

# Glad To Go To The House Of The Lord

**Psalms 122:1**

## **Psalms 122**

- A psalm of David
- A psalm of ascents
- Psalms 122 was sung in anticipation of entering the temple to worship God.
- Focus on **verse 1** – *"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go unto the house of Jehovah."*

## **What is our attitude when we assemble?**

- **Hebrews 10:24-25**  
We are reminded here of the need to assemble.
- NOTE that *"assembling"* does not specify a certain service.
- We are not to forsake our brethren
- We ought to want to be here every opportunity we have

## **What is our attitude when we assemble?**

- **Do we find *joy* in assembling?**
- **Malachi 1** – Israel's indifferent attitude (again) toward God.
  - No longer idolatrous, yet their service was half-hearted, ritualistic, corrupted.
  - They were giving God leftovers. *"Present it now unto thy governor"* (Verses 6-8)
- **Verse 9** – Repent – Beg the Lord's favor

## **What is our attitude when we assemble?**

- **Do we find *joy* in assembling?**
- **Malachi 1:10-14** – God's disgust is seen in His desire that someone "shut the doors." He desires reverence. Verses 12-13 – His table was defiled. They declared, "what a weariness is it"
- Verse 14 – Leftovers were a curse!

## **What is our attitude when we assemble?**

- Are we just going through the motions? Do we find real joy in assembling?
  - Has our worship become too routine?
  - Are we critical of how worship is executed?
  - Are we anxious to get done so we can get on with our lives?
- Is God pleased with our attitude?

### What is our attitude when we assemble?

- **Colossians 3:16-17** – "... teaching and admonishing ..."  
Proper form and attitude.
- Therefore, let's consider some things we can do to ensure there is joy in our worship.

### Do we appreciate our purpose?

- **Why are we here?**
  - To worship God
  - Understand that worship is first directed toward Him.
  - We must follow His pattern in what, how, and when we worship
- **1 Corinthians 4:6** – "not ... beyond"
- **Malachi 3:8** – Will a man rob God? God demands the best. Israel's failure.

### Do we appreciate our purpose?

- **Why are we here?**
  - To edify one another
  - Every act of worship praises Him and builds us up
- **Ephesians 4:11-16**
- In this world, we need each other  
cf. **Hebrews 10:24-25**

### Is my heart right with God?

- Our worship also needs to be from the heart – sincere and uncorrupted
- **2 Corinthians 9:6-7;**  
**1 Corinthians 11:27-29;**  
**Ephesians 5:19**
- How is my heart? **2 Corinthians 13:5**

### Is my heart right with God?

- We need a pure heart in all we do
  - **Matthew 5:8**
- **Hebrews 10:22**, "let us draw near with a true heart in fulness of faith"  
Notice what this leads to (**verses 24-25**)
- If our heart is not right, worship will be a "weariness" (again see Malachi)

### Am I spiritually minded?

- **Philippians 2:5** – we need the mind of Christ (cf. **John 17:1-5** – for His glory)
- **Romans 8:6**, "life and peace"
- **Colossians 3:1-2, Matthew 6:19-21** – where is your treasure?

### Am I spiritually minded?

- The one spiritually minded is interested in all things spiritual. He wants to know more – **1 Peter 2:1-2**.
- In time he craves the meat of the word – **Hebrews 5:12-14**. He appreciates what God has done.
- The carnal and babe will not comprehend God's word! It will be weariness to him.

### Have I prepared?

- One reason worship is weariness is because we fail to put much thought into it.
  - Our busyness hinders preparation.
- **Psalms 122:1** – the true Jew anticipated going to Jerusalem to worship. It required much preparation for both the journey and the presence.

### Have I prepared?

- The good soil (**Matthew 13:8, 23**), had to be prepared to receive the seed.
- **Ezra 7:10** – Ezra prepared his heart
- How much effort do we put into getting ready to worship? Prepare lessons, think through our participation, saving to contribute, our appearance, etc. Are we rushed?  
Am I living a pure and devoted life?

### What is my attitude toward my brethren?

- We need brotherly love – **Romans 12:10, 1 Peter 3:8, 2 Peter 1:5-9, 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10**, "abound more and more."
- We need to be thinking about others as greater than ourselves, **Philippians 2:1-5, Romans 15:1-3**

### What is my attitude toward my brethren?

- Do I prefer being with my brethren?
  - How do I treat them?
  - What is our relationship with one another?
- Am I willing to forgive?  
**cf. Matthew 5:23-24**
- Am I making relationships difficult?
- When we think about each other as we assemble, it makes the environment pleasant and pleasing to God.

### Do I really want to go to heaven?

- Is this the main reason we are here?
- If that desire is not foremost in our minds, assembling will be a weariness.
- Others see assembling as part of a checklist to earn our salvation.
  - That was Israel's problem in Malachi's day

## Do I really want to go to heaven?

- Old Testament examples of loyalty to God show desire beyond this life.
- **Hebrews 11:8-10** – Abraham left his home because God told him to.
- **Hebrews 11:24-26** – Moses walked away from prestige in Pharaoh's household because "he looked unto the recompense of reward"
- **Hebrews 11:13-16** – summarizes this faith

## Do I really want to go to heaven?

- **1 Peter 1:3-4** – "reserved in heaven for you"
- **2 Timothy 4:6-8** – Paul was ready
- **Philippians 3:20-21** – we must also be ready

## Do I really want to go to heaven?

- What does this have to do with assembling?
- In a way, assembling is a foretaste of heaven. When we get there, we will always be with the Lord, worshipping and serving Him day and night.  
**Revelation 4; 11:16**
- Assembling helps us prepare for that, when our heart is right with God.

## "What Must I Do To Be Saved?"

- **Hear the Word of God**
  - **Romans 10:8** – "*But what does it say? 'The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim)*"
- **Believe that Jesus is the Savior**
  - **Romans 10:11** – "*For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.'*"

## "What Must I Do To Be Saved?"

- **Repent of your sins**
  - **Acts 3:19** – "*Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out*"
- **Confess that Jesus is the Son of God**
  - **I John 4:15** – "*Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.*"

## "What Must I Do To Be Saved?"

- **Be immersed in water (baptized)**
  - **Acts 2:38** – "*And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'*"
- **Remain faithful**
  - **Hebrews 3:14** – "*For we share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.*"