

Valparaiso University

ValpoScholar

Walter E. Keller's Devotional Studies of Psalms

University Archives & Special Collections

2001

Psalm 122: A Song of Ascents. Of David.

Walter E. Keller

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholar.valpo.edu/kellerpsalms>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives & Special Collections at ValpoScholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Walter E. Keller's Devotional Studies of Psalms by an authorized administrator of ValpoScholar. For more information, please contact a ValpoScholar staff member at scholar@valpo.edu.

Psalm 122

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

(RSV)

- ¹ **I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”**
- ² **Our feet have been standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem!**
- ³ **Jerusalem—built as a city
which is bound firmly together,**
- ⁴ **to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.**
- ⁵ **There thrones for judgment were set,
the thrones of the house of David.**
- ⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
“May they prosper who love you!**
- ⁷ **Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers!”**
- ⁸ **For my bretheran and companions' sake
I will say, “Peace be within you!”**
- ⁹ **For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.**

Psalm 122 expresses the pilgrim's joy in going to Jerusalem and his/her determination to pray for the peace and prosperity of Jerusalem, because that is the location of the House of the LORD. The (male) Israelites had been commanded to meet before the LORD three times a year: the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Booths (see Exodus 23:14-17 and Exodus 34:18-23, and for the more detailed instructions, Deuteronomy 16:1-17). It seems most plausible that the Psalmist may have just attended the Feast of Booths, because in a special way it was the time to give thanks to the LORD for the blessings of the past year. Christians receive a similar joy in going into the House of the LORD for their weekly worship. Indeed, there are those who joy in coming daily to the House of the LORD for **Early Morning Prayer!**

Prayer to accompany Psalm 122:

Lord Jesus, give us the peace of the new Jerusalem. Bring all nations into your kingdom to share your gifts, that they may render thanks to you without end and may come to your eternal city, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.