

# “What happens when you arrive”, Psalm 134

## Introduction, v0-1a

- Have you ever had the experience of seeing something that took your breath away or made you cry out loud something like “Wow!”?
- End of pilgrimage - from Kedar to Jerusalem - (**Psalm 120:5–6 NIV11**)
- As if pilgrims overwhelmed by very real presence of God as finally arrive at destination
- The destination is not the goal - a relationship is the goal
- We have ‘arrived’, therefore:

## 1. We enjoy giving praise to God, vv1b-2

- Put aside whatever has been going on during the journey & celebrate!

### A. Minister/stand = same word

- Accepted, secure; have a place, a role; we are servants of the Lord (**Revelation 1:5–6**)

### B. Night/mundane

- Levites on night duty - could be mundane security job

### C. Safe and accepted - in God's presence

- In Christ “house”: **“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household,”** (Eph 2:19 )

**Question:** “How do we know we are safe in God?” (**Ephesians 1:11–14**)

## 2. How to enjoy receiving blessings from God, v3a

- We have arrived, therefore we receive blessings from God...
- “Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.”<sup>1</sup>
- “bless” in every verse (bless=praise, give thanks, extol) - **barakh**

### A. Blessings go both ways

- “When he ‘blesses’ us he reviews our needs and meets them; when we bless him we review his excellencies and worship him.”<sup>2</sup>
- Relationship is the point, not arrival, or the distractions of being a tourist in Jerusalem.
- e.g. Not “going to heaven”, but getting to know the one we will be with in eternity

### B. Enjoy God’s blessings

- Do you fundamentally believe God wants to bless you?

**Questions:** What stimulates you to praise God? What helps you to ‘enjoy’ God?

## Conclusion, v3b

- Maker: Who we were made for.
- He is not far off: (**Deuteronomy 30:11–14**)
- Come near through the blood of Jesus: (**Hebrews 12:22–24**)

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<sup>1</sup> [Westminster shorter catechism](#)

<sup>2</sup> New Bible Commentary: 21stC Edition. Carson, D. A, R. T France, J. A. Motyer, and Gordon J. Wenham.