

Saturday morning devotion Psalm 48

Read and meditate on Psalm 48

You might consider some of the following questions to help guide your thoughts:

-When was the last time you thought about heaven? What do you think heaven will be like?

-Why do you think most people in our society, even Christians, don't think too often about heaven?

Psalm 48 is, on one level, a psalm about the city of Jerusalem. More than that, however, it is a meditation on Zion, the heavenly city of God.

-According to the psalmist, what makes Zion so special?

-Why would kings want to join forces to attack her, and why do they inevitably fail? (v.3-8)

-Why is it important to think deeply about Zion (i.e. to "walk about Zion... count her towers, consider her ramparts, view her citadels") (v.9-14)? What encouragement and strength can we draw from doing so?

-Read Hebrews 12:22-24 and/or Revelation 21:9-27. Meditate on God and His Holy City, as revealed in these passages.

Reflection and Application

"The deepest longing of the human heart is to know and enjoy the glory of God. We were made for this.... We were made to know and treasure the glory of God above all things; and when we trade that treasure for images, everything is disordered. The sun of God's glory was made to shine at the center of the solar system of our soul. And when it does, all the planets of our life are held in their proper orbit. But when the sun is displaced, everything flies apart. The healing of the soul begins by restoring the glory of God to its flaming, all-attracting place at the center." (John Piper, in *Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ*)

Jesus says in Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Thinking often and thinking deeply about Heaven and about the God who "is in her citadels" helps us to re-center our lives properly on the glory of God and to fix our thoughts and affections on things of lasting value, rather than on things that are destined to perish and that ultimately cannot satisfy the deepest longings of our hearts. Spend some time this morning evaluating your life and your priorities in the light of Heaven. Do you need to refocus your life on knowing and enjoying the glory of God?

"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory." (Colossians 3:1-4)