

Sunday Night Message

March 8, 2015

Psalm 84 – Love for God’s House

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 84

Introduction

“upon Gittith” – literally means, “a winepress”; believed to be a musical instrument that was played in Gath, which is a city of the Philistines. (found in Psalms 8, 81, and 84)

“A psalm for the sons of Korah”

Korah:

The Levites were divided into three families: Gershon, Kohath, and Mereri; and these families were placed in charge of the Tabernacle and later, the Temple:

“And these are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations; Gershon, and Kohath, and Merari: and the years of the life of Levi were an hundred thirty and seven years.” (Exodus 6:16)

Korah descended from the Kohathites (Exodus 6:18 & 21)

Aaron also descended from the Kohathites (6:18 & 21)

The duties of the Levites – Numbers 3:14 – 37

Korah was the one who led a rebellion against Moses, and was actually put to death by God in Numbers 16:1 - 35. His sons were not put to death, however, and were made worship leaders in the tabernacle. (1 Chronicles 9:19; 26:1 – 19; Psalms 42; 44 – 49 are all psalms for the sons of Korah as well as 85; 87 - 88).

He context of this psalm seems to refer to the Israelite who lived away from the Tabernacle (or later, the Temple), and had to make the pilgrimage three times in the year to worship the Lord.

“Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, (after the

Passover) and in the feast of weeks (Pentecost), and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:" (Deuteronomy 16:16)

I Looking Forward to the House of God (vs. 1 - 4)

*"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD."
(Psalm 122:1)*

II Dwelling in God's Presence while away from His House (vs. 5 - 7)

"the valley of Baca" – literally tears

God wants us to go through the difficult, tearful places and turn them into a place of great blessing.

You get the idea here that as the pilgrim journeys to the House of God, and even when he is away, he dwells in the presence of God.

"Thy kingdom come ... on earth"

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me." (John 15:4)

Physically, entering into the place where God meets with His people is very important, and we are commanded not to forsake it; but we can also dwell in God's presence when we are away from church.

III Reflection of Praise of the House of God (vs. 8 - 12)

v. 10 - "I had rather be a doorkeeper". The Kohathites were doorkeepers. There was a time when Korah wanted more than just being a porter, or doorkeeper, for God. Now, however, they realize that happiness is found in fulfilling God's will for your life.

Find the place of God's will for your life. The Kohathites were porters, and they were thrilled to serve God in that capacity. Find out what God wants you to do, and do it with all of your heart.