SCRIPTURE: Psalm 133:1-3

**SERMON:** *The Blessings of Church Unity* 30 August 2015

INTRODUCTION: <u>ASCENTS</u> (120-134; *geographical*, *spiritual*; perh. architectural, literary, vocal; 2Chr8:13; Ps24:3; Hb12:22f)

## (A) THE BLESSING OF CHURCH UNITY: GOOD & PLEASANT (1)

- **A. BEHOLD: IMPORTANT, ATTENTION** (1a; see 132:6; 134:1; also Gen.1:29; Mt.3:16f; Acts 20:22f; 1Cor.15:51)
- B. GOOD & PLEASANT: USEFUL & ENJOYABLE (1a; objective & subjective; 147:1; Gen.2:9; 49:15)
- **C. BROTHERS: THE HOUSEHOLD OF GRACE** (1b; see Gen.13:8; 17:23; Ex.6:7; see 2Sam.2:4&5:3; 2 Chr.30:1-12; see Zech.6:13 Ezk.37:15-28,1f see Jn.10:16; Gal.6:10; Eph.2:19,11f)
- **D. DWELL TOGETHER IN UNITY** (1b; see Acts 7:26; Jn.10:16 & 17:1f; Eph.2:11f & 4:1f)
- **E. FEASTS: FAMILY REUNIONS** (Ex.23:14-17; see Ps.122; Lk.2:42f,44)
- **F. BEHOLD: COMMENDED & EXHORTED** (1; see Eph.4:3; Mk.9:50; Rom.14:19; Phil.4:2; 1Th.5:13)

## **(B)** <u>ILLUSTRATIONS OF CHURCH UNITY: OIL & DEW</u> (2,3a; see 2Sam.1:21)

- **A. ANOINTING OIL, HIGH PRIEST, AARON** (2; see Ex.29:7,21; 30:22f; Lev.21:10; see 1Sam.16:13; Lk.4:18)
- **B. THE DEW OF MOUNT HERMON ON ZION** (3; see 110:3; Gen.27:28/29; Ex.16:14; Song 5:2; Hos.14:5)
- C. COMING DOWN: A GIFT OF GOD (2,2; 3; see Ex.29:7; Sol.5:2; see Gen.27:28,29; Jn.3:7,31; Jms.1:17; 3:15,17)

## (A) THE BLESSING OF CHURCH UNITY: COMMANDED & ETERNAL (3b)

- **A. PUBLIC WORSHIP** (2,3; *Aaron, Zion; there*; see 132:13,17; 134:3; see *dwell*, Ps.23:6; 27:4; 140:13; note: *Ascents* (feasts; Ex.23:14-17); see Ps.122 w/Heb.12:22,23; 10:25; 13:14f; see Acts 2:42,46)
- B. THERE COMMANDED BLESSING (3; see Dt.28:8; Num.23:20; see Acts 2:42,46)
- **C. ETERNAL LIFE** (3; see Ps.21:4; 23:6; 36:9; see Jn.3:16,36; Rom.6:23; Gal.6:8)

<u>CONCLUSION: CHURCH UNITY IN EPHESIANS</u> (2:11f; 4:1f,7f,17f,25f; 31&32; see Gal.5:16-26; Jms.3:15/17; see Mt.5:23f; 18:15f)

Brethren, what shall WE DO? (see Acts 2:37f)