




SUMMER IN THE PSALMS



"Longing for the Living God"
Psalm 84

¹How lovely are Your dwelling places,
O Yahweh of hosts!²My soul has longed and
even fainted for the courts of Yahweh;
My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the
living God.³Even the bird has found a home,
And the swallow a nest for herself, where she
sets her young,
At Your altars, O Yahweh of hosts,
My King and my God.⁴How blessed are those
who dwell in Your house!
They are ever praising You. Selah.⁵¶How
blessed is the man whose strength is in You,
Psalms 84:1-12

In whose heart are the highways to
Zion!⁶Passing through the valley of Baca
they make it a spring;
The early rain also wraps it up with
blessings.⁷They go from strength to strength,
Each one of them appears before God in
Zion.⁸¶O Yahweh God of hosts, hear my
prayer;
Give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah.⁹See our
shield, O God,
And look upon the face of Your
anointed.¹⁰For better is a day in Your courts
than a thousand elsewhere.
Psalms 84:1-12

**I would choose to stand at the threshold of
the house of my God
Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.¹¹For
Yahweh God is a sun and shield;
Yahweh gives grace and glory;
No good thing does He withhold from those
who walk blamelessly.¹²O Yahweh of hosts,
How blessed is the man who trusts in You!
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Introduction

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- Psalm 84 is the pilgrim's song, a testimony that true blessedness is found in communion with the living God.

Introduction

- Big Idea: Psalm 84 reveals the satisfaction of God's dwelling, the strength of His pilgrims, the supplications of His people, and the supremacy of His presence.

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I. The Satisfaction of God's Dwelling (vv. 1–4)

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His altar — how much more His people.
- Blessed are those who dwell continually in
His presence.

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- **Treasure God's presence above all else.**

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 - **Find rest and belonging in Him.**

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Application:

- **Treasure God's presence above all else.**
- **Yearn for Him with your whole being.**
 - **Find rest and belonging in Him.**
 - **Live in continual praise.**

II. The Strength of the Pilgrims (vv. 5–7)

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⁵¶How blessed is the man whose strength is
in You, In whose heart are the highways to
Zion!⁶Passing through the valley of Baca they
make it a spring;
The early rain also wraps it up with
blessings.⁷They go from strength to strength,
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Psalm 84:5-7

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- Blessed are those who find strength in God, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.
- The “Valley of Weeping” becomes a place of springs — God transforms trials into blessings.
- Pilgrims go from “strength to strength” until they appear before God.

II. The Strength of the Pilgrims (vv. 5–7)

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Application:

- **Rely daily on God for strength.**

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- Trust Him to transform sorrow into blessing.

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Application:

- Rely daily on God for strength.
- Trust Him to transform sorrow into blessing.
- Press on with confidence — He will bring you safely home.

III. The Supplication for God's Favor (vv. 8–9)

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**⁸¶O Yahweh God of hosts, hear my prayer;
Give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah.⁹See our
shield, O God,
And look upon the face of Your anointed.**

Psalms 84:8-9

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III. The Supplication for God's Favor (vv. 8–9)

- The psalmist cries to the LORD of hosts, the covenant God who commands heavenly armies.
- He pleads for God to look with favor on His “Anointed” (Davidic king → ultimately Christ).
- Our blessing is bound up in the favor of God's Anointed.

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- **Pray with confidence to the covenant-keeping God.**

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Application:

- **Pray with confidence to the covenant-keeping God.**
- **Seek God's favor through His Anointed — Christ Jesus.**

IV. The Supremacy of God's Presence (vv. 10–12)

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- One day in God's courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. Even the lowest place with Him is better than sin's fleeting luxuries.

- God is both “sun” (life, light, joy) and “shield” (protection). He gives grace and glory, withholding no good thing.

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- The psalm closes: Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD.

IV. The Supremacy of God's Presence (vv. 10–12)

Application:

IV. The Supremacy of God's Presence (vv. 10–12)

Application:

- **Value one day with God above all else.**

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Application:

- **Value one day with God above all else.**
- **Rely on Him as your sun and shield.**

IV. The Supremacy of God's Presence (vv. 10–12)

Application:

- **Value one day with God above all else.**
- **Rely on Him as your sun and shield.**
- **Trust fully in Him — true blessedness belongs to those who rest in Him.**

Conclusion

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- Psalm 84 leads us from longing, through valleys of tears, to the assurance of God's grace, glory, and joy.
- Only communion with God through Christ satisfies the ache of the soul.
- As pilgrims, set your hearts on Zion, endure valleys with hope, and treasure His presence above all else.

Conclusion

- With the psalmist, confess: “Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere

The gospel is the good news that the just and gracious God of the universe looked upon hopelessly sinful people and sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection so that everyone who turns from their sin (repentance) and believes in Him (faith) will be reconciled to God forever.