

PSALM 131 – Simple Trust in the LORD!

10/23/21 Sat. Morn Prayer - P. Twente, www.ptwente.com 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

NEAR TO THE HEART OF GOD! – Cleland McAfee; Tom Fetke

*There is a place of quiet rest, Near to the heart of God;
A place where sin cannot molest, Near to the heart of God.*

Refrain:

*O Jesus, blest Redeemer, Sent from the heart of God;
Hold us, who wait before Thee, Near to the heart of God.*

*There is a place of full release, Near to the heart of God;
A place where all is joy and peace Near to the heart of God. (Refrain)
Hold us, who wait before Thee, Near to the heart of God.*

Psalms 131-132

We are still in what are known as the psalms of ascents, those songs that were traditionally sung by the pilgrims as they came to Jerusalem for the holy feast days to worship the Lord. Thus, the worship of God, the temple of God, Jerusalem is always more or less the center of the psalms. They are focusing in on the worship of God in Jerusalem at the temple or during the feast days so that becomes the focus of these psalms. David, that king who inspired so many of the songs and wrote so many of these songs, comes into play in the singing of these songs also. Psalm 131 happens to be one of those psalms of David.

I Have Calmed and Quieted My Soul! A Song of Ascents. Of David.

Psa 131:1 LORD, my heart is not haughty (proud), Nor my eyes lofty (arrogant). Neither do I concern (walk in) myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound (difficult) for me.

- I don't have a driving ambition trying to get to the top. David didn't struggle to get on the throne. He left that completely in God's hands. He didn't form an army to overthrow Saul, he didn't create an insurrection among the ranks of Saul's men, but he was content to let the Lord work out his purposes.
- We have many examples in the Bible of men who were not content to let the Lord work out his purposes. Take the case of Jacob. God wanted to give the blessing to Jacob. God intended that blessing through Jacob that the race would come. Esau the twin brother was to be set aside, he would become the father of the Edomites, but it was through Jacob that the line will come to bring the Messiah. God chose that, chose Jacob. Jacob knew that that was the purpose of God.
- Somehow he felt that God couldn't accomplish his purpose unless he helped God out. He wasn't satisfied just to wait on God and let God do it. He had to disguise himself as his brother, he had to go in and deceive his father and get the blessing, which created that animosity between him and his brother and his descendants and his brother's descendants. The Edomites were pretty much perennial enemies of Israel until the Edomites of course ultimately, according to the prophecies, disappeared from the face of the earth.
- Abraham, that great father of the faith, had the promise of God that he was going to give him a son through which all of the nations of the earth would be blessed. As he was getting older, approaching a hundred, his wife said, "Honey, we better help God out. Obviously we've tried for so many years and it's not going to happen. So, you take my little servant girl Hagar, and you go in unto her and let her become sort of a surrogate mother". Hagar was to become a surrogate mother. "When the child is born I'll be right there. I'll be the midwife and take the child and it will be as my child". God can't work out his purpose so now we are going to help God out.
- Whenever you start to help God out it always becomes stressful. We discover that God doesn't really need our help. He can work his purposes without our help. It's that person who is content to just leave it in God's hands. If God wants me to be king he will work it out. I don't have to press for it, I don't have to have this ambition and all these schemings and planning and conniving that creates all this unrest. If God wants to do it God can do it.
- ***Nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound for me.***

- It is interesting how often we strive seeking to know the unknowable. God said, “My ways are not your ways for My ways are beyond your finding out He told us that they are beyond your finding out. Think of all the strife you have gone through trying to find out what you can’t find out. Why did God allow that to happen? Why did God do it that way? Why did this happen to me? If I’d only done this or that! We spend so much time with this “If I only” and with the “why’s” trying to find out what God said you can’t find out exercising ourselves in matters that are too high for us. In doing that, you can’t have contentment, you can’t have peace.

Psa 131:2 Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, Like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child is my soul within me.

Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul. That should always be the consciousness of having been in the presence of God, worshipping God. There should be a stilling and a quieting in our souls. That beautiful peace that comes in the presence of God knowing that God is on the throne, God is in control and God is going to take care of things.

- Because David wasn’t prideful, because he wasn’t filled with a driving ambition and because he didn’t exercise himself in those matters that were beyond him he was like a child that was weaned. He was satisfied and contented to leave things with God.

Psa 131:3 O Israel, hope in the LORD From this time forth and forever.

- *Israel hope in the LORD!* There’s the key. Put your confidence, your trust and your hope in the Lord because unless the Lord does do it, all of your efforts are in vain anyhow. In the modern application it would be “Let us hope in the LORD”.
- *From this time forth and forever.* This is now what should take place when a person comes to the sanctuary of God to worship God. He should come into the consciousness of the greatness of God, the power of God, the glory of God and the loved of God. Putting your hope in the Lord you should experience just that peace and contentment as you lay the whole burden and the whole issue over to the Lord. You know it’s great sitting here to say, “Praise the Lord! Take it Lord. I give it to You” but you pick up before you leave the door tonight if you are half-way normal. Having cast your cares upon Him, leave them there. Don’t pick them up again. It’s from now to forever.

HE IS OUR PEACE - Russell Carter – Maranatha Singers

He Is Our Peace - Maranatha! Music

He is our peace, Who has broken down every wall, He is our peace, He is our peace.

He is our peace Who has broken down every wall, He is our peace, He is our peace.

Cast all your cares on Him, For He cares for you, He is our peace, He is our peace.

Cast all your cares on Him, For He cares for you, He is our peace, He is our peace. (3X)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL:

PRAY FOR OUR NATION’S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation!