



DIGGING DEEPER

Psalm 122

PLEASE READ – Psalm 122

Verse 1: I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'

It is easy to see why the Psalmist delighted in being asked to go to the House of the Lord. Why rejoice 'with those'. Who might they be? Why is that a source of rejoicing?

Verse 2: Our feet are standing in your gates, Jerusalem.

It has been commented that this is an expression of 'wondering joy' – almost too good to be true. In what ways do we have a foothold in the gates of the New Jerusalem? What is it going to be like standing in the gates of the New Jerusalem?

Verses 3-5: Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together. ⁴ That is where the tribes go up – the tribes of the LORD – to praise the name of the LORD according to the statute given to Israel. ⁵ There stand the thrones for judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

What makes this gathering and living together sound more like a congregation than a gathering of different 'tribes'?

Relate this to our own 'congregation' thinking about what is it that brings us closer together? (Hint: p.....)

Think about..... what was the statute given to the 'tribes'? What 'statutes' do we have if followed will ensure unity?

Verses 6-8: ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: 'May those who love you be secure. ⁷ May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels.' ⁸ For the sake of my family and friends, I will say, 'Peace be within you.'

Praying for the peace for Jerusalem is a 'hot' topic. Over the years Jerusalem has had its share of troubles. (Chronicles; Nehemiah; Most of the New Testament times!!) Why does a safe, peaceful city need walls and citadels? What measures do we need to take to stay secure and have peace 'within'? (Proverbs 4:23; Philippians 4:7)

Verse 9: ⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.

Where is God's dwelling place now? (John 4:21-24; Acts 7:48; 1 Peter 2:5 for starters. I am sure you can think of others).

Would I gladly be made nothing, That Christ would be made more; would I seek the only kingdom that far outweighs them all. I will stand before my father, where faithful saints have stood and with joy my heart will praise Him, for His glory and my good. (His glory and my good: City Alight)