

**CRUCIAL ASPECTS OF GOD'S ECONOMY  
PORTRAYED IN EXODUS (4)—BUILDING**

Message Eight

**“Highways to Zion” in Their Hearts—  
Taking the Way of the Church Internally**

Scripture Reading: Psa. 84:1-12; Exo. 40:2-8; Rom. 5:10; 8:34; Heb. 9:14; 10:19; Phil. 3:7-8;  
Col. 1:24; Heb. 10:34; John 4:14; 7:38-39

- I. The deeper love and sweeter experience of the house of God is revealed in Psalm 84; the intrinsic content of this Psalm is the secret revelation concerning the enjoyment of Christ in the house of God—vv. 1-12; 73:17, 25-26; Col. 1:12:**
- II. "At Your two altars even the sparrow has found a home; / And the swallow, a nest for herself, / Where she may lay her young, / O Jehovah of hosts, my King and my God"—v. 3:**
  - A. At Your two altars—the bronze altar for the sacrifices and the golden altar of incense—even the sparrow has found a home and a swallow a nest—Exo. 40:5-6:
    1. At the bronze altar, a type of the cross of Christ, our problems before God are solved through the crucified Christ as the sacrifices—Rom. 5:10a; 8:3; Heb. 9:14.
    2. At the golden altar of incense in front of the Holy of Holies, the resurrected Christ in His ascension is the incense for us to be accepted by God in peace—Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25; 10:19.
  - B. Through these two altars God's redeemed, the "sparrows" and "swallows," can find a nest as their refuge and a home with God in rest; the cross of Christ, typified by the bronze altar, is our "nest," our refuge, where we are saved from our troubles and where we "lay" our young, that is, produce new believers through the preaching of the gospel—cf. Psa. 90:1; 91:1.
- III. "Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; / They will yet be praising You. Selah... / O Jehovah of hosts, blessed is the man / Who trusts in You"—Psa. 84:4, 12:**
  - A. In type, the house is the church as a totality, and the tabernacles are the local churches—1 Tim. 3:15; Psa. 84:1; Rev. 1:11.
  - B. Praising the Lord should be our living, and our church life should be a life of praising—1 Thes. 5:16-19; Phil. 4:4, 11-13.
  - C. In the church life we trust in God, not in ourselves or in our natural human ability to work out a solution to our difficult situations—2 Cor. 1:8-9, 12.
- IV. "Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, / In whose heart are the highways to Zion"—Psa. 84:5; cf. Phil. 4:13; John 15:5:**
  - A. The highways to Zion signify our intention to enter into the church as the house of God; that the highways to Zion are in our heart means that we need to take the way of the church internally, not merely externally—cf. 1 John 1:3-4.
  - B. Zion is the very spot where God is, the Holy of Holies; the overcomers become Zion, and the Lord's recovery is to build up Zion—Rev. 21:16; cf. Rev. 2:7.

**V. "Passing through the valley of Baca, / They make it a spring; / Indeed the early rain covers it with blessings"—Psa. 84:6:**

- A. *Baca* means "weeping"; on the one hand, those on the highways to Zion are strengthened in God; on the other hand, they are opposed by Satan, who causes them to suffer persecution—vv. 5-6.
- B. The trouble and persecution caused by Satan can make the highways a valley of weeping; the highways to Zion are not external, superficial, or cheap; we must pay a price to take the way of the church—Phil. 3:7-8; Matt. 25:9; Rev. 3:18; Acts 20:19, 31; Psa. 56:8.
- C. When we pass through the valley of Baca, God makes this valley a spring; this spring is the Spirit—Col. 1:24; Heb. 10:34; John 4:14; 7:38-39.
- D. The more we weep on the highways to Zion, the more we receive the Spirit; while we are weeping, we are being filled with the Spirit, and the Spirit becomes our spring.
- E. The tears they shed are their own, but these tears issue in a spring, which becomes the early rain, the Spirit as the blessing—Zech. 10:1; Gal. 3:14.

**VI. "They go from strength to strength; / Each appears before God in Zion... / For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand; / I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God / Than dwell in the tents of the wicked. / For Jehovah God is a sun and a shield; / Jehovah gives grace and glory"—Psa. 84:7, 10-11a.**

**Focus:**

*In this message the burden is to help the young people see the preciousness of the church and to help them enter into the church life and take the way of the Lord's recovery internally, not merely externally. We also want to impress them that this way is a costly way but it is the better choice for the fulfillment of God's purpose*