

PRAYING PSALM 92

“I will triumph in the works of Your hands” (Psalm 92:4).

This was a song for the Sabbath day. It was written for worship in the second temple. For us, it answers the question: Why should we go to church? The answer is, we go to church to be reminded: 1. TO CELEBRATE THE LORD (1-4). Give thanks. Sing praise. Declare His lovingkindness. Declare His faithfulness. Be glad for what God is doing in you and through you. 2. TO CONTEMPLATE THE LORD (5-9). His works. His thoughts. His judgments. His sovereignty. 3. TO CONTINUE IN THE LORD (10-15). In His anointing. In growing. In witnessing.

Israel was legally obligated to observe the Sabbath. The church is not. The regular practice of the New Testament church was to worship on the first day of the week. It differs from the Sabbath, because it commemorates the resurrection (a new beginning). Actually, the church is free to worship any day of the week (Colossians 2:16-17). We don't attend church for the reasons Israel observed the Sabbath. We attend church to be reminded of the Lord by celebrating, singing, and praising. We attend church to rejoice with others for what is doing in our lives. We attend church for the instruction of the Word so we can contemplate the past and present work of God. We attend church to celebrate our growth in the Lord and to be encouraged in our growth so the Lord so the Holy Spirit can use us as witnesses.

If you are a Christian who has ceased attending church services (maybe for an understandable reason), recommit yourself to public worship as this psalm teaches. It is up to you to make the decision, to take the steps, to show up and worship with the saints. When you do that, it will be more natural to do as this psalm suggests and declare God's lovingkindness “every morning” and his faithfulness “every night.” Worship was never intended for one day a week, but it helps to be planted in the house of the Lord (13).