

Psalm 84

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! (Ps. 84:1)

¹How dear to me is your dwelling,
O LORD of hosts!

²**My soul longs, indeed it faints,
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.**

³Even the sparrow finds a home
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.

⁴**Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise. R**

⁵Happy are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

⁶**As they go through the valley of Baca,
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.**

⁷They go from strength to strength;
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸**O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob! R**

⁹Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed.

¹⁰**For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.**

**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.**

¹¹For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favour and honour.

No good thing does the LORD withhold
from those who walk uprightly.

¹²**O LORD of hosts,
happy is everyone who trusts in you. R**



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Numbers 21:4b-9

[From Mount Hor the Israelites set out,] ^{4b}but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there are no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So, Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

John 3:13-17

[Jesus said:] ¹³"No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

**Holy Cross Sunday
September 14, 2025**

