

DAVID AND HIS AFFECTIONS

Psalm 132

Beloved of the Lord:

After considering the afflictions of David, let us now consider his affections, his love for God, and the things his heart was centered upon. A man who suffers afflictions for God, is one whose affections are centered upon God.

1 - HIS AFFECTION FOR THE HOUSE OF GOD - verses 2 to 5. "I have set my affection to the house of my God" said David in 1 Chron. 29:3. Read Psalm 26:8 and 27:4 again proving it. He made a solemn vow to "the mighty God of Jacob" to build a "Tabernacle" for Him. God's presence in the midst of Israel had been lost by the Ark of God having fallen into the hands of the enemy. Read 1 Sam. Ch. 5 and 6. The Ark was the symbol of God's presence, a manifestation of God in Christ on one hand and on the other, the place of His throne and government.

Are we concerned today about "the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth", where the manifestation of Christ Himself is to be known? Read 1 Tim. 3:15,16. It is a "spiritual house" - 1 Pet. 2:4,5 - and "whose house are we" - Heb. 3:6. It has become "a great house" in confusion, possessing honorable and dishonorable vessels in its testimony - 2 Tim. 2:20. We have failed to prove we are "the pillar" (support) and the "ground" (or depositary) of the truth. We need to follow David in his affection for the House of God and separate ourselves from vessels of dishonor - 2 Tim. 2:21.

2 - HIS AFFECTION FOR THE ARK OF GOD - verses 6 to 8. In Bethlehem-Ephrathah David learned in his youth the tragedy the Ark was lost and the restoration of it became his heart's desire. Years later he "found it in the fields of the wood", Kirjath-Jearim, where for 20 years it had been while all Israel lamented - 1 Sam. 7:2. God's symbol of Christ, David had the great joy of restoring it - Read 2 Sam. 7:12-15.

The "Golden Ark", Christ, in the greatness and glory of His Person, needs to be restored as the gathering center of His people today. The Philistines, type of the flesh, have removed Him as the gathering center. MAN in the flesh is being substituted for the "Lord of glory" - 2 Cor. 3:18. Programs, methods and many issues being involved in, are detracting us away from HIS PERSON, in an attempt to make an impression on the unsaved world. David restored the Ark to its resting place and worshipped at His footstool - Psa. 132:7-8. Worship is our HIGHEST OCCUPATION!

3 - HIS AFFECTION FOR THE PRIESTHOOD verse 8. Read 1 Chron. 23 and 24 etc. - for David instituted the priesthood to function according to God's Word. The desire and vow of David's heart was fulfilled to the letter. THE HOUSE - THE ARK and THE PRIESTHOOD as you read 1 Kings 8, when Solomon dedicated the Temple and the glory of the Lord filled it - 1 Kings 8:10,11. THE HOUSE, THE ARK and THE PRIESTS were in the proper order!

According to 1 Pet. 2:1-10, there is a Christian Priesthood to function as a "HOLY" Priesthood GODWARD, and as a "ROYAL" Priesthood, MANWARD. It includes ALL believers. The character of the House is "Spiritual". The sacrifices to God are "Spiritual". But like the Corinthians, the character today is CARNAL and not SPIRITUAL, for the greater part! - 1 Cor. 2:14 - 1 Cor. 3:4. The New Testament Priesthood needs to be restored.

4 - GOD'S APPRECIATION OF DAVID - Psa. 132:11-18. The Man "after God's own heart" - Acts 13:22 - is given permanent glory. The glory of a Kingdom, the glory of a Throne and the assurance of a royal descendant of the house of David, to reign FOREVER! - even Christ, God's Son and David's Lord. Read Luke 1:31-33. All because David's heart was where God's heart was.

Will we, like David, have a triumphant entrance "into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ"? - 2 Pet. 1:10,11.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

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