

Daily Encouragement from Gordon – Tuesday 12th May

Psalm 48

The previous two Psalm praised God enthroned on high. This Psalm is specially for us as believers!

God is great in Zion. He makes it beautiful and strong.

Zion in the Bible is the spiritual name for Jerusalem, the capital of his chosen nation, with the Temple and Holy Place at the centre. So it speaks of where God dwells with his people. For us now that is the body of believers, the gathered church. And we look forward to the heavenly Zion, when we shall together be with him forever.

(to study this for yourself, use Bible Gateway to look at all the references to Zion in Psalms, Zechariah and Revelation!)

So now enjoy all that this Psalm says about God within his church.

1 Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise,
in the city of our God, his holy mountain.

The majestic God dwells in our midst.

2 Beautiful in its loftiness,
the joy of the whole earth,
like the heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion,
the city of the Great King.

3 God is in her citadels;
he has shown himself to be her fortress.

God's presence makes his people strong and glorious.

4 When the kings joined forces,
when they advanced together,

5 they saw her and were astounded;
they fled in terror.

6 Trembling seized them there,
pain like that of a woman in labour.

7 You destroyed them like ships of Tarshish
shattered by an east wind.

He protects us for His glory.

8 As we have heard,
so we have seen
in the city of the Lord Almighty,
in the city of our God:
God makes her secure
for ever.

Eternal security, a wonderful future, is ours through Jesus.

9 Within your temple, O God,
we meditate on your unfailing love.

10 Like your name, O God,
your praise reaches to the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with righteousness.

11 Mount Zion rejoices,
the villages of Judah are glad
because of your judgments.

The more we think about God's love, the more amazed we are.

12 Walk about Zion, go round her,
count her towers,
13 consider well her ramparts,
view her citadels,
that you may tell of them
to the next generation.

Look at what God has done, how he has changed people through the generations, how he has blessed us.

**14 For this God is our God for ever and ever;
he will be our guide even to the end.**

What an excellent motto to live by!

This is John Newton's hymn, [Glorious things of the are spoken, Zion city of our God](#)

What a blessing to live in Zion!

Gordon