

# Psalms 120-134 – 14 December 2025

## “Desiring God”

### Introduction

- \*This is 7<sup>th</sup> of about 12 messages in the 5<sup>th</sup> & final Book of Psalms
- \*The next 15 Psalms are called “Songs of Ascents”
- \*These are in 5 natural sections with 3 Psalms each
  - \*Each section of 3 Psalms in each section speaks of Trouble, then Trust, then Triumph
  - \*Each section progresses in becoming increasingly ready to be in the presence of God at Jerusalem
- \*The people of Israel sang these as they ascended to Jerusalem each year for the Feasts
  - \*We easily apply them to our own lives as we prepare to come into the presence of our Lord forever
- \*Today, we see the 5-step progression of our heart-change that prepares us for the presence of God**

## **Section 1 of 5 – Psm 120-122 – Desiring to leave the wicked**

**Read Psm 120:1-4 [The Trouble (the wicked)]**

1. Notice “in his distress, he cried to the Lord”
  - a. I encourage us all not to cry out from a place of defeat, but from a place of knowing that the Lord hears & is answering
2. Begin w/ a cry to be separated from the wicked
  - a. The wicked have God’s judgement coming

**Read Psm 120:5-7**

1. The world is full of contention liars
2. Living among them is like being far from God
  - a. Meshech=Turkey, Kedar=Saudi Arabia
3. So we face this trouble of living w/ the wicked

**Read Psm 121:1-4 [The Trust]**

1. We need help to escape this world’s wicked
2. Our part is to look to God trusting He’ll come
3. His part is that He’s always ready to come
4. Do you have this kind of trust in the Lord?

Read Psm 121:5-8

1. Maybe we need to repeat this to ourselves
2. Now to 'keep' is to *preserve* or to *guard*
  - a. The Lord makes a hedge of protection around those He loves...believest thou this?

Read Psm 122:1-5 [**The Triumph**]

1. It's joyous for us to draw near to God's throne
2. There's an expectation as we start this journey, that it will culminate at the very throne of God

Read Psm 122:6-9

1. As the Jews of old longed for the peace of Jerusalem and we still do, we also use this as we long for that New Jerusalem that is coming
2. We seek establishment & good for all that God has set up – to leave war (Psm 120) for peace (here)

## **Section 2 of 5 – Psm 123-125 – Desiring stability**

Read Psm 123:1-2 [**The Trouble (I'm needy)**]

1. We approach as those who know we're needy

2. We approach as those who know we have a good master

Read Psm 123:3-4

1. The proud & prosperous often neglect or even abuse the needy – worried for our future
2. But the needy can always come to our God

Read Psm 124:1-5 [**The Trust**]

1. There is no one else worthy to trust than God
2. The Lord isn't our 1<sup>st</sup> resort in trouble or last
  - a. He's our **ONLY** resort in trouble

Read Psm 124:6-8

1. We trust that even if this world's snare entraps us, He can even still set us free – in His power

Read Psm 125:1-3 [**The Triumph**]

1. In the ultimate plan, God won't permit the unrighteous to rule over His people
  - a. Unrighteous will be scattered, while the believers will stand in confidence in the end

Read Psm 125:4-5

1. The triumph is that the righteous needy will be satisfied w/ stability
2. And the unrighteous will be scattered

### **Section 3 of 5 – Psm 126-128 – Desiring the fruit of family**

Read Psm 126:1-3 [**The Trouble (captive w/o home)**]

1. The Psalmist is remembering how they reacted when the Lord had previously delivered them
2. It even made a mark among the foreign nations

Read Psm 126:4-6

1. They ask God to turn their wandering poverty into a prosperous home (ie family & legacy)

Read Psm 127:1-2 [**The Trust**]

1. Trusting in our way, there is worry and maintenance and it could still be broken or fall
2. Trusting in God's way, there is peace & rest

3. Our efforts are never enough if they're fighting against the Lord plan

Read Psm 127:3-5

1. We trust the Lord to prosper us with family
  - a. Children are a benefit & blessing
  - b. Modern culture says they're a curse
2. City leaders would speak "in the gate"
  - a. It's a blessing to see your children prosper and become successful
3. Are we trusting the Lord to build our home and provide us the legacy of family?
  - a. Trust & walk in His ways & He completes it

Read Psm 128:1-4 **[The Triumph]**

1. Walking w/ & fear God leads to character fruit
2. This is why we journey towards desiring God

Read Psm 128:5-6

1. Jerusalem is seen as the place of being w/ God
2. Being w/ God is what brings prosperity & fruit

## **Section 4 of 5 – Psm 129-131 – Molded to desire God**

### **Read Psm 129:1-4 [The Trouble (enemies)]**

1. Can't help but go to the direct application here
  - a. Yes many plot against Israel since their start
2. As God sees fit, He intervenes to stop it
3. God's people's life will always be opposed

### **Read Psm 129:5-8**

1. Still today, let all those that hate the Jews of Jerusalem leave empty-handed
  - a. Not receiving their desired outcome
  - b. Not seeing Israel put to shame, but themselves
2. Our foes will be left unsatisfied, as we bask in God's presence one day soon

### **Read Psm 130:1-4 [The Trust]**

1. We can trust coming to God yields forgiveness
2. We lean on God b/c He's willing & able to do it

### **Read Psm 130:5-8**

1. To trust God is to wait w/ true expectation
2. To wait KNOWING He'll bring good

## **Read Psm 131:1-3 [The Triumph]**

1. He's already experiencing the triumph of peace within, even now
2. We need not wait for peace, if we truly believe that it's guaranteed to come
3. Let God mold us, & bring us victory's peace now

## **Section 5 of 5 – Psm 132-134 – Desiring an obedient King to reign in Jerusalem**

### **Read Psm 132:1-5 [The Trouble (to tear the flesh)]**

1. There is even that self-affliction that a believe, like David here, put on himself, in order to be devoted to the work of God's glory
2. Spoken of David, but certainly of Jesus

### **Read Psm 132:6-9**

1. The ark was entirely neglected, even lost during Saul's reign
2. This center of worship should have been the pursuit of the godly or the

Read Psm 132:10-12

1. If an individual son would follow God, then he would sit on the throne
2. Jesus came to be that ultimate Son forever

Read Psm 132:13-18

1. They longed for an obedient son of David, a king to be worthy
2. Trouble is, they couldn't find one, until Jesus

Read Psm 133:1-3 [**The Trust**]

1. Unity is BOTH good & pleasant
  - a. Not all that's good is pleasant
  - b. Not all that's pleasant is good
2. Anointing oil
  - a. Refreshing and fragrant for a visitor
  - b. Aaron's anointing was consecration to God
  - c. Unity is found as each one comes to God
3. Unity like rain from the mts is like a covering from God over the short-comings of the people
4. We're united in that God's given us life!!

## Read Psm 134:1-3 [The Triumph]

1. The God who made everything has the goal of bringing us all into His presence
2. Who's this that "stands by night in the Temple?"
  - a. The singers were employed day & night
  - b. Only the ones whose duty was to worship
  - c. The worshippers are always with the Lord!

## Conclusion

So what was intended to be the message to every pilgrim on the way to Jerusalem for the feasts?

It's the same message to every believer on our way to see Jesus

1. **We set out desiring to leave the wicked**
2. **We need & desire stability & truth**
3. **We desire the lasting fruit of family**
4. **We become molded to desire God**
5. **We desire our King to unite us in Jerusalem**