

WEEK TWELVE
DAY TWO

Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
ever singing your praise! Selah
Psalm 84:4

Blessed

אֶשֶׁר *'esher*

– blessed, happy.

are those who dwell

יָשַׁב *yashab*

– to sit down, to dwell, to remain,
to settle, abide, continue

in your house

סֵלָה *celah*

–a house

ever

בַּיִת *bayith*

– repeatedly, still, more, all life long

singing your praise!

הָלַל *halal*

– to be clear, to shine; hence, to
make a show, to celebrate, praise

Selah

עוֹד *'owd*

– exact definition unknown;
possibly to lift up or exalt; a
(musical) pause.

Journal

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Throughout the Bible, God describes the nature of true blessedness. “Blessed” comes from the Hebrew “esher,” while in Greek it is “makarios,” describing “when God extends His benefits.”

What is the best blessing God can bestow? “Jesus answered him, ‘If anyone loves me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make our home with him’” (Jn. 14:23). God’s chief blessing is His love and presence – Himself.

As the dwelling places of God, we are stewards responsible for making our Lord welcome in our lives. Until we go to live with Christ in His eternal Home, we enjoy the fellowship of His Spirit. How can we enjoy His presence if we have filled our lives with so many things that either blatantly dishonor Him or passively dismiss Him? “For we are the temple of the living God” (2 Cor. 6:16). We must examine our lives and ask our Master, “What can I give up that will enable me to run harder after You?” (Heb. 12:1-2).

The beautiful woman of God, Amy Carmichael, wrote many poems based on Scripture, including this poem about God being our Home. Lord, as Amy Carmichael wrote about You being our ONE DESIRE, mold our hearts to increasingly desire You as our ONE THING until we SEE Your beauty face to face and are permanently transformed!

One thing have I desired, my God, of Thee,
That will I seek: Thine house be home to me.

I would not breathe an alien, other air;
I would be with Thee, oh Thou fairest Fair.

For I would see the beauty of my Lord,
And hear Him speak, who is my heart’s adored.

O Love of loves, and can such wonder dwell
In Thy great Name of names – Immanuel?

Thou with Thy child; Thy child at home with Thee –
O Love of Loves, I love, I worship Thee.

~ Elisabeth Hooker

WEEK TWELVE
DAY FOUR

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
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Psalm 84:4**

There are *three blessings* or beatitudes pronounced in this wonderful Psalm—this is the first. Blessed, happy, full of joy are those who dwell in God’s house—who inhabit, abide and serve in the house God planned, built, and inhabits... our Christ Jesus.

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,
but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,
built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,
in whom the whole structure, being joined together,
grows into a holy temple in the Lord.
Ephesians 2:19-22

This house of God is a place of instruction, comfort, fellowship with God, and preparation for heaven, a place where we corporately practice our religion and share our faith, hope, and love in Jesus as we encourage, teach, and build one another up in the knowledge and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Our memory verse tells us that dwelling in God’s house has an outcome: the joyful thanking and adoring of God, the celebration of His goodness and grace.

“We are ever praising you...”

Dwelling in Christ, we are full of the joy of the Lord, and we go forth exercising our faith in the strength of the grace of Jesus, from whom all our sufficiency is.

Take some time to follow these prayer prompts:

Lord, I am blessed to dwell in your house because...

Because of these blessings, I will praise you...

~ Jeanine Dungan

WEEK TWELVE
DAY FIVE

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
ever singing your praise! *Selah*
Psalm 84:4**

Praise we lift up to God is supported by His infinite promises and treasures. We affirm the truth of God's Word when we worship. Worship is a declaration of our dependence on God and His strength instead of our weakness. We can praise God in the good times and the bad because He never changes unlike our ever-changing circumstances. We can praise God even when we do not feel like it for we know what we may feel does not change the truth of God's attributes.

The daily demand of life can easily crowd out our praise to God. This week, take time to purposefully have a time of praise each day. Acknowledge that God is worthy of your worship and praise and be blessed!

Bless the Lord oh my soul
Oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name
Bless You Lord
And on that day
When my strength is failing
The end draws near
And my time has come
Still my soul will
Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years
And then forevermore
Forevermore

"10,000 Reasons" by Matt Redman

~ Trish Bruce

