

## **“The Throne of David” Psalm 132**

### **Intro and Context:**

**StudyLight.org:** Dummelow stated that, "This is the most difficult of the Pilgrim Songs."**[1]** The only reason for this evaluation, however, was, as Dummelow stated it, that, "According to accepted literary criticism, it must be a post-exilic Psalm."**[2]** To us, there is no difficulty at all. It is the radical literary criticism of the mid-20th century which is wrong. It is simply impossible to fit this psalm into a post-exilic occasion.

As Delitzsch observed, "This Psalm belongs to a time in which the Davidic throne was still standing, and when the sacred ark of the covenant was not as yet irrecoverably lost."**[3]** Any person able to read will note that the psalm states these facts. Ballard agreed with this, writing that, "There seems to be no alternative to assigning it to a time when a scion (*Descendent*) of David was ruling in Jerusalem."**[4]**

Leupold also dated the psalm "near the times of David," adding that, "We are not impressed with arguments that lead some interpreters to claim for the psalm a post-exilic date."**[5]**

The fact is that, in all probability, this psalm was used at the dedication of Solomon's temple, as proved by the quotation of some of it in [2 Chronicles 6:41](#)f. "This shows that the psalm existed early enough in the reign of Solomon to be ready for the dedication of his temple."**[6]**

We shall follow the paragraphing suggested by Leupold: "(1) A Prayer Offered at the Dedication of the Temple ([Psalms 132:1-10](#)); and (2) God's Answer of the Prayer ([Psalms 132:11-18](#))."**[7]**

Treasury of David, CHS: **TITLE.** *A Song of Degrees.* A joyful song indeed: let all pilgrims to the New Jerusalem sing it often. The degrees or ascents are very visible; the theme ascends step by step from, "afflictions" to a "crown", from "remember David", to, "I will make the horn of David to bud." The latter half is like the overarching sky bending above "the fields of the wood" which are found in the resolves and prayers of the former portion.

**DIVISION.** Our translators have rightly divided this Psalm. It contains a statement of David's anxious care to build a house for the Lord (Ps 132:1-7); a prayer at the removal of the Ark (Ps 132:8-10); and a pleading of the divine covenant and its promises (Ps 132:11-18).

### **Grey's Outline:**

**Verse 1-9: David's Desire to Build and Worship**

**Verses 10-12: God's Eternal Promise**

**Verses 13-18: Messiah's Throne in Zion**