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Psalm 132

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 132.

Topics.

- David's desire to build the LORD a house.
- We heard of it in Ephrathah and found it in the fields of the wood.
- Arise, O LORD, and go to your resting place, you and your might.
- The LORD swore to David one of the sons I will set on your throne.
- The LORD has chosen Zion He has desired it for His resting place.
- I will make a horn for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they cover the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

BOOK FIVE (PSALM 107-150)

PSALM 132:1-5:

A Song of Ascents.

David's desire to Build the LORD a House.

- **Psalm 132:1-5:** Remember, O LORD, in David's favor, all the hardships he endured, ²how he swore to the LORD and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob, ³"I will not enter my house or get into my bed, ⁴I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids, ⁵until I find a place for the LORD, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."

Ascents: means a climactic progression or journey to a higher place it carries the idea of a thought arising. These verses refer to David's desire to build the LORD a House to dwell in spoken of in the following verses:

- When David the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you." ⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD.' (2 Samuel. 7:1-5).

Now go to verse eleven:

- I will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. (2 Sam. 7:11-14).

This is one of the most amazing group of Scriptures in the Bible, Later when Solomon is repeating this promise of God to David he says that the LORD said, "David's son Solomon would build the House of the LORD," but God Himself does not name the son when He gave the promise to David (via Nathan the prophet). This is because the son God had in mind was the Lord Jesus Christ, but this does not mean that Solomon was wrong to suppose he was the son, since he was at that time king David's royal son in line to take the royal throne. This if the beauty and wonder of Scripture (especially prophetic Scripture) it often has a local fulfilment that is in harmony with God's word while at the same time the language allows for a far greater and more perfect future fulfilment. God's word to David, that David would not build God a House, but after his death God would raise up from one of David's offspring a son and he will build a house for God's name and God will establish his throne and his kingdom forever and be to him a father, and he will be to God a son. (2 Sam. 7:11-14) clearly refers to the LORD Jesus Christ. When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary he said:

- Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." (Luke 1:30-33).

This should be of great encouragement to all Christians worldwide, many who do not understand the Bible think Christianity only began with the miraculous birth of Jesus, but the roots of Christianity go back before the beginning of time. This is because God planned and purposed mankind's salvation in His eternal mind before the foundations of the earth. The first glimpse of this is seen in the following amazing verse:

- I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel. (Gen. 3:15).

This is also why prophets under the inspiration of God were able to speak of future things because God being eternal has seen the beginning and the end of our world of time on earth, and in His eternal foreknowledge planned and purposed all things accordingly. For further information concerning the amazing prophecy of (Genesis 3:15) see the following title:

- Genesis Three verse Fifteen (The Seed of the Woman and the Seed of the Serpent).

In Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

PSALM 132:6

We Heard of it in Ephrathah; We Found it in the Fields of the Wood.

- **Psalm 132:6:** Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of the wood.

Ephrathah: means fruitful land, it is the ancient name of Bethlehem (or the district around it). The following verses show that Ephrathah refers to a region of country that was identified with Bethlehem:

- They journeyed from Bethel; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour. (Gen. 35:16).
- Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem. (Gen. 35:19).
- Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem. (Ruth 4:11).

Ephrathah was a city of Judah the following verses show that its full name was Bethlehem-Ephrathah:

- As for me, when I came from Paddan, to my sorrow Rachel died in the land of Canaan on the way, when there was still some distance to go to Ephrath, and I buried her there on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem)." (Gen. 48:7).
- But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. (Micah 5:2).

The ancient name Ephrathah was later given the name Bethlehem and is used in the great prophecy that speaks of Bethlehem being the birth place of Christ (Micah 5:2) (Matt 2:1-6). The city of Jerusalem, where the House of the LORD was built, was only about 15 km (9.3 miles) from Bethlehem Ephrathah.

We heard of it in Ephrathah: (v6) the focus of the previous verses is upon the hardships David suffered and the vow in which David declared to build a House for the LORD so the words, "We heard of it in Ephrathah: can only refer to David's hardships and his promise that he was going to build a House for the LORD. This news would have spread to all the surrounding nations since it was to be a most majestic building that involved hundreds of workers, the most skilled tradespeople and the finest gold and silver as well as the most valued of timber coming from all nations and the best singers and musicians.

Jerusalem was not far from Bethlehem and therefore within the region called Ephrathah Bethlehem so the verse could be read, "We have heard all the rumours concerning David's hardships and his intention to build a House for the LORD in the territory of Bethlehem, Ephrathah.

We found it in the fields of the wood: (v6) there are many different views as to what this expression actually means and refers to, but since it is in the context of David desiring to build a House for the LORD it most likely refers to Kiriath-Jearim which is known as the city of woods in the land of Israel about 15 km (9.3 miles) from Jerusalem. Kiriath-Jearim was a key landmark in identifying the border between the tribes of Judah and Benjamin (Josh. 15:9) (Josh. 18:14-15) and is mentioned as the place the Philistines returned the ark of the LORD to where it remained some twenty years (1 Sam. 6:21) (1 Sam. 7:1-2) prior to David taking it to Jerusalem (2 Sam. 16).

With these facts in mind the expression, "We found it in the fields of the wood" would carry the sense that they saw the House of God being built in the region of the fields of woods which would refer to the region of Kiriath-Jearim. It is also most likely mentioned because Kiriath-Jearim was the place the Ark of the Covenant was moved from and taken to Jerusalem.

PSALM 132:7-10

Arise, O LORD, and go to Your Resting Place.

- **Psalm 132:7-10:** "Let us go to his dwelling place; let us worship at his footstool!" ⁸Arise, O LORD, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. ⁹Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your saints shout for joy. ¹⁰For the sake of your servant David, do not turn away the face of your anointed one (David).

These verses are cited from that glorious period of time in Israel's history when Solomon had completed the House of the LORD and set the Ark of the Covenant in it. During this great celebration Solomon made the statement, "heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain God, how much less this house that I have built!" He then earnestly prays that God would be attentive to the prayers made in the Temple that he had built and forgive His people when they sin, then at the end of his prayer he says:

- Arise, O LORD God, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. Let your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let your saints rejoice in your goodness. ⁴²O LORD God, do not turn away the face of your anointed one! Remember your steadfast love for David your servant." (2 Chron. 6:41-42). (Read the entire chapter for the complete story).

Asking the LORD to, "Arise, and go to His resting place and the ark of His might," means let His presence, blessing, power and favour be upon the Temple Solomon had built in the city of Jerusalem. The LORD, in the next chapter answered Solomon's prayers saying:

- I have chosen and consecrated this house that my name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time. (2 Chron. 7:16).

PSALM 132:11-12

The LORD Swore to David One of the Sons I will Set on Your Throne.

- **Psalm 132:11-12:** The LORD swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: "One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne. ¹²If your sons keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their sons also forever shall sit on your throne."

These verses refer to the following verses:

- When David's time to die drew near, he commanded Solomon his son, saying, ²"I am about to go the way of all the earth. Be strong, and show yourself a man, ³and keep the charge of the LORD your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn, ⁴that the LORD may establish his word that he spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me in faithfulness with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.' (1 Kings 2:1-4).

If David's sons had followed the LORD there would always have been a son of David ruling as king on his throne sadly Solomon and David's descendants not only entered into gross wickedness, but also turned away from God to idols, which means that David's throne has been left vacant of one of his son's ever since, but this does not mean that God's promise to David has failed. This is because the true son of David to rule on his throne forever is the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus will return to fulfil God's promise that the LORD would establish a king from David's offspring to rule on David's throne forever. The following verses show that Jesus is the son of David.

- The book of the genealogy of *Jesus Christ, the son of David*, the son of Abraham. (Matthew 1:1).
- When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "*Jesus, Son of David*, have mercy on me! (Mark 10:47).
- He cried out, "*Jesus, Son of David*, have mercy on me!" (Luke 18:38).
- The angel (Gabriel) said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the *Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David*, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." (Luke 1:30-33).

PSALM 132:13-16

The LORD has Chosen Zion He has Desired it for His Resting Place.

- **Psalm 132:13-16:** For the LORD has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his dwelling place: ¹⁴"This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it. ¹⁵I will abundantly bless her provisions; I will satisfy her poor with bread. ¹⁶Her priests I will clothe with salvation, and her saints will shout for joy.

Zion comes from the Hebrew word (*Tsiyown*) and refers to the mountain the city of Jerusalem is built upon. It carries the idea of a permanent capital mountain of Jerusalem in the sense of being readily seen and easily visible and noticed as an important sign (i.e., a significant and historic sign and guiding pillar). It is called God's Holy Mountain because Jerusalem God's Holy City sits on it. Though Mount Zion is not distinguished for its elevation or grandeur and though it had nothing in itself to claim attention or to excite wonder, it was the most exalted and honoured above all mountains because it was selected as the place where God was to be worshipped and the place where God's city and God's temple is built and God's worship was established. Even though Mount Sinai had all the awesome glory of the Almighty God descend upon it and the law came from there, Mount Zion excels in excellence over it. This is because from Mount Zion came the Messiah the Christ attended by a multitude of angels celebrating his birth and on Mount Zion the Messiah the Christ came into his own temple as Malachi in the following verse prophesied concerning him.

- Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. (Mal. 3:1).

Added to all this royal glory, multitudes of angels ministered to the Lord in his temptation, at his resurrection and accompanied him in his ascension all from Mount Zion.

- Mount Sinai is the mountain of the Old Covenant of Law in contrast Mount Zion is the mountain of the New Covenant of Grace.
- Mount Sinai's glory of the law pales when stood before Mount Zion's grace and Christ's death and resurrection upon it.

Neither Mount Sinai nor Mount Zion can glory and boast in themselves for the following reasons. Mount Sinai is not famous or respected as a holy mountain and a mountain of God because of any majesty of itself, but because it was upon this mountain God descended and gave the Ten Commandments. It is this awesome and holy event that exalts Mount Sinai and not the mountain itself. Likewise Mount Zion has no fame or glory of itself, its glory comes from being the honoured mountain God chose to build His Holy city upon and is the mountain that the Messiah the Christ the Saviour of the world died and rose again from. The real strength is not in Mount Zion itself, but in the LORD, who is the head of the thousands of chariots and the heavenly host surrounding it and as such is the protector of his chosen dwelling-place. Zion is sometimes used as an ancient name for Jerusalem itself and because it is often used in poetic and prophetic passages it can refer to:

- The hill the city of Jerusalem is built on.
- The city of Jerusalem.
- The temple and by extension Judah and the people of God.

Jerusalem's future: Jesus said, Jerusalem is the city of the great King (Matt. 5:34-35) and Zechariah thousands of years before the event prophesied that Jerusalem's King will come on a donkey and unite Judah and Israel and speak peace to the nations (Gentiles) and his rule will be to the ends of the earth (Zech. 9:9-10), but prior to the latter half of this verse a time will come when the inhabitants of Jerusalem are surrounded by their enemies and look to the Lord for their strength. The Lord will protect them and destroy all nations that come against Jerusalem, then the inhabitants Jerusalem will look on him whom they have pierced and

mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn and Jerusalem will again be inhabited in its place. The inhabitants of Jerusalem will become victorious over all people in the Middle East (Zech. 12:5-11). Jesus will end all forms of war and speak peace to the nations (Zech. 9:9-10) and his rule will be to the ends of the earth (Zech. 9:9-10). Then the kings of the nations will bring their glory into the glorious and majestic New City of Jerusalem (Revelation 21:24) (Rev. 21:10). The Old Testament proclaims, "Jesus the messenger of the covenant will suddenly come to Jerusalem, but who will endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and will purify the sons of Levi (the priests and religious leaders) and refine them like gold and silver (Christ did not achieve this in his first coming they plotted his murder) and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD." (Malachi 3:1-4). There will be a New Jerusalem a Holy City built by God and established on earth. The glory of God and of the Lamb will be its light and by its light the nations will walk and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Jesus will end all forms of war and speak peace to the nations; he will rule from sea to sea and to the ends of the earth (Matt. 5:34-35) (Rev. 21:10) (Rev. 21:24) (Zech. 9:9-10).

PSALM 132:17-18

I will make a Horn for David; I Prepared a Lamp for My Anointed.

- **Psalm 132:17-18:** There I will make a horn to sprout for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed. ¹⁸His enemies I will clothe with shame, but on him his crown will shine."

The horn to sprout for David: refers to Jesus.

The lamp: refers to Jesus.

The anointed: refers to David.

These verses also echo the return of the Lord Jesus Christ in glory as, King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to destroy the antichrist and his kingdom and establish God's Kingdom on earth during his glorious millennial reign. The dead in Christ (Old and New Testament) and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6) to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God. Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God's Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth. Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish. The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce. All nations the LORD has made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God's Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God.

The book of Revelation states:

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

In Revelation chapter five we are told that:

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

The great prophet Isaiah wrote:

- They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:9).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done. Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev. 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory.

For further information see titles:

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.