

Christ Revealed in Psalms
Campus Christians, Spring 2012
(4)
God's Desire for Zion with Christ

Scripture Reading:

- Hebrews 12:22** But **you have come forward to Mount Zion** and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem; and to myriads of angels, to the universal gathering;
- Psalms 87:1-3** **His foundation is in the holy mountains.** Jehovah loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God. Selah
- Psalms 2:6** But I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain.
- Psalms 48:1-2** Great is Jehovah, and much to be praised in the city of our God, in His holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion, the sides of the north, the city of the great King.
- 1 Cor. 3:11-12** **For another foundation no one is able to lay besides that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. But if anyone builds upon the foundation** gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble.
- Matt. 16:18** And I also say to you, that you are Peter, and **upon this rock I will build My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Further Scripture Readings: Psalms 51:18; Eph. 2:4-6, 8, 10, 21-22; Rev. 11:15; Matt. 16:16;
1 Cor. 3:6-7; 10-17; 1 Pet. 2:5; Col. 2:19

- I. **God's heart is set on Zion, the city of God, with Christ within it- Psalms 87:2-3**
 - A. *Zion* is a poetic title that typifies the church in the Old Testament.
 - B. Zion is central in God's heart because this is where Christ is installed as King- Psalms 2:6; Eph. 1:10
 - C. As believers, we desire restoration, salvation, and release from sufferings, but God's desire is for Zion with His Christ-85:4; 86:2; 88:1-3; 87:2-3
 1. We may think that salvation is just to rescue us, but salvation is also for God's purpose and plan.
 2. God saves people for His Christ and for Zion, in order that one day He might gain the entire earth- 51:18; Eph. 2:4-6, 8, 10, 21-22; Rev. 11:15
- II. **"His foundation is in the holy mountains"- Psalms 87:1**
 - A. The Lord Jesus is the unique foundation laid by God for the building of the church, the Body of Christ- Matt. 16:16, 18; 1 Cor. 3:11
 - B. Christ is a living foundation, a foundation that grows- 1 Cor. 3:10-17
 1. God gives the growth and to give growth is a matter of growing Christ; the Christ who grows within us is a living, growing foundation- 1 Cor. 3:6-7, 11
 2. The foundation grows in us, and this growth produces gold, silver, and precious stones for the building up of the church- 1 Cor. 3:12a; 1 Pet. 2:5
 - C. As Christ, the unique foundation, holds and supports God's building, He dispenses Himself into every part of the building, imparting Himself into all the believers- Col. 2:19
 1. We can allow the Lord to build in us through our prayers. We can pray:
 - a. "Lord, grow in me."
 - b. "Lord, make me your gold, silver, precious stones for Your building."
 - c. "Lord, make your home in my heart."

Questions:

1. What does Zion represent, and why is it central in God's heart?
2. What is the significance in the foundation of God's building?
3. How can we be a part of God's building?

Hymn 1

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And her confidence alone.

Founded on the Lord victorious,
Christ the everlasting Rock,
Stands the Church in heav'nly places,
Dreading not the storm or shock;
Built with life divine she ever
Stands against attack and mock.

Though the gates of hades frustrate,
Yet the Church still stands for God,
Overcoming evil spirits
By her Lord's victorious blood;
And at Christ's return in triumph
All her foes will then be trod.

Hymn 2

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,
In the city of our God,
In the mountain of His holiness.
Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth,
Is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north,
The city of the great King.
Is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north,
The city of the great King.