

Processional Ascent

Sons of Korah · Book III

"For the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. A Psalm by the sons of Korah."

PICTURE WORD

Sparrow

IN ONE SENTENCE



How lovely is God's dwelling place; the soul longs for his courts, and one day there beats a thousand elsewhere.

Remember it: Eighty-four: the sparrow found a home; one day with God beats a thousand.

MEMORY VERSE

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Psalm 84:10 · World English Bible

HEBREW WORD

אֲשֶׁרִי

"blessed" · verse 4

In the Psalms: 26 times, in 19 psalms

אֲשֶׁרִי is an exclamation: "Oh, how happy!" or "How blessed!" It opens the whole Psalter in Psalm 1 and rings three times here, for those who live in God's house, those whose strength is in him, and the one who trusts him. Blessing is not luck; it is life lived near God.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

1-4 The soul longs for God's house, where even sparrows nest.

5-7 Pilgrims find strength as they travel toward Zion.

8-9 A prayer for the anointed king.

10-12 One day in God's courts beats a thousand anywhere else.

MY NOTES



Listen. Hear Psalm 84 sung in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at ispress.de/psalms/84.

Cantillated. Sung: chanted back and forth between a leader and the people.

Zion & the House of God

Praise & Thanksgiving

FILL IN THE BLANKS

How _____ is God's dwelling place; the soul _____ for his courts, and one day there beats a _____ elsewhere.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. Which birds found a home near God's altars?

(A) The eagle and the dove

(B) The sparrow and the swallow

(C) The raven and the owl

(D) The stork and the heron

2. What do pilgrims make the valley of Weeping into?

(A) A battlefield

(B) A place of springs

(C) A garden of roses

(D) A city of refuge

3. What would the psalmist rather be in God's house?

(A) A priest

(B) A singer

(C) A king

(D) A doorkeeper

TALK IT OVER

1. What words in verses 1-2 show how deeply the psalmist longs for God?

2. Verse 11 calls God a sun and a shield. What does each picture say about him?

3. What "tents" or places tempt you, and why might one day with God be better?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 84 TEACH?

☐ I listened to the song

☐ I can say what it teaches

☐ I can say verse 10 by heart

☐ I know the picture word

Answers: Blanks: lovely · longs · thousand · Check yourself: 1. B (v. 3) · 2. B (v. 6) · 3. D (v. 10)