

## *PSALM 84*

Seldom has love for Solomon's temple--Yahweh's sanctuary--found such touching and eloquent expression as in this psalm. The Psalmist pronounces all those happy who have the good fortune to be in Jerusalem to worship at the temple. It appears that he himself cannot, for he is elsewhere. Where, we do not know. Little can be determined about the author or time of composition.

**For the choir director; on the Gittith. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.**

- 1 How lovely are Your dwelling places, O YAHWEH of hosts!
- 2 My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of YAHWEH;  
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.
- 3 The bird also has found a house,  
and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,  
even Your altars, O YAHWEH of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 How 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,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion!
- 6 Passing through the valley of Baca they make it a spring;  
the early rain also covers it with blessings.
- 7 They go from strength to strength, *every one of them* appears before God in Zion.
- 8 O YAHWEH God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah
  
- 9 Behold our shield, O God, and look upon the face of Your anointed.
- 10 For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand *outside*.  
I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of wickedness.
- 11 For YAHWEH God is a sun and shield; YAHWEH gives grace and glory;  
no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- 12 O YAHWEH of hosts, how blessed is the man who trusts in You!

### PRAYER

*Heavenly Father, we have been blessed with innumerable churches in our day as well as numerous copies of the Holy Scriptures. How ashamed we are to confess that we look on the hour of worship as a task, and sometimes a burdensome one. Forgive us, and move our hearts to see the great privilege with which we have been honored, that of coming before our Triune God without fear of persecution and carrying our own Bible with us. We pray in the name of our Messiah, who died for us. Amen.*