

I. THE DANGER OF DRINKING THE WRONG THING

- A. A man stranded at sea once drank salt water because he was desperate. For a moment it felt like relief, but the salt only made him thirstier and more dehydrated. The very thing he thought would save him was actually destroying him. In the same way, people often try to satisfy the soul with success, pleasure, entertainment, or self, but the more they consume, the emptier they become. Only Jesus can truly satisfy the thirsty soul.
1. ***“Whoever drinks the water that I shall give him will never thirst.” -John 4:14***
- B. God intentionally designed the human heart to find its ultimate satisfaction in Him alone. One of the enemy’s greatest strategies is to convince people that fulfillment can be found apart from God. Yet pursuing satisfaction in anything other than Him ultimately leaves the soul empty, often leading to frustration, anxiety, disappointment, anger, and despair
- C. There was a season in Israel’s history when the people sought to satisfy their hearts with things other than God, leading them into deep spiritual emptiness and bankruptcy
1. ***“For My people have committed two evils, they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.” -Jeremiah 2:13***
- D. The imagery and spiritual truths found within these brief verses are filled with profound insight into what life looks like both with God and apart from Him.
1. **Lesson 1**-God is the “fountain of living waters” and Him only can we experience fresh, flowing, life-giving water.
 2. **Lesson2**- Israel forsook God and sought to create their own sources of satisfaction and security. This reveals one of the greatest deceptions of the human heart—the attempt to find true fulfillment apart from a relationship with God.
 - a) **Broken cisterns**” represent the counterfeit things of this world that attempt to replace God in satisfying the human heart, yet can never truly hold water. They symbolize idols, worldly

pursuits, and self-made solutions that ultimately leave the soul empty. Humanity often forsakes the only true source of life and seeks fulfillment in things that can never truly sustain the soul

- E. The reason I am preaching on this theme is because we can begin our walk with God deeply aware of these truths and marked by spiritual hunger, yet over time our hearts can slowly drift toward things that do not truly satisfy—even while continuing in outward devotion to God
- F. There is a section of Scripture in the Psalms that reveals a generation who understood that nothing can satisfy the human soul more than God and His presence. We find this reality in Psalm 8, one of the clearest biblical pictures of spiritual hunger. The psalmist portrays God’s presence as the soul’s greatest need, deepest longing, and highest delight.

II. CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND OF PSALM 84

- A. Psalm 84 is one of the most beloved “pilgrimage psalms” in Scripture. It expresses deep longing for the presence of God, and the joy of dwelling in His house.
- B. The psalm was written and attributed to the “Sons of Korah”:
 - 1. ***“To the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.”***
- C. The Sons of Korah were a Levitical family appointed to serve in worship and music in the temple (1 Chronicles 6:31–38). Interestingly, Korah himself rebelled against Moses in Numbers 16 and was judged by God, yet his descendants were spared and later became worship leaders in Israel. That redemption story gives added depth to their passion for God’s presence.
- D. The sons of Korah represent a generation of wholehearted seekers who refuse to follow in the footsteps of past generations that drank deeply from sin, empty religion, dead orthodoxy, and lifeless tradition. Instead, they lived anchored in the revelation that humanity was created to pursue God and find true satisfaction in Him alone.

III. PSALM 84

1. *How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts!² My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.³ Even the sparrow has found a home, And the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young— Even Your altars, O LORD of hosts, My King and my God.⁴ Blessed are those who dwell in Your house, They will still be praising You. Selah⁵ Blessed is the man whose strength is in You Whose heart is set on pilgrimage.⁶ As they pass through the Valley of Baca, They make it a spring; The rain also covers it with pools.⁷ They go from strength to strength; Each one appears before God in Zion.⁸ O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; Give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah⁹ O God, behold our shield, And look upon the face of Your anointed.¹⁰ For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.¹² O LORD of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You!*

B. This Psalm is considered a pilgrimage Psalm. In ancient Israel, worshippers would journey to Jerusalem with great expectancy and anticipation to encounter God's manifest presence in the temple, where they would commune with Him through worship, prayer, praise, and sacrifice.

IV. MAJOR THEMES IN PSALM 84 TO NOTE

A. SPIRITUAL HUNGER IS DIRECTED TOWARDS GOD'S PRESENCE

1. The Psalm reveals the worshippers' envy toward the birds that made their nests near the temple, the place where God's presence rested. Their hunger for God reached the very depths of their soul and even affected their physical bodies. Spiritual hunger is a deep ache within the heart that impacts the whole person, moving us to physically respond in worship because of our longing for Him.

B. THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S HOUSE

1. God's house was lovely to the sons of Korah because of two realities found there: the presence of God and the presence of a people passionately seeking Him

C. THE HUNGRY HEART RECEIVES BLESSINGS

1. ***.⁴Blessed are those who dwell in Your house. They will still be praising You. Selah*** ***⁵Blessed is the man whose strength is in You***
Whose heart is set on pilgrimage.

D. SPIRITUAL HUNGER SUSTAINS US THROUGH DIFFICULTIES

1. ***⁶ As they pass through the Valley of Baca, (weeping) They make it a spring; The rain also covers it with pools.⁷ They go from strength to strength; Each one appears before God in Zion.***

E. SPIRITUAL HUNGER IS THE DOOR INTO FERVENT PRAYER

- a) ***⁸ O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; Give ear, O God of Jacob!***
2. Spiritual hunger becomes a doorway into fervent prayer because hunger creates pursuit. When a person becomes deeply aware of their need for God, prayer stops being a religious duty and becomes a desperate cry for encounter, strength, wisdom, and nearness.
 - a) *The level of your spiritual hunger will determine the fervency and effectiveness of our prayer life.*
3. Throughout Scripture, the people who carried powerful prayer lives were often marked first by holy dissatisfaction, and longing for more of God.
 - a) *"Prayer is the language of a hungry heart." – E. M. Bounds*
 - b) *"God fills hungry hearts, not satisfied ones." – A. W. Tozer*

(1) This is my story! In 2006 I got so hungry for God that I began to pursue Him through prayer and fasting, which positioned me for encounters with God that led to more prayer and fasting that led to receiving my calling to mobilize the church to pray, to preach, and ultimately to birth King's House out of my family room

F. ONE MOMENT IN GOD'S PRESENCE IS GREATER THAN A THOUSAND WORLDLY PLEASURES.

a) *¹⁰ For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.*

2. The psalmist values one moment near God above worldly success, comfort, or prestige. Even being a humble doorkeeper in God's house is considered greater than dwelling in "the tents of wickedness."

G. SPIRITUAL HUNGER PUTS A DEMAND ON GOD'S BLESSINGS

a) *No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.¹² O LORD of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You!*

2. Spiritual hunger is a holy discontentment with anything less than God's best and perfect will for our lives. It refuses to settle for anything other than the fullness of all that God desires for the soul

V. **REVIVALS ARE ALWAYS THE RESULT OF SPIRITUAL HUNGER**

A. **Before God brings revival to a region, He first finds a hungry heart willing to seek Him at any cost.** A spiritually hungry heart is a magnet to God's manifest Presence and sometimes that hungry heart brings that Presence to an entire region.

B. So is the case in 1904 with a young miner named Evan Roberts who became deeply burdened for more of God. While others were content with routine religion, he would spend long hours in prayer crying out, "Bend me,

O Lord and save the world.” He became so spiritually hungry that friends said he often wept over the condition of the church and the lost. That hunger became contagious. Soon prayer meetings lasted through the night, entire towns were transformed, bars emptied, and thousands came to Christ.

- C. This movement is known as the Welsh Revival resulting in an estimated 100,000 people being converted in a short six months, and some Church historians believe the move of God in Welsh became the catalyst to the famous Azusa Revival in 1906 in Los Angeles.
- D. This historical revival did not begin with talent or strategy, it began with a man who became desperate for God. Spiritual hunger has always been the birthplace of awakening.

VI. 2007 OPEN EYED VISION

- A. In 2007, while in prayer, I received my first open-eyed vision, which I later titled ‘Hungry Young Lions.’ In the vision, I saw a full-grown lioness lying in a field of lush green grass while a litter of young lions pressed in eagerly to drink their mother’s milk. As I watched, I heard the Spirit whisper, ‘I am raising up hungry young lions who will not drink from the wells of dead, orthodox religion, but from the pure milk of the Lion of the tribe of Judah
- B. Later I understood that vision to point to the prophecy of Psalm 24.
 - 1. ***Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place?⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.⁵ He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.⁶ This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, Who seek Your face. Selah -Psalm 24:4-6***

