

Psalm 132

This psalm is about the temple in Jerusalem. It represents the wonderful things that happen when God meets with men. It is about how David appreciated and honored God. He was concerned about disappointing God. God did not really want anyone to build a permanent structure. The tabernacle was what he wanted. Nevertheless, it was a thoughtful gesture from a man who loved God.

The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart (1 Samuel 13:14)

David did not just meditate on God's ways. He took action to honor God. He took great risks to do what was right. David's obedience and faithful heart resulted in a legacy that blessed his people and his family.

Read Psalm 132:1-5: David was concerned about God's reputation. There were manmade gods all over the place. There was misinformation about the real God. Every nation had a manmade god. Many cities had local deities they attributed good or bad fortune to. David wanted to solidify a headquarters for the real God. He wanted to showcase God. He did not want God to be forgotten.

Read Psalm 132:6-9: Originally, God only required a tabernacle; which is a mobile place of worship. God never asked for a permanent temple. He did appreciate the gesture; and returned the favor back to David in a personal way.

Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around, that the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains." Then Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you." But it happened that night that the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying, "Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: "Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?''' Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth. Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them,

that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house. (2 Samuel 7:1-11)

God returned the sentiment; and responded to that same desire to bless David. He put Jesus in David's family.

God had told Moses that he just really wanted a simple tabernacle.

Now the glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel. So Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights. (Exodus 24:16-18)

And see to it that you make them according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain. (Exodus 25:40)

Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man. For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. Therefore it is necessary that this One also have something to offer. For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.” (Hebrews 8:1-5)

The tabernacle was a limited earthly replica of God's temple in heaven. It was a place for men to meet with God and worship him. That is most-practically a mobile worship center (tabernacle), because it more closely resembles our body. Our daily life is supposed to be all about Jesus; wherever we go. Christianity is not supposed to be something that just takes place in church. All prayers and sacrifices and fellowship is supposed to be of heavenly origin. Our places of assembly are just replicas.

Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.” (Isaiah 56:7)

Read Psalm 132:10-12: It is humbling to understand that our standing may come from someone else. Solomon knew that his position and advantages were all set up by his father David. In a sense, he had everything to lose that had been previously gained. Similarly, we all have blessings that stem from Abraham’s friendship with God.

This psalm has dual prophetic truths. It is true that the son and grandsons of King David had a kingdom in tact as long as they honored the God of their grandfather. That is a conditional promise that was broken. Solomon turned towards his wives and gold and horses; and fell into idolatry. For that reason his son Rehoboam would have 10 of the 12 tribes stripped from his kingdom.

In a deeper sense, this prophecy is ultimately about Jesus. Jesus is called the Son of David; as his prophetic title. He was the promised Messiah King. Jesus will rule forever; and that is not a conditional promise.

Read Psalm 132:13-18: We worship the God of Abraham. As God blessed Abraham by putting faith in his family, he became the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Ultimately there was only one tribe remaining in Judah. More recently he has been called the God of the Jews. God promised Abraham that he would make a nation come from him. It was important that God distinguish himself from the idols. For example, the god of Ishmael \’s descendants became Allah. The god of Esau’s descendants was Qos.

God has been perscriptive about where he was sacrificed to in those days. God told the children of Israel that they could only offer sacrifices in the appointed place. People began to offer sacrifices on the high places. There were groves of trees associated with that misguided option. There was much idolatry that took place on mountain tops. Those locations inspired people to worship nature and the constellations. A day is coming when the location of worship will be more obvious.

The millennial reign of Christ will be the visible Immanuel (God with us). The earlier verses about the temple in Jerusalem were for the present state; but it also looked forward to a much fuller experience when Jesus is sitting on the throne; with all of his people surrounding him. Jesus is the ultimate king, priest and

prophet. On one hand Jerusalem is God's throne on earth; but it is not just about the city. There was a time when Jerusalem was as sinful as any place on earth.

Hear the word of the LORD, You rulers of Sodom; Give ear to the law of our God, You people of Gomorrah: “To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?” Says the LORD. “I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams And the fat offed cattle. I do not delight in the blood of bulls, Or of lambs or goats. “When you come to appear before Me, Who has required this from your hand, To trample My courts? Bring no more futile sacrifices; Incense is an abomination to Me. The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling of assemblies—I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting. Your New Moons and your appointed feasts My soul hates; They are a trouble to Me, I am weary of bearing them. When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; Even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood. (Isaiah 1:10-15)