

**A CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP
SONGS OF ASCENT
FOR THE LORD HAS CHOSEN - TRUST**

Text: Psalm 132

Key Word: Trust

Key Thought: Trusting in God Causes Us to Mature

The Psalms of Ascent are like climbing up the rungs of a ladder. They begin close to the earth and offer steps to reach upwardly. They ascend from the **pit to the palace**; from the **rugged road to the glorious temple**; from **isolation to a fulness of the presence of God**.

Psalm 132 is one that brings the singer through these levels all by itself. It does not build upon other Psalms. It stands upon its own truth of overcoming in our daily life. It is considered as one of the oldest Psalms and that is why it builds its own foundation of thought instead of taking from another.

This Psalm Unfolds Three Aspects of David's Life as He Desired to Gain a Deeper Trust of God.

- I. AN ANXIOUS CARE (Psalm 132:1-7)**
- II. AN ANXIOUS PRAYER (Psalm 132:8-10)**
- III. AN ANXIOUS SHARE (Psalm 132:11-18)**

I. AN ANXIOUS CARE (Psalm 132:1-7)

Trust must begin somewhere. For David, it began as he was still facing the troubles of life. We should not wait until the tide changes to put our trust in God.

*"O LORD, remember David and all the hardships
he endured."*

Psalm 132:1

David went through many difficult days because of the call God placed upon his life. **Walking in the covenant of God does not eliminate us from hardships.** David's zeal for God brought him to a place that he strove for a worship that was not practised or accepted in his day. **He wanted to worship from the heart while many were satisfied with a worship from the head and the hand.**

I. AN ANXIOUS CARE (Psalm 132:1-7) (Contd.)

"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them."

Hebrews 10:6

Does Jesus Care?

Does Jesus care when my way is dark
With a nameless dread and fear?
As the daylight fades into deep night shades,
Does he care enough to be near?

O yes, He cares; I know He cares;
His heart is touched with my grief;
When the days are weary, the long nights dreary,
I know my Saviour cares.

Have you ever wondered whether God really cares about you? Most of the great men and women of God have walked that pathway. But they didn't stay on that path for long. The Psalmist knew what to do.

"He swore an oath to the LORD and made a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:"

Psalm 132:2

Both David and Jacob (Genesis 28:2) were led from affliction into a covenant with God. Many vows are made during a time of great anguish in our soul. They are good to make only if we plan to keep them.

*"When you make a vow to the God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.
5. It is better not vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it."*

Ecclesiastes 5:4,5

I. AN ANXIOUS CARE (Psalm 132:1-7) (Contd.)

David wanted the Ark of the Covenant to be restored to its place of prominence in Israel. **He desired to find it, return it and build a suitable house for it.** God allowed David to become involved in the first 2 parts but He only allowed him to prepare for the last part of the vow. David was able to erect a tent but God planned to build a temple through David's son, Solomon.

"Oh that many more were seized with sleeplessness because the house of the Lord lies in waste."

Charles Spurgeon
"Treasury of David VII"
p. 97

David's desire led him to Kirjath-jearim to return the ark.

II. AN ANXIOUS PRAYER (Psalm 132:8-10)

David's "**Anxious Care**" led him into an "**Anxious prayer.**" His deep desire could only find expression when he called out to His Lord and Master from the depths of his soul. His prayer echoed the voice of Moses as the children of Israel travelled throughout the Sinai wilderness.

"Whenever the ark set out, Moses said, 'Rise up, O LORD! May your enemies be scattered; may your foes flee before you.'

36. Whenever it came to rest, he said, 'Return, O LORD, to the countless thousands of Israel.'"

Numbers 10:35,36

David likewise cried out for the majesty of God to be seen amongst the people.

*"arise, O LORD, and come to your resting place,
you and the ark of your might."*

Psalms 132:8

We must realize that in David's time, God declared His presence through the Ark of the Covenant. David's prayer was that this glory be established once again before the children of Israel. David knew that God had a method of pouring out His glory. **He worked through the priesthood and then to the people.**

II. AN ANXIOUS PRAYER (Psalm 132:8-10) (Contd.)

*"May your priests be clothed with righteousness;
may your saints sing for joy."*

Psalm 132:9

No garment is so resplendent as that of holy character. Every N.T. priest should cry out for this robe of righteousness. **Holiness and happiness walk side by side.**

People come up with their own conclusions about what it means to live a holy life.

** One pastor thought he would use two glasses to illustrate the evils of alcohol. In one glass he simply filled it with water, while in the other he put some whiskey.

During the sermon he took two identical worms that were large, slimy, and reddish-brown and placed one in each glass. The worms quickly began to wiggle and squirm in their new environment.

At the close of his sermon the pastor raised up the glass of water in which the worm was moving but not too vigorously and asked,

"What does this show you."

One person piped up and said, *"Too much water's not good for you."*

The minister then turned to the glass containing the whiskey and the worm was as dead a doornail. He then asked,

"Well, what does THIS show you?"

One man at the back of the church that had a habit of drinking spoke up trying to support his addiction by saying,

*"If you don't want worms, drink whiskey." ***

David wanted to adjust his lifestyle to conform to the will of God and not vice-versa.

David knew that God's way was the right way.

III. AN ANXIOUS SHARE (Psalm 132:11-18)

There is no doubt that those who receive the blessing of the Lord want others to experience the same blessings. God honoured that concern by passing the blessing on through the offspring of David (cf. - II Samuel 7:11b-16).

"One of your own descendants I will place on your throne."

Psalm 132:11

God made a promise that if David's offspring would remain at His feet that they would also sit on the throne; if they kept the covenant they would also receive the crown. Grace runs in the bloodline of the faithful.

God wants to bless us more than we desire to be blessed.

"For the LORD has chosen Zion, he has desired it for his dwelling."

Psalm 132:13

God is anxious to share His abundant provision with those who place their trust in Him and who abide by His Word. God chose Zion, David captured it, Solomon built it and the LORD dwelt in it. God doesn't just want to visit His Church - He wants to dwell in it. God in His Church is the wonder of wonders - it is the miracle of the grace of God - it is the message of God's abundant love toward us.

"I will bless her with abundant provisions; her poor will I satisfy with food."

Psalm 132:15

God not only wants to bless us with things we pray for but also with things we don't pray for.

"May your priests be clothed with righteousness."

Psalm 132: 9

Compare with...

"I will clothe her priests with salvation and her saints will ever sing for joy."

Psalm 132:16

III. AN ANXIOUS SHARE (Psalm 132:11-18) (Contd.)

God loves giving golden answers to silver prayers. God knows how to clothe the fields with such beauty that even king Solomon would have difficulty completing. **We are clothed with salvation while are enemies are clothed with shame (vs 18).**

The final thing that God wants to share with us is **His power to shine forth the message of His salvation** to the nations of the world.

"Here I will make a horn grow for David and set a lamp for my anointed one."

Psalm 132:17

Do you know that you have been chosen of God to receive His abundant provision of blessings? Have you learned that God can be trusted to keep His Word?

6918 Middle Verse of Bible

*** The middle verse of the Bible is Psalm 118:9 which says,
*"It is better to **trust** (take refuge - NIV) in the LORD than to trust in man."* ***

6919 Moody's Favourite Verse

*** Dwight L. Moody's favourite verse was Isaiah 12:2 - *"I will **trust**, and not be afraid."*
He used to say: *"You can travel first class or second class to heaven."*
Second class is, *"What time I am afraid, I will **trust**."*
First class is *"**I will trust, and not be afraid**. That is the better way. Why not buy a first-class ticket?"* ***

C:\My Documents\WPWin(X7)\Sermons.2016\Psalms\Ascent\Psalms 132.wpd

Date: July 10/16

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: For the Lord has Chosen Zion - D

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Psalm 132:1; Hebrews 10:6; Psalm 132:2; Ecclesiastes 5:4,5

II. AN ANXIOUS PRAYER (Psalm 132:8-10)

Numbers 10:35,36; Psalm 132:8; Psalm 132:9

III. AN ANXIOUS SHARE (Psalm 132:11-18)

*cf. - II Samuel 7:11b-16; Psalm 132:11; Psalm 132:13; Psalm 132:15; Psalm 132: 9;
Psalm 132:16; Psalm 132:17*