

# The Servant



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*The purpose of this newsletter is to pass along information and ideas to help the Lord's servants as they minister to others. Feel free to use any of it in your ministry*

## Trailer Park (Ps. 84)

**The House of Worship.** How amiable (lovely) are thy tabernacles, O LORD of hosts! David understood Real Estate. The best neighborhood is the one where God lives. The world covets prestigious zip codes. Here the Psalmist stood at the center of the world. Here we stand at God's doorstep. If a Jew of the Diaspora could at last set his eyes on the holy city and make it to the temple, he knew that at last he had come "home." It was a metaphor that moved a Hebrew's heart. "In my Father's house are many mansions," said Jesus. This Eighty-fourth Psalm was a Psalm of the sons of Korah. It was an ode to the tabernacle. The word tabernacle simply means "dwelling place." It was the world's most beautiful residence. It was originally made up of materials contributed by the willing hearts of God's people when they escaped Egypt.

How amiable also is the assembly, the called out ones, the church. Someone said, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." The tabernacle was a dwelling place, a trysting place, a meeting place. It was the appointed place, as well as the anointed place. It was where God chose to meet with his people.

It was in the center. That is where God belongs. "Where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them," said Jesus. God's presence was the sun of a sacred solar system. It was the reason for Israel's existence. How amiable is "Your" tabernacle. Not how beautiful is "our" Church, or "our" assembly. It is all His. Jesus said "I will build "my" church. We make a grave mistake when we forget this.

The tabernacle is the focal point of worship. As a doctor knows where to take a pulse, so the Great Physician knows where to measure the heartbeat of the assembly. A pulse is the whisper of a healthy heart. So is worship.

Worship is not the incense, nor the showbread, nor the flickering light of the candlestick. Worship is an interaction of creation and Creator. It is an explosion of praise. It is the whispered "thank you" of gratitude. As the heart pumps life through the body, so worship is the life pulse of the church. The house of worship is important, but don't forget, the first house of worship was in an ancient trailer park.

## The Heart of Worship

V.2 "My Soul longeth..." The soul set free has no desire to be free of God. It longs to be with him. Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness. The healthy soul does

*(cont. on back)*

### Life Again

Blowing on cold ashes will not a fire make  
Nor can a love that's frozen, from the dead awake  
And if a heart stops beating and life has lost its breath  
Only God Almighty can bring life where there is death

But watch as Christ calls Lazarus,  
A friend these four days dead  
and life comes to the lifeless  
with something Jesus said

Christ wept and cried with others  
He knew grief's mortal pain  
In love the two were brothers  
But as LORD he spoke his name

"Come forth," were words of order  
From the one who made the worlds  
Step back across life's border  
bring the flag of hope unfurled.

God can heat the ambers and blow on them with grace  
If we give God the seed, and let Him pick the place  
To perform a miracle in plowed and broken sod  
Watch what Grace can do, when we give ourselves to God

## (Trailer Park)

not find worship a duty. A person may be driven to church, cajoled, even forced to church, but none can be forced to worship. David needed no church bell to remind him nor call from minaret. He carried a bell in his bosom. He longed to be in the house of God. "I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord."

V.5 "In whose heart are the ways of them" (in whose heart are thy ways). The saint carries a map to heaven in his heart. A son never forgets the way home. The heart is also the purse that holds the currency of praise. We must bring our heart to worship. Neither praise, nor prayer, nor preaching is counted precious or profitable to those who have left their hearts behind. We have to come with our heart. The Woman of Sychar thought Jesus had nothing to draw with- yet he drew her with his love. When we come to worship we must come with our hearts- first full- to pour them out, then in some kind of Spiritual reciprocity we always get more than we give. Sometimes it may seem we have nothing- then we must still pour out a longing, then we must pour out honesty and truth, then perhaps we must come with our confessions, but all must come from our heart- we cannot leave our hearts home- our hearts are always close to what we love the most.

## The Hosts of Worship

The heavenly host is the army of God. An army always bivouacs around its commander. Israel was never safer than when God was at the center. No army on earth can destroy a nation, whose God is the LORD. How foolish is the soldier who goes AWOL. How weak and powerless is the soldier who forgets his shield (v.9) and slips through enemy lines to visit the "tents of wickedness." How impoverished is the fool who deprives himself of God's company and the promise that "no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

When we gather to worship in the Name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, not only has he promised to be in the midst, but we are surrounded by an innumerable army of angels far too large to number. John said, "and the number of them was ten thousand

times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, wisdom, and strength, honor, and glory, and blessing....and the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshiped him that liveth forever and ever."

Israel once had the tabernacle. It was beautiful. It was a moving thing. It was set up and stricken by the movements of God. The tent was set up where the Glory Cloud led it. Real faith must be a moving thing. Jesus said, "follow me." Following Jesus was not necessarily an easy thing. Real faith is a relationship. It turns into religion the moment we try to put God into a box.

That David and Solomon wanted to up-grade God's living quarters has more to do with the permissive than the directive will of God. As to the necessity or practicality of temple building, I will let others speak. I would caution temple builders however. Just because we use the best materials and spare no expense to erect an imposing edifice, God is in no way obligated to stay put if He should desire to move. When the glory left Jerusalem, the priests continued to go about their business as usual, and because the temple was so awesome, nobody noticed. Sometimes temples are not made so much out of stone as they are out of tradition.

Once built on the temple mount, Israel never worried again about Divine migrations. Somehow they believed that God was theirs, not realizing that that meant that they were God's.

Jesus said, "follow me." The believer is called to a life time of following. The amiable tabernacles of Psalms is merely a shadow of one more amiable. Jesus said, "In my Father's house are many mansions, ... I go to prepare a place for you..." Let us not drive our stakes too deep in this world. Jesus said, foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no where to lay his head." With the tabernacle, God once lived in a trailer park. All Israel trailed after Him until He parked. What makes any tent or tabernacle beautiful or "amiable" is God's presence. A temple is much more impressive than a tabernacle, but tabernacles are easier to move when God raises up to go in glory. 🚗

## Book Keepers

Our Nation seems to be a lot poorer than she pretended to be. More and more companies are going bankrupt. While it might be possible for you to juggle your books in this world- It will be impossible to hide the truth from God on Judgment day. "Give an account of your stewardship."

One day God will go over every man's books (Rev. 20:12). It will be impossible to hide any "funny business" from the one who is called the Truth. It is true that well known accounting firms failed to live up their own accounting standards. But what will God say to the Bible Teachers who helped a sinful church "cook the books," and employ questionable accounting standards? Many like the Laodiceans, think they are "rich" (Rev. 3:17) when they are in fact "poor." Someone has been hiding the truth.

Bible teachers need to have good "accounting" practices. They need to keep good books. The only way to help people get ready for judgment day, when the "books will be opened," is to get them to open the Book of Books today to see how much sin cost God and how bankrupt the human heart is without faith in the Lord Jesus. 📖

One and One are two  
One and two are three  
no good work I do  
can add more to  
Calvary



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