

# The Joys of Worship

## Introduction

**A lady went out of the church building and was seen shaking her head as she said: "I just don't get anything out of worship anymore."**

**When a man comes to the well to draw water, he won't leave with much if he doesn't bring his bucket.**

**Many Christians find no joy in worship. Some feel that they must "have their toes stepped on" in order to get anything out of worship.**

**Others feel that they have sinned if they feel happy about worship. They say, "I didn't come to get entertained."**

**This has led to perversions in worship. Some have sought a wild emotional experience. Others have gone the opposite route, either going into legalism and cold formality or not worshiping at all.**

**The psalmist shows us the proper attitude of God's children toward worship.**

**Psalms 84**

## **David's Love for God's House (Verses 1-3)**

- 1. God's tabernacles are lovely. Verse 1.**
  - A. The dear, the beloved are assembled.**
  - B. A place of spiritual beauty, a place where God dwelt.**
  - C. Christ is among His people, the church today.**

Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three are gathered together in **My name**, I am there in the midst of them."

- 2. David longed to worship God. Verse 2.**
  - A. Literally "consumed with longing."**
  - B. Worship was THE most important in the Psalmist's life.**

Psalms 122:1 I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the LORD."

Psalms 42:1-2 As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?

### **C. Thirst for worship should be our attitude.**

Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

- 1) **We must first long for worship, then be at worship. As we go to work, go to school, or attend social functions, we should also be just as responsible to be at each service to worship the God of heaven - May our priorities always be centered on God and going to heaven above everything else.**

### **3. An example given. Verse 3**

- A. **He wished he was like the bird who dwelt in the tabernacle. The birds were there all the time.**

## **Blessings of God's Servants (Verses 4-7)**

### **1. The man of God is blessed because he dwelt in God's house. (4)**

**A. Happy because his desire is fulfilled.**

**B. Christians are continual priests in God's house.**

1 Peter 2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**C. Therefore, Christians are blessed (happy).**

Romans 12:12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;

Philippians 4:4-5 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

### **2. The Psalmist is blessed – his strength is in the Lord. (5-7)**

**A. God showers man with blessings.**

**B. God cares for His children today.**

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to **those who love God**, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

2 Timothy 2:19-21 Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ **depart from iniquity**." But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

## **His Prayer of Praise to God (Verses 8-11)**

### **1. David calls on God to hear his prayer. (8)**

#### **A. The Lord of Hosts.**

- 1) The great self-existent leader of the "Angel's armies."**
- 2) Description of His mighty power.**

#### **B. But He is also the God of Jacob.**

- 1) A personal God.**
- 2) Can answer the prayers of the individual.**

#### **C. Our God is powerful - yet personal enough to answer the prayers of the individual Christian today.**

Ephesians 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that **we ask or think**, according to the power that works in us,

Philippians 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but **in everything by prayer and supplication**, with thanksgiving, **let your requests be made known to God**;

1Thessalonians 5:17-18 **pray without ceasing**, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

### **2. The Psalmist praises God for being able to come before the heavenly throne. (9-10)**

#### **A. Serving in God's presence is greater than anything in the world.**

#### **B. He would rather be a servant in God's house than great among the wicked.**

**3. God is his protection. (11)****A. He is a sun.**

- 1) **Shines down blessings. (If one will open the blind)**
- 2) **Lights the way through troubles.**

**B. He is a shield.**

- 1) **A shield is used for protection.  
(If one will pick it up)**
- 2) **God shields His children from danger.**

Genesis 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. **I am your shield**, your exceedingly great reward."

Psalms 115:9 O Israel, trust in the LORD; he is their help and **their shield**.

Ephesians 6:16 above all, **taking the shield of faith** with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

**C. He will not withhold these good things from those who walk uprightly!**

## To Receive These Blessings, We must Trust God (Verse 12)

### 1. Happy is the man who trusts God.

2 Timothy 1:12 For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

#### A. Trust is the **foundation** of the man of God's joy in worship.

Hebrews 11:6 But without **faith** it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must **believe** that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who **diligently seek Him**.

1 John 5:4-5 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world-- **our faith**. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who **believes** that Jesus is the Son of God?

#### B. When we trust in God our worship is more meaningful.

## Conclusion

### 1. Worship is a **great joy for the true child** of God.

#### A. It is an **opportunity to come before God** and express our **gratitude** for the greatness of God and the **salvation** that He has given as a **gift to us**.

### 2. Why then would we want to be any place other than together with one another to share in our praise to God --- who created us and has offered us eternal life with Him?

