

**Psalm 84. My Soul Longs for the Courts of the Lord**

To the choir master: According to The Gittith.

A Psalm of the sons of Korah.

<sup>1</sup>How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

<sup>2</sup>My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

<sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,  
where she may lay her young, at your altars,  
O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who dwell in your house ever singing your praise!  
(Selah)

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are those whose strength is in you,  
whose heart are the highways to Zion.

<sup>6</sup>As they go through the Valley of Baca  
they make it a place of springs;  
they early rain also covers it with pools.

<sup>7</sup>They go from strength to strength;  
each one appears before God in Zion.

<sup>8</sup>O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;  
give ear, O God of Jacob! (Selah)

<sup>9</sup>Behold (see) our shield, O God;  
look on the face of your anointed!

<sup>10</sup>For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

<sup>11</sup>For the Lord God is a sun and shield;  
the Lord bestows favor and honor.

No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.

<sup>12</sup>O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

**Beginning Discussion:**

What do you think about the book of Psalms?

How do you feel and think about the House of God?

Do you think that the “House of God” is different that what the Psalmists will talk about? When we sing “House of the Lord” what do you think we are singing about?  
How has “God’s House” changed over time?

**Table Homework:**

List off as many word and / phrases that this author repeats... and by repeat... I mean 2 times or more.

What or how do any of these repetitions and patterns show you the map of this poem?

Make 3 lists.

Names for God:

Characteristics of God:

Things/People that who are considered “blessed”:

Alright, let's now find the terms, metaphors, phrases, places etc that you may not be familiar with or that make you think about or make you a little confused.

- 1). The Birds -
  
- 2). "Whose Heart are the highways to Zion"
  
- 3). Valley of Baca
  
- 4). "Strength to strength"
  
- 5). "Anointed one"

Who are the "Sons of Korah"?

1 Chronicles 9:19

"Shallum the son of Kore, son of Ebiasaph, son of Korah, and his kinsmen of his fathers' house, the Korahites, were in charge of the work of the service, keepers of the thresholds of the tent, as their fathers had been in charge of the camp of the LORD, keepers of the entrance."

**Table Homework:**

Paraphrase this Psalm in your own words:

What does this Psalm reveal to you about worship?