**Come Out With Your Hands Up**

(Psalm 134:1-3 KJV)

*1Behold, bless ye the LORD, all ye servants of the LORD, which by night stand in the house of the LORD.2Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.3The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.*

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n the text we have now reached the last of the Gradual Psalms. The Pilgrims are going home from worship, and are solemnly singing the sanctimonious last song of the of the evening. As soon as they are outside the gates they gaze upward and observe the guards upon the temple wall, and the lamps shining from the windows of the chambers which surround the sanctuary—therefore, moved by the sight of such beautification, they chant a farewell exodus to the attendants upon the holy shrine. Interesting the Pilgrims parting exhortation arouses the priests to pronounce upon them a blessing out of the Holy Place. This is as the benediction as contained in the third verse of the text.

(Psalm 134:3 KJV)

*The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.*

What exactly is a benediction? Well for the inquisitive minds before us a benediction is a pronouncement of divine blessing given in the Bible. It represents a joyful, unifying call to faith, patience, and practice for the faithful, based on the divine Principles of God.

Moreover, a benediction is a short, concise statement given in the bible in the form of a petition, an assurance, a promise or principle. And it also voices images of protection, or comfort, or abundance, or some other word of assurance. The reading aloud of a benediction at the conclusion of a church service is joy expressed, and cherished, and shared with the all that has remained for the service. It is part of "the morning meal" that blesses all in the house.

**Here are some examples of familiar biblical benedictions**:

(Numbers 6:24-26 KJV)

*24The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: 25The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: 26The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.*

(Jude 1:24-25 KJV)

*24Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, 25To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.*

Whenever you have received this type of blessing in the sanctuary whatever you may endure when you leave this place of worship you can come out with your hands up.

1. **The Conversational Encouragement:**

(Psalm 134:1KJV)

*Behold, bless ye the LORD, all ye servants of the LORD, which by night stand in the house of the LORD.*

**The Priests** :( **The servants in the text**) were responsible for this encouragement:

Now in verse 1 it features the word blessing in a form that might be called an invitation and a command. The persons who first sang this song had been traveling, literally, the roads to Jerusalem. Now they had arrived and were at the temple to worship God in festival celebration. Some would have been on the road for many days, some for weeks, in some instances maybe some for months. Now they were at the end of the road. What happened next? They are ready to praise God!