

The Psalms of Ascents: Psalms 132 (Part 1)

Sunday, March 19

Psalm 132: 1 - 10 (Theme: Obedience)

- From verse 1, consider the challenges that David faced in his life. Why would it be meaningful for the author to begin this psalm with this reference?
- What situation does the author refer to in verses 2 – 5? Do we find a specific reference to the oath that the author mentions anywhere in scripture? How is this reference consistent with what we know about David’s desire to build a temple? (*2 Samuel 7: 1 – 2; Acts 7: 44 – 47*)
- In verses 6 & 7, what had the people “heard of”? Describe the reference to Ephrathah and the “fields of the woods” (or Jaar). What historic event is possibly being referenced? (*1 Samuel 7: 1 – 2; 1 Chronicles 13: 5 – 6*)
- As verses 8 – 10 are quoted in Solomon’s comments during the dedication of the Temple (as recorded in *2 Chronicles 6: 41 – 42*), describe their relevance in the context of that event.
- What desire is conveyed in verse 8? What request is being made?
- Describe the reference to the priests in verse 9. What qualities of the priesthood does this statement convey, and what effect would their service have on the people? (*Leviticus 10: 10 – 11; Numbers 6: 22 – 27*)
- From verse 10, describe the reference to King David. Who does the author refer to as “anointed”, and what request is presented? (*Acts 10: 38*)

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Psalm 132 (Part 2) – Psalm 133

Wednesday, March 22

Psalm 132: 11 – 18 (Theme: Obedience)

- As an overview, consider how verses 11 – 18 serve as an answer to the requests made previously in the psalm.
- Describe the historical context of the pledge that God makes to David as referenced in verses 11 & 12. What future situation do these statements reference? (*2 Samuel 7: 12 – 13; Acts 2: 29 – 30; John 7: 42*)
- In verses 13 & 14, what choice had God made? What does this indicate about God's relationship with His people? (*Psalm 78: 67 – 69*)
- From verse 15, how had God promised to bless His people? What historical significance did this reference have? (*Deuteronomy 7: 12 – 13*)
- Consider how the statements in verse 16 serve as an answer to a previous request (from verse 9).
- From verses 17 & 18, describe the meaning of the illustrations provided. How do these illustrations serve as references to the coming Christ? (*1 Kings 15: 4 – 5; Luke 1: 67 – 69; John 8: 12*)

Psalm 133 (Theme: Unity)

- From verse 1, how does King David describe the benefit of unity among God's people? (*John 17: 20 – 21; 1 Corinthians 1: 10*)
- Describe the meaning of the illustrations provided in verse 2. How does this serve as a description of the value of unity among God's people? (*Exodus 30: 30*)
- Similarly, describe the meaning of the illustration in verse 3, and how it pertains to the benefit of unity. (*Isaiah 18: 4*)