

“The King at Rest”

Psalm 132

The church has its ups and downs but Jesus’ love for His bride never changes. His devotion to her never weakens. His plans for her forever will never fail.

We are the bride ascending to the New Jerusalem singing of her great wedding day and calling out to the Lord to fulfill the promise to make us completely perfect and completely happy in Christ forever.

I. Plead the Sacrificial Love of Christ for His Bride. Psalm 132:1-7

“Remember, O Lord, in David’s favor, all the hardships he endured, how he swore to the Lord and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob, ‘I will not enter my house or get in my bed, I will not give sleep to my eyelids, until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob.’ Psalm 132:1-7

Psalm 132 appeals to Yahweh on the basis of David’s sacrificial determination to bring Yahweh back into the center of the lives of His people and at the heart of his Kingdom.

“When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, ‘Let me go, for the day has broken.’ But Jacob said, ‘I will not let you go unless you bless me.’ And he said to him, ‘What is your name?’ And he said, ‘Jacob.’ Then he said, ‘Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel. For you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.’” Genesis 32:25-28

“In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.” Hebrews 5:7-10

“Behold we heard of it in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jaar. ‘Let us go to his dwelling place; let us worship at his footstool!’” **Psalm 132:6-7**

“But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit and those who worship him must worship him in spirit, and those who worship him must worship him in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that the Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.’ Jesus said to her ‘I who speak to you am he.’”

“When we speak poorly of the church, we’re speaking of Jesus’s bride. Think about that for a moment. Our condemning and hurtful comments directed at the church are addressed to the bride of our Savior. Do you suppose that Jesus is just fine with our angst? Do you believe he’s happy about the insults we so casually hurl at his bride? Do you think he says: ‘Go ahead, fire away! Whatever you say is probably true. She’s a loser. I never really loved her all that much anyway?’ Any man that I know who has even a small amount of love, respect, care, or concern for his wife would be appalled!” **Rob Bentz, The Unfinished Church**

II. Plead The Covenantal Faithfulness of Yahweh Psalm 132:8-12

“Arise, O Lord, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. Let your priests be clothed in righteousness, and let your saints shout for joy. For the sake of your servant David, do not turn away the face of your anointed one. **The Lord swore to David a sure oath** from which he will not turn back: ‘One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne. If your sons keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their sons also forever shall sit on your throne.’” **Psalm 132:8-12**

“Moreover, I declare to you that **the Lord will build you a house**. When your days are fulfilled to walk with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from him who was before you, but I will confirm him in my house and in my kingdom forever, and his throne shall be established forever.” **1 Chronicles 17:10-12**

The Vision: The Right King. Righteous Priests. Rejoicing Saints.

“I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.” **Ezekiel 36:24-27**

“My servant David shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd. They shall walk in my rules and be careful to obey my statute... I will make a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore. My dwelling place shall be with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Then the nations will know that I am the Lord who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary is in their midst forevermore.” **Ezekiel 37:24-28**

“And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.” **Luke 22:20**

“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

Hebrews 13:20-21

We have the covenant promise of God that He will make up for what is lacking in our lives through Jesus Christ’s righteousness and He will ultimately make real in our lives what we hope to become through His Holy Spirit.

III. Plead the Unfailing Grace of Yahweh. Psalm 132:13-18

“**For the Lord (Yahweh) has chosen Zion**; He has desired it for his dwelling place: ‘This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it. I will abundantly bless her provisions; I will satisfy her poor with bread. Her priests I will clothe with salvation, and her saints will shout for joy. There I will make a horn to sprout for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed. His enemies I will clothe with shame, but on Him, His crown will shine.’” **Psalm 132:13-18**

“For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers...” **Deuteronomy 7:6-11**

“But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven and to God, the judge of all, and the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.” **Hebrews 12:22-24**

When we think about the church, we ought to marvel not at her struggles and weaknesses but at her destiny as the One who God unquestionably loves and eternally keeps as His own dear love.

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from

the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.'

Revelation 21:1-4

“What did he do when he saw the unclean? What was his first impulse when he came across prostitutes and lepers? He moved toward them. Pity flooded his heart, the longing of true compassion. He spent time with them. He touched them. We all can testify to the humanness of touch. A warm hug does something that warm words of greeting alone cannot. But there is something deeper in Christ’s touch of compassion. He was reversing the Jewish system. When Jesus, the Clean One, touched an unclean sinner, Christ did not become unclean. The sinner became clean. Jesus Christ’s earthly ministry was one of giving back to undeserving sinners their humanity.” **Dane Ortlund**