CP - 7/28/24: Psalms of Ascent

Psalm 133: Blessed Unity

- 1. The Nature of Unity (133:1)
- 2. The Nurture of Unity (133:2-3a)
- 3. The Need for Unity (133:3)

Psalm 134: Bless the Lord!

This Psalm is like a benediction at the end of the festival as people leave. It is the bookend for the Psalms of Ascent.

"bless the Lord" - found 3x, 1 in each verse - "Bless" derives from the Hebrew noun for "knee" and means "to kneel down," "adore with bended knees.... A person always utters this formula in grateful reaction to a good deed which has been done for him by the individual he is blessing." (*Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*)

*Ex. 18:10, Ruth 2:20, 1 Kings 5:7, 2 Chron 2:12 - examples of blessing the Lord

To have God bless you is to give you something that you do not possess or cannot receive independent of Him. To bless God is to recognize who He already is and what He already has independent of you. And worship Him for it!

1. Bless the Lord in worship together!

- People to Levites (1-2); Levites back to people (3)
- 2. Bless the Lord for the entire journey!
 - Bless the the Lord for what He has said in every song of ascent (Psalms 120–133)

3. Bless the Lord for every part of His salvation!

- Passover/Weeks (Pentecost)/Tabernacles
- 4. Bless the Lord now and for all eternity!

- Heb 12:22-24