

# PSALM 133 vs 1

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This is the 14<sup>th</sup> of 15 psalms... sometimes called: **A Song of Ascents**... thought by some to be sung in praise to the LORD of glory... used in the all-night ceremony to begin **Passover, Pentecost** and **the Feast of Tabernacles**.

We see no reason for depriving David the authorship of this sparkling sonnet. He knew by experience the bitterness occasioned by divisions in families, and was well prepared to celebrate in choicest psalmody the blessing of unity for which he sighed – Charles Spurgeon.



In this Psalm there is no wry word, but only what is amicable and of peace. Visitors to Zion were about to return, and in this hymn of joy they see such union among the tribes who gathered. The previous Psalm had revealed the center of those ruled by God, united in the Lord's Anointed and the promises made to him. No wonder that brethren dwell in unity when God dwells among them and finds His rest in them.

**A Song of Ascents of David,**

**<sup>1</sup> Indeed, how good and how pleasant,**

**for brothers to dwell together in unity** / No one can adequately tell the excellence of such a condition; and so the Psalmist says: how good, and how pleasant. He does not attempt to measure either the good or the pleasure, but invites us to see for ourselves; the combination of the two among brothers, is more remarkable than the conjunction of two stars of the first magnitude;

**<sup>2</sup> like precious ointment upon the head, running down the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the hem of his garments** / what a sacred thing is brotherly love, when it is compared to an oil which must not be poured on any man, but on the Lord's high-priest alone; sweet-scented, and pleasant: poured on his head, and flowing down, then dropping on his garment to the utmost hem; so, brotherly love extends in its caring power and blesses all who are under its influence – Charles Spurgeon;

**<sup>3</sup> as the dew of Hermon, and as what descends on the mountains of Zion** / our Hebrew brothers remind us: **Zion** is also the word for **the Flock**; the sheep of the Lord;

in this prayer and song of unity it is noteworthy, how beginning with the fundamental idea: **brothers**, we rise to realize, it is the Elder Brother, who is our anointed High Priest. It is the bond of His priesthood which joins us together; it is the anointing that flows down from our High Priest, which marks our being brethren – one family on earth and in heaven. Our unity consists in the “flowing down” of the common blessing. If “the dew of Hermon” has descended upon “the mountains of Zion”... then long after the sun has risen will gladsome fruit appear – in some twenty, in some thirty, and in some a hundredfold – Dr. Alfred Edersheim, Oxford University:

**for there the LORD commanded the blessing --**

**life for evermore.** / Brothers in unity is a wonder seldom seen, so pay attention! it is characteristic of real saints – do not fail to inspect it! It is worthy of admiration; pause and gaze upon it! Imitate it. God looks on with approval, consider it. – Matthew Henry.

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