



Good and Pleasant, Oil and Dew **Psalm 133**

Every year, God's chosen people would do a pilgrimage up to Jerusalem/Zion to celebrate the festivals (Lk. 2:41-42). On their way, they would recite, sing, and meditate together on fifteen psalms known as the Songs of Ascent (Pss. 120-134). Each Psalm would have a theme for the different stages of this journey together. In Psalm 133, King David describes the precious community of God. Jesus would have probably been meditating with the disciples on this Psalm when he went on His pilgrimage to Jerusalem (Lk. 9:51) where He would die on the cross for His church during the festival.

How would you describe church if asked?

A testimony of true gospel community.

1. The truth of Christian community (Gen. 2:18; 1 Cor. 2:14-16 cf. 2Cor. 3:14-16)

- Some things can be good but not pleasant and other things can be pleasant but not good. But it is both good and pleasant when Christian community, in addition to their covenant fraternity dwells in unity.

2. The experience of community (Mt. 16:18; Eph. 4:1-6; Exod. 28-30; Heb. 1:9; Jn. 17:9-26; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; Jn. 10:10,27-30; Ps. 33:9)

A. It is like oil from above.

- Unity can only come from God above.
- When we think of the church our minds should be drawn to Jesus our great High Priest.
- When we think of our Great High Priest our minds should be drawn to the church He sacrificed for.

B. It is like dew from above.

C. It is life from above.

“When we are in meaningful relationships with one another, we each bring a unique perspective and experience to our knowledge of Christ’s love. One person has been rescued from a menacing addition. Another has been brought through deep suffering. Still another has been sustained by God’s grace in a difficult marriage. The list goes on. When we gather to share our stories, we see a different aspect of the diamond that is the love of Christ.”
Lane & Tripp How People Change. P. 73

Growing Notes

How would you describe the church if you were asked?

Read Ps. 133 and then as a group do the three step Bible study below...

1. Observation:

- Ask for a volunteer to retell the passage in his/her own words. Stick to the text, not to one’s interpretation of the text.
- Ask the rest of the group to fill in any details that were overlooked.

2. Interpretation:

- Ask, “What do we learn about God in this section?”
- Ask, “What do we learn about humanity/ourselves from the section?”

3. Application:

- Ask, “How would your life change if you put what you learn in this passage into practice?” AND/OR “Who do you know that needs to hear this?”