hebrew 3:6 But Christ is faithful as a son over God's **house**. **And we are his house**, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.

## Sweet Fellowship - The Secret Counsel of the Lord

Psalm 55:13-14 But it is you, a man like myself, my companion, my close friend, 14 with whom **I once enjoyed sweet fellowship** as we walked with the throng at the house of God.

Sweet **Fellowship** = a session, that is, company of persons (in close deliberation); by implication intimacy, consultation, a secret:—assembly, counsel, inward, secret (counsel)

## **Our gatherings as His family/His house are a place where we receive the the secret counsel of the Lord (preaching, worship, encouragement, gifts of the spirit)**

Psalm 25:14 The LORD confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.

Psalm 25:14 (KJV) The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant.

Psalm 89:7 In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared; he is more awesome than all who surround him.

Psalm 89:7 (KJV) God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.

Psalm 111:1 Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

## The Abundance of His House

Psalm 36:5-10 Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. 6 Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep. O LORD, you preserve both man and beast. 7 How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings. 8 They **feast on the abundance of your house**; you give them drink from your river of delights. 9 For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. 10 Continue your love to those who know you, your righteousness to the upright in heart.

## Praise and The Good Things of His House

Psalm 65:1-4 Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled. 2 O you who hear prayer, to you all men will come. 3 When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions. 4 Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! **We are filled with the good things of your house**, of your holy temple.

## What is it that makes you Rejoice? Mighty King David Rejoiced in this!

...to Go to the house of the Lord - we saw WHY in the scriptures above.

## Is your spirit stirred about the house of the Lord?

**(stirred - to awake - to open the eyes)**

("Unless the Lord build the house" does not mean no activity on our part - it means the the Lord's spirit stirs us - and the activity done is Spirit led and inspired by God)

A primitive root; **to tap**, that is, beat regularly; hence (generally) to **impel or agitate**:—move, trouble

Judges 13:24-25 The woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the LORD blessed him, 25 and the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him while he was in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

Exodus 36:2 And Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, even every one (NIV whose heart was willing) whose heart stirred him up to come unto the work to do it:

Ezra 1:1-5 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, **the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus** king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, 2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and **he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem**, which is in Judah. 3 Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem. 4 And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem. 5 Then rose up the chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, **and the Levites, with all them whose spirit God had raised, to go up to build the house of the LORD** which is in Jerusalem.

Haggai 1:13-14 Then Haggai, the LORD'S messenger, gave this message of the LORD to the people: "I am with you," declares the LORD. 14 So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the LORD Almighty, their God,

2 Timothy 1:6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up (NIV fan into flame) the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

## Jesus had zeal for the house

**Zeal = Jealousy**

Psalm 69:9 for zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who insult you fall on me.

John 2:16-17 To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!" 17 His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me."

Numbers 25:10-11 The LORD said to Moses, 11 "Phinehas son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, the priest, has turned my anger away from the Israelites; for he was as zealous as I am for my honor among them, so that in my zeal I did not put an end to them.

## One Thing

Psalm 27:4 **One thing** I ask of the LORD,

- this is what I seek:
- that I may dwell in the **house of the LORD** all the days of my life,
- to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and

- to seek him in his temple.

To **Seek** = A primitive root; to search out (by any method; specifically in worship or prayer); by implication to strive after:—ask, beg, beseech, desire, enquire, get, make inquisition, procure, (make) request, require, seek (for).

To **Dwell** = sit down, settle, marry

To **Gaze** =A primitive root; to gaze at; mentally to perceive, contemplate (with pleasure); specifically to have a vision of:—behold, look, prophesy, provide, see.

To **Seek Him** = A primitive root; **properly to plough**, or (generally) break forth, that is, (figuratively) to inspect, admire, care for, consider:—(make) inquire (-ry), (make) search, seek out.

The phrase "unplowed ground" (NIV) or "fallow ground" (KJV, NRSV) is the Hebrew noun *nîr*, "the tillable, untilled, or fallow ground."\* It is land that could be productive, but for whatever reason has not been broken up, tilled, plowed, and prepared for planting.

### **Better is one day**

Psalm 84:10 Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

Psalm 122:9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.

## Characteristics of the House

### **Planted, Flourishing & Bearing Fruit**

Psalm 92:12-15 The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; 13 planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, 15 proclaiming, "The LORD is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."

### **Holiness adorns your house**

Psalm 93:5 Your statutes stand firm; holiness adorns your house for endless days, O LORD.

### **The church is the pillar of truth**

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

2 Our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem.

*A day in thy courts are better than a thousand*

3 Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together.

*Barnes: Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together - literally, "joined to itself together;" that is, when one part is, as it were, bound closely to another part; not scattered or separate. The walls are all joined together; and the houses are all united to one another so as to make a compact place.*

4 That is where the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, to praise the name of the LORD according to the statute given to Israel.

5 There the thrones for judgment stand, the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure.

7 May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels."

8 For the sake of my brothers and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you."

9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.