

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is centered on the slide.

**“ARE YOU GLAD TO BE HERE?”**

**PSALM 122**

# Definitions of *Ekklesia*

- “A regularly summoned legislative body”
- “A casual gathering of people”
- “A gathering”
- “An assembly”
- “A community”
- “A congregation”
- “The totality of Christians living and meeting in a particular locality or larger geographical area, but not necessarily limited to one meeting place”

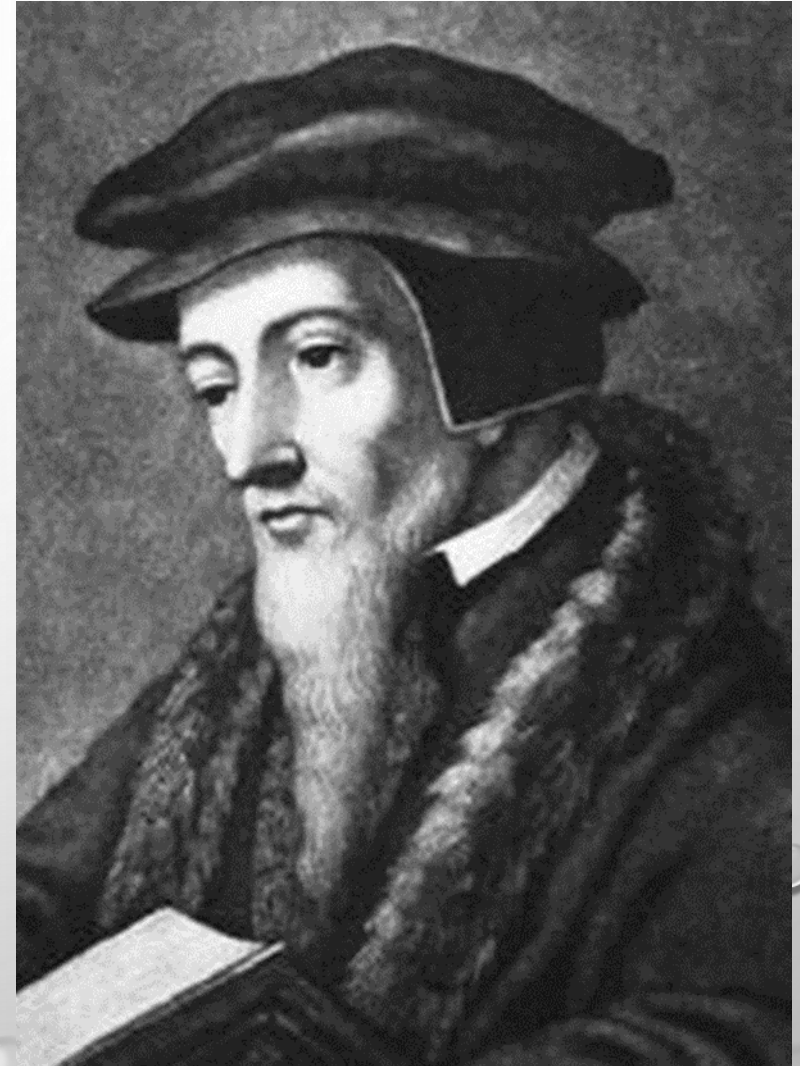
## Acts 14:27

*And when they arrived and gathered the church together,  
they declared all that God had done with them,  
and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.*

## John Calvin

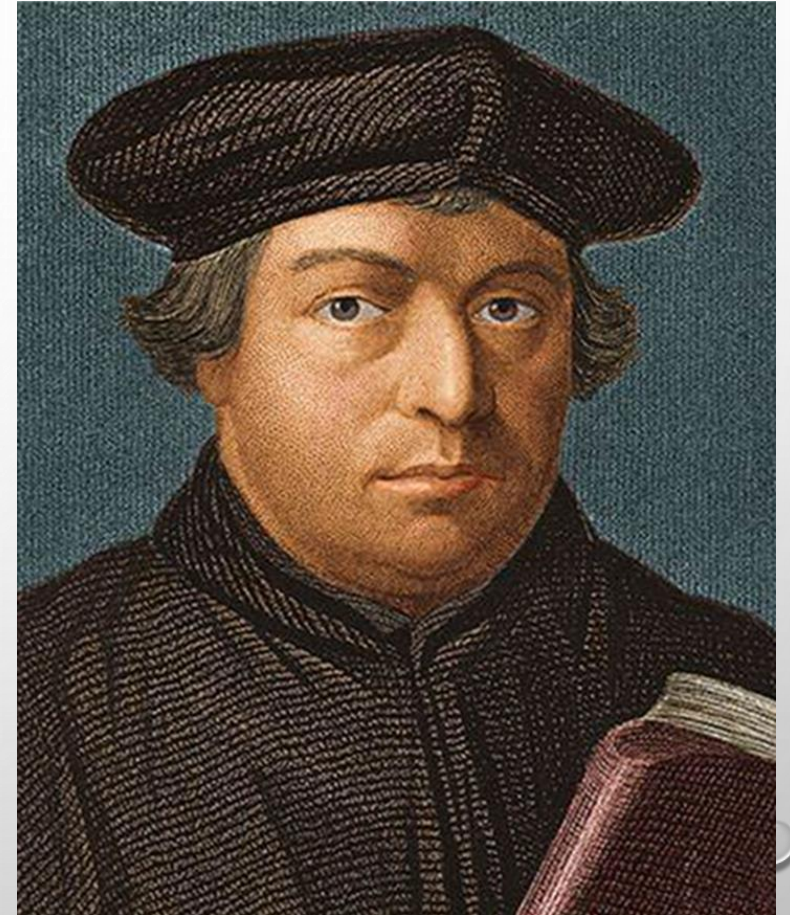
“The Lord’s Day must serve us for a tower to mount up into, to view God’s works afar off... the minding thereof will fashion and polish us...

It is necessary to have one special day dedicated wholly thereunto.”



# Martin Luther

“At home, in my own house,  
there is no warmth or vigor in me,  
but in the church when the  
multitude is gathered together,  
a fire is kindled in my heart and it  
breaks its way through.”



# Background Notes on Psalm 122

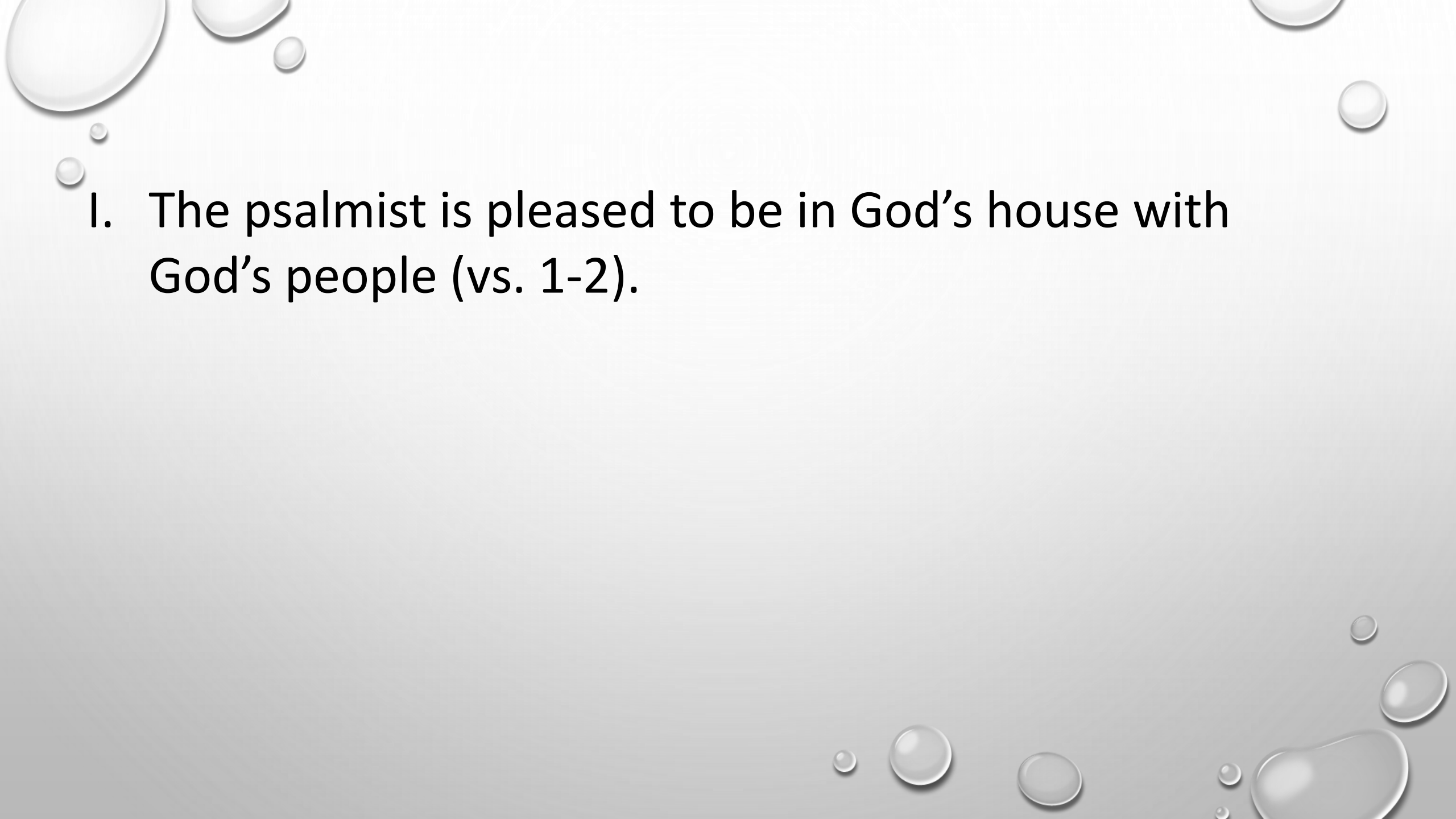
- Author: David?
- Part of the Psalms of Ascent, a geographical procession (Ps 120-126)
- A psalm for gathered worshipers



KEY POINT:

There is joy when God's people gather for worship.



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- I. The psalmist is pleased to be in God's house with God's people (vs. 1-2).



“Eager joy should always fill the hearts of God’s people as they make their way into God’s house. In the company of like-minded worshippers, their hungry souls are satisfied as they sit under the exposition of Scripture. Their spirits are lifted as God is exalted, but never as man is entertained. What a treasured privilege it is to be...

**Steve Lawson**



“...with God’s people as they gather in God’s house to hear God’s Word.

Word-inspired worship is never a drudgery but a delight;

never a burden but a blessing.

It is in this spirit that believers should gather together with much anticipation, excitement, and enthusiasm for the holy things of God. Such corporate worship serves as a preview of...

**Steve Lawson**



## Steve Lawson

“...what awaits the Redeemed in heaven, a foretaste of glory above. It is with this joy that the saints always assemble together in God’s house.”

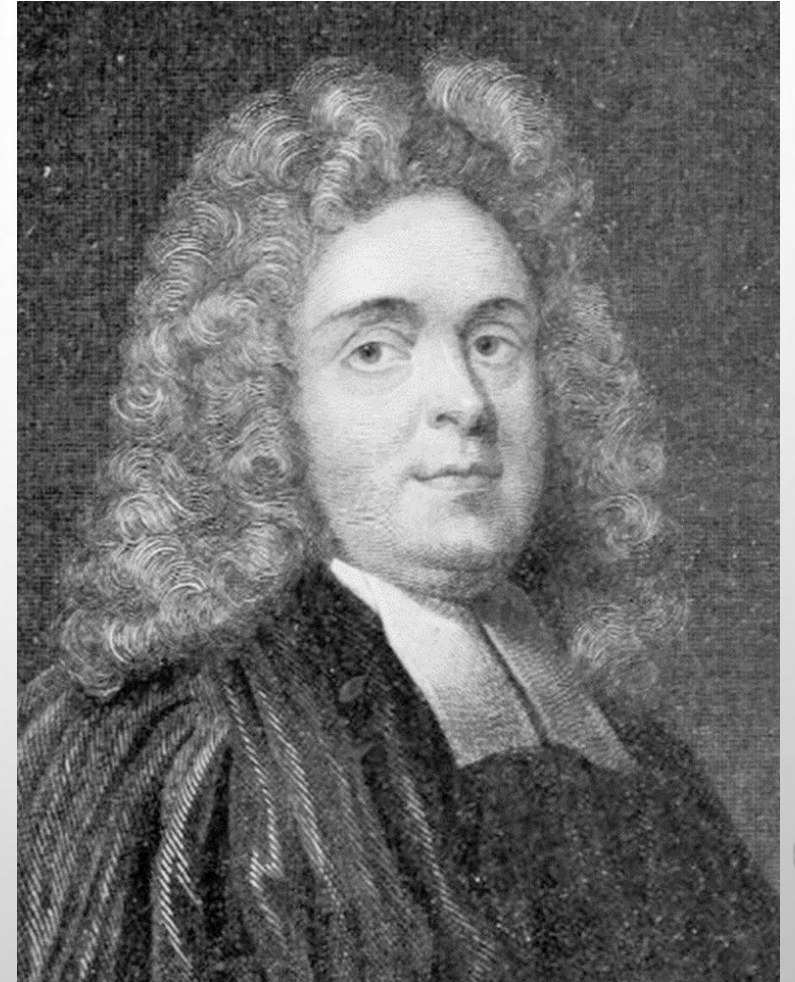


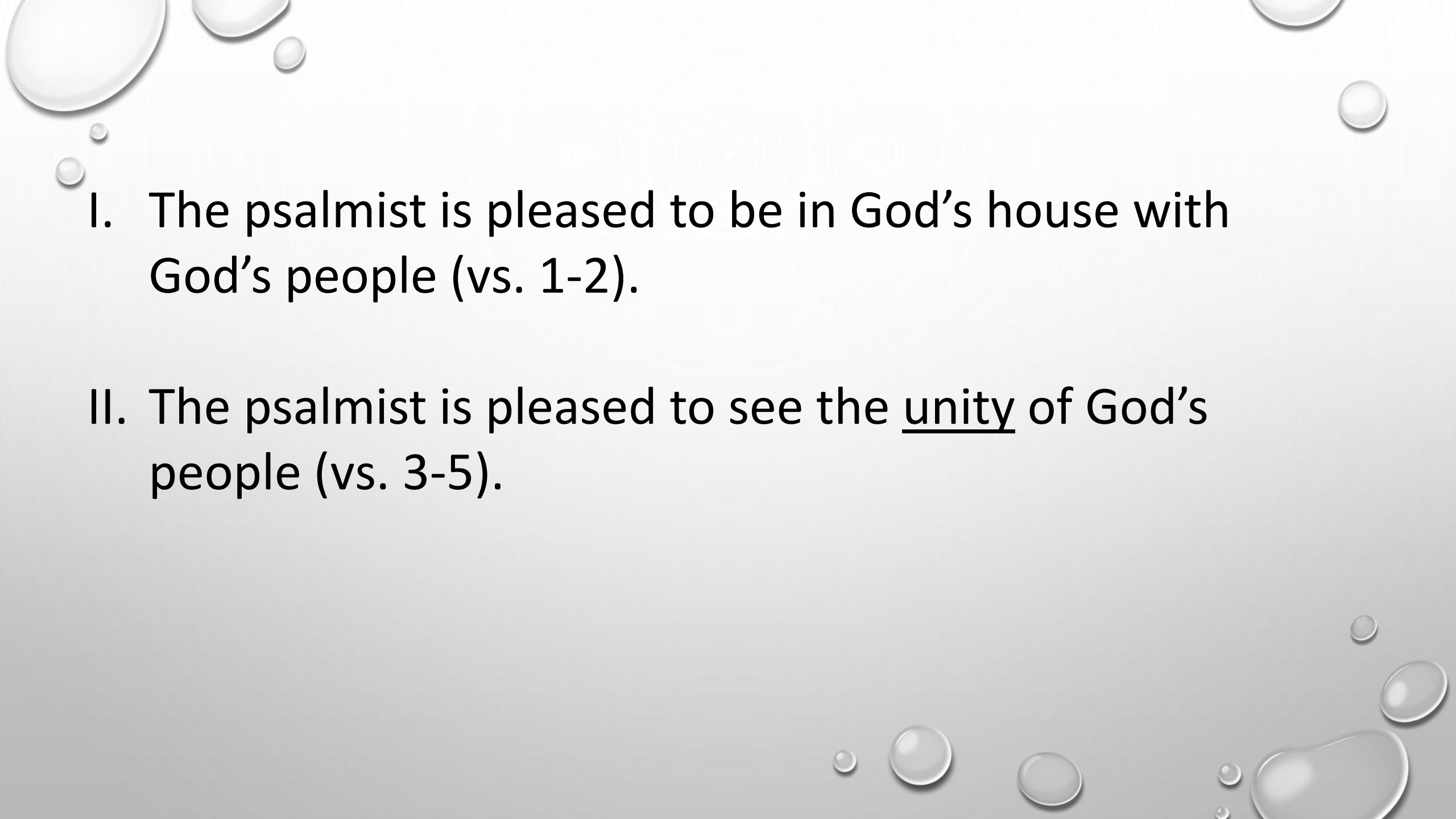
## Hebrews 10:24-25


*<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

# Matthew Henry

“How lovely is the sanctuary in the eyes of all who are truly sanctified!”



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- I. The psalmist is pleased to be in God's house with God's people (vs. 1-2).
  
  - II. The psalmist is pleased to see the unity of God's people (vs. 3-5).



I. The psalmist is pleased to be in God's house with God's people (vs. 1-2).

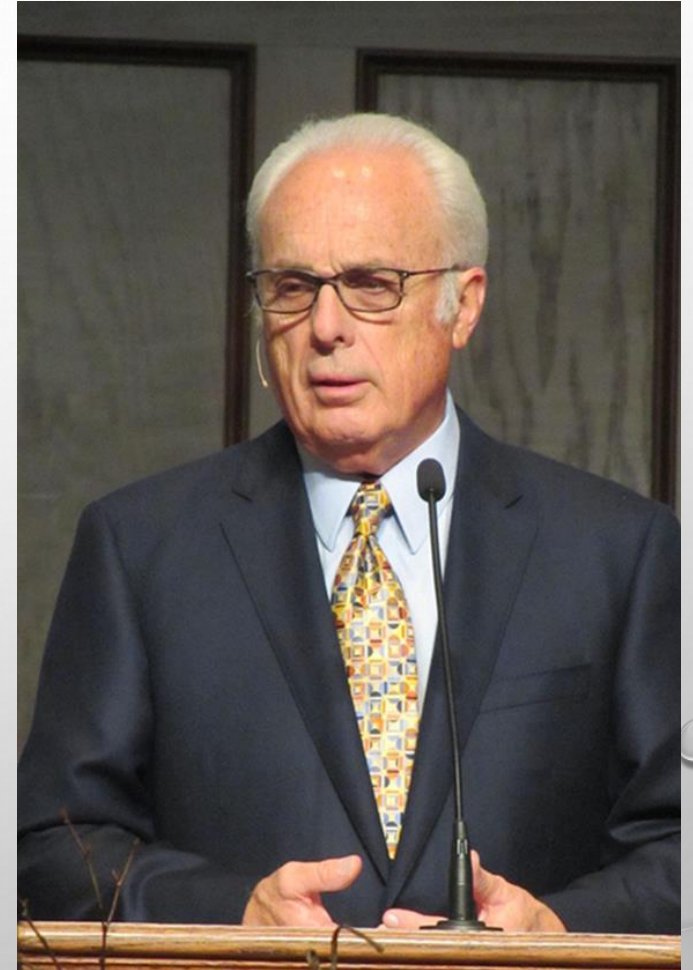
II. The psalmist is pleased to see the unity of God's people (vs. 3-5).

III. The psalmist prays in God's house for God's people (vs. 6-9).



**John MacArthur,**  
*The Pillars of Christian  
Character*

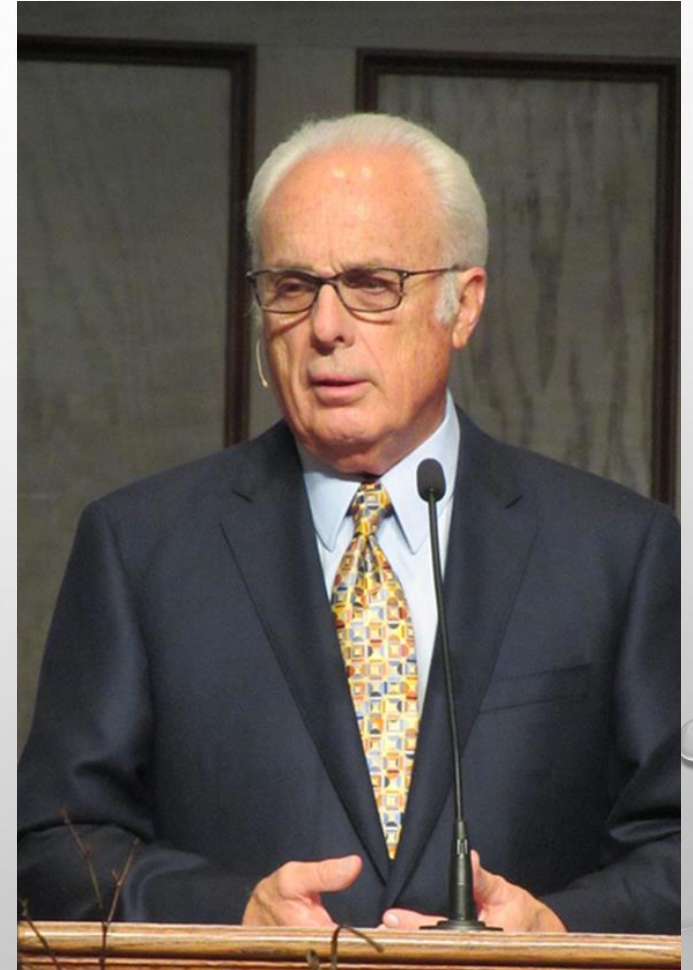
“The devil uses believers’  
sinfulness to foster disunity within  
the church. When two or more  
people insist on having things their  
way, individual priorities will  
eventually conflict, and arguments  
will result. Church unity cannot  
possibly exist if its members’ goals,  
purposes, and ideals are driven by  
personal egos. Such quarrelsome...





“...disunity among Christians can wreak all sorts of harm. God is displeased and dishonored, the church is discredited and demoralized, and the world is disillusioned and confirmed in its unbelief. Such negative results are not worth the price the church must pay just so a few arrogant believers can fulfill their ego. It’s imperative that unity be preserved.”

**John MacArthur,**  
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## Psalm 42:1-4

*<sup>1</sup> As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. <sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? <sup>3</sup> My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?" <sup>4</sup> These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival.*

## Psalm 42:5

*Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation.*



**KEY POINT:**

There is joy when God's people gather for worship.



**Thomas Watson,**  
*The Ten Commandments*

“When Saturday evening approaches, sound a retreat; call your minds off from the world and summon your thoughts together, to think of the great work of the approaching day.”

