Longing for More

Psalm 84:1-12

“assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, ‘You have gone too far!

“‘For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them.

“‘Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?’”

Numbers 16:3

“you shall be to me a kingdom of priests”

Exodus 19:6a

“When Moses heard it, he fell on his face,”

Numbers 16:4

envy = I am sad that you are not.

envy = I am sad that you are not.

I lack because you don’t.

envy = I am sad that you are not.

I lack because you don’t.

I have less because you have more.

envy = distress + **desire** + **disdain**

“[Envy is] dissatisfaction with our place in God’s order of creation, manifested in begrudging his gifts to others.”

Augustine

“[Envy is] the consuming desire to have everybody else as unsuccessful as you are.”

Frederick Buechner

“The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings. The inherent virtue of Socialism is the equal sharing of miseries.”

Winston Churchill

“No man who says I’m as good as you believes it. He would not say it if he did. . . .

“The claim to equality, outside the strictly political field, is made only by those who feel themselves to be in some way inferior.

“What it expresses is precisely the itching, smarting, writhing awareness of inferiority.”

C.S. Lewis

"What it expresses is precisely **the itching, smarting, writhing awareness of inferiority**."

C.S. Lewis

“is it too small a thing for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel,

“to bring you near to himself, to do service in the tabernacle of the LORD and to stand before the congregation to minister to them,

“and that he has brought you near him, and all your brothers the sons of Levi with you? And would you seek the priesthood also?”

Numbers 16:9-10

“A Psalm of the Sons of Korah”

selah = an invitation to pause, linger, take in,
to meditate on

1. a desire for more - **longing** (1-4)

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“How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of hosts!

“My soul longs, yes, faints
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and flesh sing for joy
to the living God.” (1-2)

“Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,

“at your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.”

“Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!” Selah (3-4)

v. 1 – “your dwelling place”

v. 1 – “your dwelling place”

v. 4 – “blessed are those who dwell in your house”

“even the sparrow finds a home . . . at your altars” (3)

“Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!” (4)

“A grateful addict is a sober addict.”

“The gospel calls us continually to make Christ the source, the center, and the purpose of our lives.

“In him we find our home. In the safety of that place, our sadnesses can point us to God, even drive us into God’s loving embrace.

“Here, mourning our losses ultimately lets us claim our belovedness. Mourning opens us to a future we could not imagine on our own.”

Henri Nouwen

1. a desire for more - longing (1-4)
2. a drive for more - **journeying** (5-8)

“Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

“As they go through the Valley of Baca
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.

“They go from strength to strength;
each one appears before God in Zion.
O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah” (5-8)

Three key aspects of this journey

strength (5-7)

strength (5-7)

“whose strength is in you” (5a)

strength (5-7)

“whose strength is in you” (5a)

“They go from strength to strength” (7a)

strength (5, 7)

motivation (5)

strength (5-7)

motivation (5)

“in whose heart are the highways” (5b)

strength (5-7)

motivation (5)

hydration (6)

“As they go through the Valley of Baca
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.” (6)

“Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

“For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ. . . .

“Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.”

Philippians 3:8, 12

1. a desire for more - longing (1-4)
2. a drive for more - journeying (5-8)
3. a destination for more - **arriving** (9-12)

1 request + 2 reasons

request (9)

request (9)

“Behold our shield, O God;

look on the face of your anointed!” (9)

shield = king who protects

shield = king who protects

anointed (mashiach) = messiah

request (9)

reasons (10)

His presence is **better**. (10)

His presence is **better**. (10)

“For a day in your courts is **better** than a thousand elsewhere.

His presence is **better**. (10)

“I would **rather** be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.” (10)

“I would rather have less with you than more without you.”

His presence is better. (10)

His presence is **blessing**. (11-12)

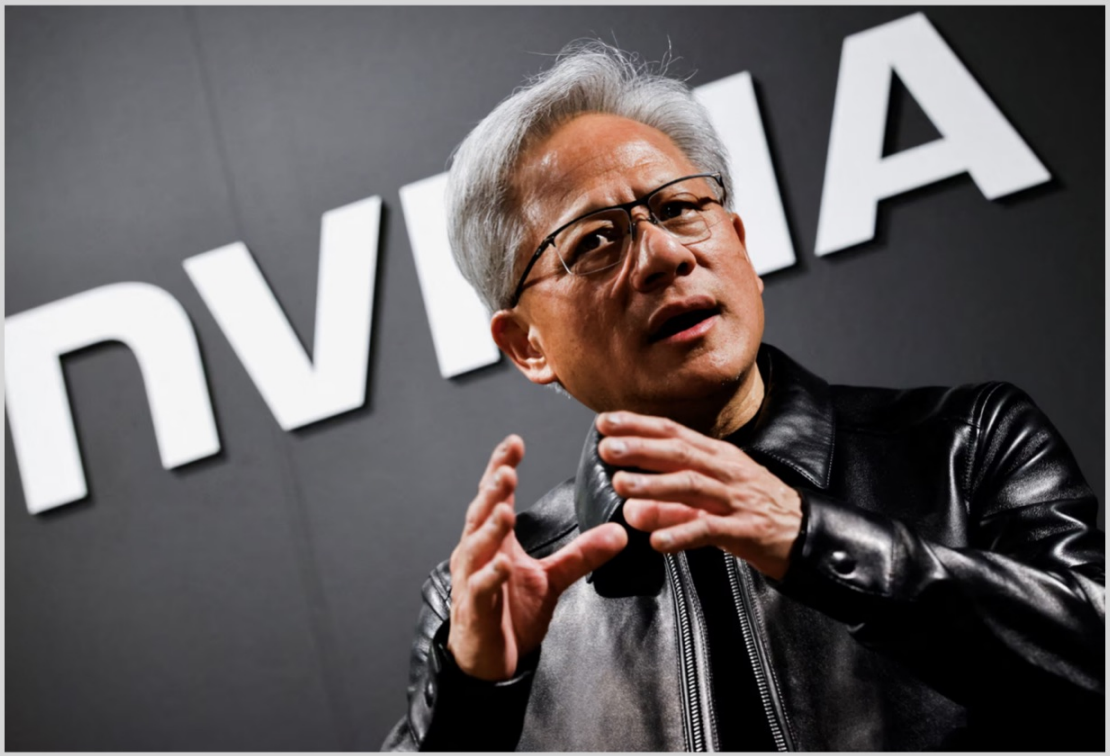
shining - “sun”

shining - “sun”

“For the LORD God is a sun” (11a)

shining - “sun”

shielding - “shield”



Jensen Huang



shining - “sun”

shielding - “shield”

showering - “bestows”

“the LORD bestows favor and honor.” (11b)

“No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.” (11c)

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

“He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?”

Romans 8:31-32

“O LORD of hosts,
blessed is the one who trusts in you!” (12)



“I still haven’t found what I’m looking for.”

Bono

“We know where to find what we’re looking for.”

Option #1 - Keep trying.

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Option #2 - Give up.

Option #1 - Keep trying.

Option #2 - Give up.

Option #3 - Look beyond.

“If I find in myself the desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.”

C.S. Lewis

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for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and flesh sing for joy
to the living God.” (1-2)