

DO WE THIRST FOR THE PRESENCE OF GOD?

Psalm 87

May 28, 2023 Pastor Trevor Cooper

This psalm describes the Lord's love for Jerusalem and exalts this city as the religious center of the world in the coming messianic kingdom. Though the nations of the world will worship the Lord then, Israel will still be the favored nation. Today, we are given a glimpse of the universal character of God's worship: which brings to mind the future day when the Gentiles should be "fellow heirs" in the gospel.

Psalm 87

A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. A Song.

"On the holy mount stands the city he founded; **2** the Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwelling places of Jacob. **3** Glorious things of you are spoken, O city of God. Selah **4** Among those who know me I mention Rahab and Babylon; behold, Philistia and Tyre, with Cush — "This one was born there," they say. **5** And of Zion it shall be said, "This one and that one were born in her"; for the Most High himself will establish her. **6** The Lord records as he registers the peoples, "This one was born there." Selah **7** Singers and dancers alike say, "All my springs are in you."

"This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel." **Ephesians 3:6**

God is...

- <u>OMNIPOTENT</u> God is all powerful
- <u>OMNIPRESENT</u> God is everywhere
- <u>OMNISCIENT</u> God is all knowing

1. The Lord's LOVE for ZION (v 1-3)

• God's LOVE was given toward those of <u>OBEDIENCE</u>, not necessarily <u>LOCATION</u>.

2. The Lord's FAVOR of ISRAEL. (v 4-6)

- Israel's <u>ENEMIES</u> are included in the <u>FAMILY</u> of God.
- Both <u>NEAR</u> and <u>FAR</u>, God is calling nations to come and <u>WORSHIP</u> Him!

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." **John 1:12-13**

3. Do you <u>THIRST</u> for the <u>PRESENCE</u> of God?

"As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. **2** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?" **Psalm 42:1-2**

• <u>YES</u> or <u>NO</u> (circle one)

In the presence of God, you find eternal salvation, knowledge and understanding of the death and resurrection of Christ, is rooted in Jerusalem/God's presence. The Holy Spirit reveals these truths about God and about you and your sin. What response will you give today?

Salvation through Jesus Christ

The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.