

THE PSALMS OF DAVID

PART 3

Introduction:

1. There are many different types of psalms.
2. Psalms 120 – 134 are titled as “Songs of Degrees.”
3. The Hebrew word for ‘degrees’ means, “A journey to a higher place; elevation, ascent; step or stairs.”
4. These psalms were sung as the children of Israel left their homes and traveled to Jerusalem for the annual feast days.
5. Only four are specified as being written by David, but he may have penned more of them.

- I. Departing from the World (Psalm 120)
 - A. The psalmist cried unto the Lord and was heard.
 - B. He was surrounded by deceitful, slanderous men who would not allow him to be a peace.
 - C. Thus, he longed to leave this behind and journey to the Lord’s house.
- II. Looking to the Lord (Psalm 121)
 - A. As the journey began, one could look into the distance and see the hills where the house of the Lord stood.
 - B. The eternal God never slumbered in protecting and preserving His people.
 - C. They would come to His house to worship and honor Him.
- III. Rejoicing for Fellowship (Psalm 122)
 - A. There was great joy when the time came to travel to the Temple in Jerusalem.
 - B. Because of the presence of God’s house, they sought and prayed for peace and prosperity in the land.
- IV. Pleading for Mercy (Psalm 123)
 - A. The eyes of the psalmist were fixed above the hills, on the true house of God in the heavens.
 - B. He cried for mercy in the midst of a profane people.
- V. Remembering Great Deliverance (Psalm 124)
 - A. As they journeyed, they reflected over the many victories God had provided for them throughout their history.
 - B. Thus, they were filled with gratitude as they came to worship Him.
- VI. Abiding in Safety (Psalm 125)
 - A. As the mountains around Jerusalem came into closer view, they illustrated the protection of God.
 - B. They asked for God to do good to those who were upright in heart.
- VII. Reflecting on Freedom (Psalm 126)
 - A. God’s great deliverances of Israel were so mighty that it seemed like a dream!
 - B. In times of sorrow, continue serving by sowing – and a harvest will be reaped in joy (cf. Gal. 6:9).

Psalms 120 – 134

- VIII. Building with the Lord (Psalm 127)
A. God's house was built and protected according to His plan; for, without Him, all would have been in vain.
B. Likewise, men must involve the Lord in the building of their homes.
- IX. Walking with the Lord (Psalm 128)
A. Living with reverence toward God in obedience to His will brings blessings.
B. The nation would continue for generations if they would walk with Jehovah.
- X. Trusting in the Lord (Psalm 129)
A. Though often attacked, they were never defeated.
B. God is righteous to deliver the faithful and defeat the wicked.
- XI. Hoping in the Lord (Psalm 130)
A. In the deep and dark valleys, one might lose sight of the mountains of Jerusalem.
B. Yet, with perseverance, patience, and hope, the goal would be reached.
C. The spiritual lesson is profound: never lose hope in God, for He gives mercy and forgiveness.
- XII. Humbling before the Lord (Psalm 131)
A. One who is humble before God realizes that there are things beyond his limited knowledge or wisdom.
B. Thus, he calmly trusts in the Lord with an enduring hope.
- XIII. Recalling Faithful David (Psalm 132)
A. David labored with sacrificial devotion to see that the Lord's house was built.
B. Israel begged God to remember David and His promise to David.
C. Thus, they would be blessed.
- XIV. Dwelling in Unity (Psalm 133)
A. Both the journey and the arrival in Jerusalem demonstrated unity.
B. It is good and pleasant for God's people to live in unity!
- XV. Blessing the Lord (Psalm 134)
A. The night watchmen are encouraged to bless the Lord.
B. God is worthy of praise both day and night forever.
C. The Temple guards replied, "The Lord that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion."