

Text: **Psalm 84**

Title: **BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE STRENGTH IS IN YOU**

A DEEP LOVE FOR THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

1. The deep longing to be in the house of God (Psalm 84:2, 10)
 - a. Soul felt
 - b. As a doorkeeper
2. The context of going on pilgrimages to Jerusalem
 - a. Three times a year
 - b. The idea of pilgrims travelling to Jerusalem
 - c. They would go repeatedly every year

THE CHALLENGES FACED

1. There will be problems faced along the journey
 - a. They walked through the valley of Baca
 - b. The valley of Baca is the valley of tears
 - c. There will be obstacles faced
2. Comparison – The journey of life to heaven
 - a. There will problems and obstacles faced
 - b. There will be moments of tears

REFLECTING ON THE BLESSINGS OF GOD'S STRENGTH FOR 2017

1. The blessing of internal strength (Psalm 84:5-7)
 - a. Source of strength
 - i. The strength is located in the Lord God Himself
 - ii. The Psalmist does not depend on his own strength
 - b. Fresh store of strength
 - i. A spring of life and strength
 - ii. Pools of rain
 - iii. We can feel refreshed by the Lord
 - c. Strength to strength
 - i. From grace to grace (John 1:16)
 - ii. From faith to faith (Romans 1:17)
2. The blessing of God as our external shield
 - a. The Lord God of hosts (Psalm 84:1, 3, 8, 12)
 - b. The Lord as a shield (Psalm 84:9)
 - c. The Lord as a sun and shield (Psalm 84:11)
3. Grace and strength go together (Psalm 84:11)
 - a. Grace
 - b. Glory
 - c. Goodness

SEEKING THE LORD'S BLESSING OF STRENGTH FOR 2018

1. Praying for the Lord to increase our strength (Psalm 84:10)
2. Deepening Trust in the Lord (Psalm 84:12)