

Date: 6-1-2022 Wednesday

Church: Safe Harbor Baptist Church

Text: Psalm 122

Title: "I'm glad I get to go to Church"

Introduction:

Psalm 120 introduces a series of fifteen psalms, all with the inscription, "A song of degrees."

Degrees comes from a root word that means "ascents" or to "go up, as ascending stairs.

There are 15 of these Psalms in order.

10 are anonymous authors (most people believe Hezekiah), 4 are attributed to David and 1 is titled "a song of Degrees for Solomon" (Psalm 127) meaning Solomon was not the author, but it was written for his benefit.

It is commonly agreed that these Psalms were sung by the Israelites when they journeyed to Jerusalem for the 3 feasts each year. Passover in the spring, Pentecost in early summer and Tabernacles in the Fall.

It has also been suggested that the Temple had 15 steps, and that the people would sing these Psalms as they ascended the steps of the Temple to worship God.

I Kings 10:4-5 And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, 5 And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord; there was no more spirit in her.

Within the context of Psalm 122 David is expressing his joy that he has the opportunity to go to the House of the LORD.

End of Introduction:

I. The Separation of the Gates. Vs 2-3

"Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem. 3 Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:"

Within the context of this text, we know that the Temple was located inside of the city of Jerusalem and Jerusalem was surrounded by walls and gates.

The principle for us is that the Temple was not left wide open, but rather there was some separation.

1. The Gates are to **Protect** some things.

We understand that when the Babylonians came in to take the people of God that they destroyed the Temple.

The World is against the Church, and they desired to rob us of those precious things within the house of God.

But thank God we have a Church where we have some separation!

I Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

2. The Gates are to **Preserve** some things.

To the people of Israel there were some precious things in the temple that they wanted to pass on to another generation.

Thus, they had gates and walls to keep those things for their children, and their grandchildren.

II. The Saints that Gather. Vs 4-5

1. We note the **Tribes**. Vs 4a

“Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel,”

David was thankful when he considered the people of God that would gather in the house of God!

The Tribes refer to the fact that they were in the Family!

Thank God we are in the family of God!

2. We note the **Thanksgiving**. Vs 4b

“to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.”

Psalms 92:1 It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High:

3. We note the **Truth**. Vs 5

“5 For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.”

III. The Supplications that are Given. Vs 6

1. We should Pray **Specifically**.

“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:”

2. We should Pray **Sincerely**.

“they shall prosper that love thee.”

IV. The Security is Guarding. Vs 7-8

1. There is **Peace**. Vs 7a

“Peace be within thy walls,”

2. There is **Prosperity**. Vs 7b

“and prosperity within thy palaces.”

Life is better when it is lived in the house of God!

3. There is **Propagation**. Vs 8

“For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.”

Many times we will gather in God's house and there will be those within our congregation with heavy hearts and they need a word of comfort and encouragement!

V. They are Seeking God. Vs 9

1. The **Influence** of God's house.

“Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.”

2. The **Importance** of God's house.

Good things come from being in the house of God!