

Psalm 48 New American Standard Bible

The Beauty and Glory of Zion.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised
In the city of our God, His holy mountain.
² Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth,
Is Mount Zion *in* the far north,
The city of the great King.

³ In its palaces,
God has made Himself known as a stronghold.
⁴ For, behold, the kings arrived,
They passed by together.
⁵ They saw *it*, then they were amazed;
They were terrified, they fled in a hurry.

⁶ Panic seized them there,
Anguish, as *that* of a woman in childbirth.
⁷ With the east wind
You smash the ships of Tarshish.

⁸ Just as we have heard, so have we seen
In the city of the Lord of armies, in the city of our God;
God will establish her forever. *Selah*
⁹ We have thought over Your goodness, God,
In the midst of Your temple.

¹⁰ As is Your name, God,
So is Your praise to the ends of the earth;
Your right hand is full of righteousness.

¹¹ Mount Zion shall be glad,
The daughters of Judah shall rejoice
Because of Your judgments.
¹² Walk around Zion and encircle her;
Count her towers;

¹³ Consider her ramparts;
Go through her palaces,
So that you may tell *of her* to the next generation.

¹⁴ For such is God,
Our God forever and ever;
He will lead us until death.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?
Did anything confuse you?
Did anything move you emotionally?
Did God instruct you to do something?
Did you gain any insight into God's character?

1. What does the word great mean to you?
2. The Lord, He is the one at the top of the tree.
3. Unless we accept His lordship, we will constantly lose our way.
4. What does it mean for you to praise God?
5. Why does God want us to praise Him?
6. Where is the city of our God?
7. What is the city of our God?
8. What are the mountains that are called 'His holy mountains'?
9. Back in this day, Christians erected church buildings with majestic splendour, an expression of their understanding of the glory of who God is.
10. Architecture is an expression of our worship. What happened to that kind of expression?
11. Joy is a reckless expression of unnecessary emotions and yet God made us to be joyful!
Why did he do this?
12. 'God in her pillars' says David. He is not talking about God as being 'a her', he's talking about the building that represents Him.
13. Kings that gather are amazed at what represents God, they even fall into fear and panic.
14. The Kings are amazed at the glory and splendour of God, are you?
15. There will always be a city of our God.
16. To know and experience God's loving kindness is to experience what?
17. God's name is especially important to Him – why?

18. 'God is full of righteousness'. This means He cannot be unrighteous or even do unrighteous acts - do you believe this is true?
19. Who are the daughters of Jerusalem that rejoice?
20. In these days we need to take advantage of the opportunities to see God in His splendour and His glory.
21. The future of humanity will look quite different today than it will in the future.
22. We need to learn to tell of Gods glory why we still can!
23. Jesus said 'work while it is still day, night-time is coming when no one can work'.
24. God will not only guide us up until death, but He will guide us even beyond death!