

*Psalm 84:1-5*

*My Soul Longs for the Courts of the Lord*

*How lovely is your dwelling place,*

*O LORD of hosts!*

*My soul longs,*

*yes,*

*faints for the courts of the LORD;*

*my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.*

*Even 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.*

*Blessed are those who dwell in your house,*

*ever singing your praise!*

*Selah*

*Blessed are those whose strength is in you,*

*in whose heart are the highways to Zion.*

The ordinances of God are the believer's solace in this evil world; in them he enjoys the presence of the living God: this causes him to regret his absence from them. They are to his soul as the nest to the bird. Yet they are only an earnest of the happiness of heaven; but how can men desire to enter that holy habitation, who complain of Divine ordinances as wearisome? Those are truly happy, who go forth, and go on in the exercise of religion, in the strength of the grace of Jesus Christ, from whom all our sufficiency is. The pilgrims to the heavenly city may have to pass through many a valley of weeping, and many a thirsty desert; but wells of salvation shall be opened for them, and consolations sent for their support. Those that press forward in their Christian course, shall find God add grace to their graces. And those who grow in grace, shall be perfect in glory. - *Matthew Henry, MHCC*