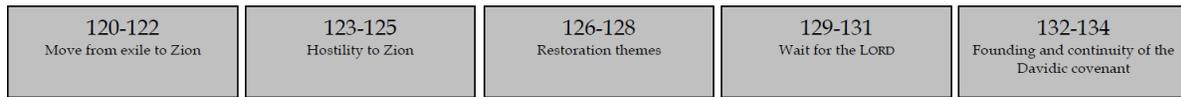


THE SONGS OF THE ASCENTS

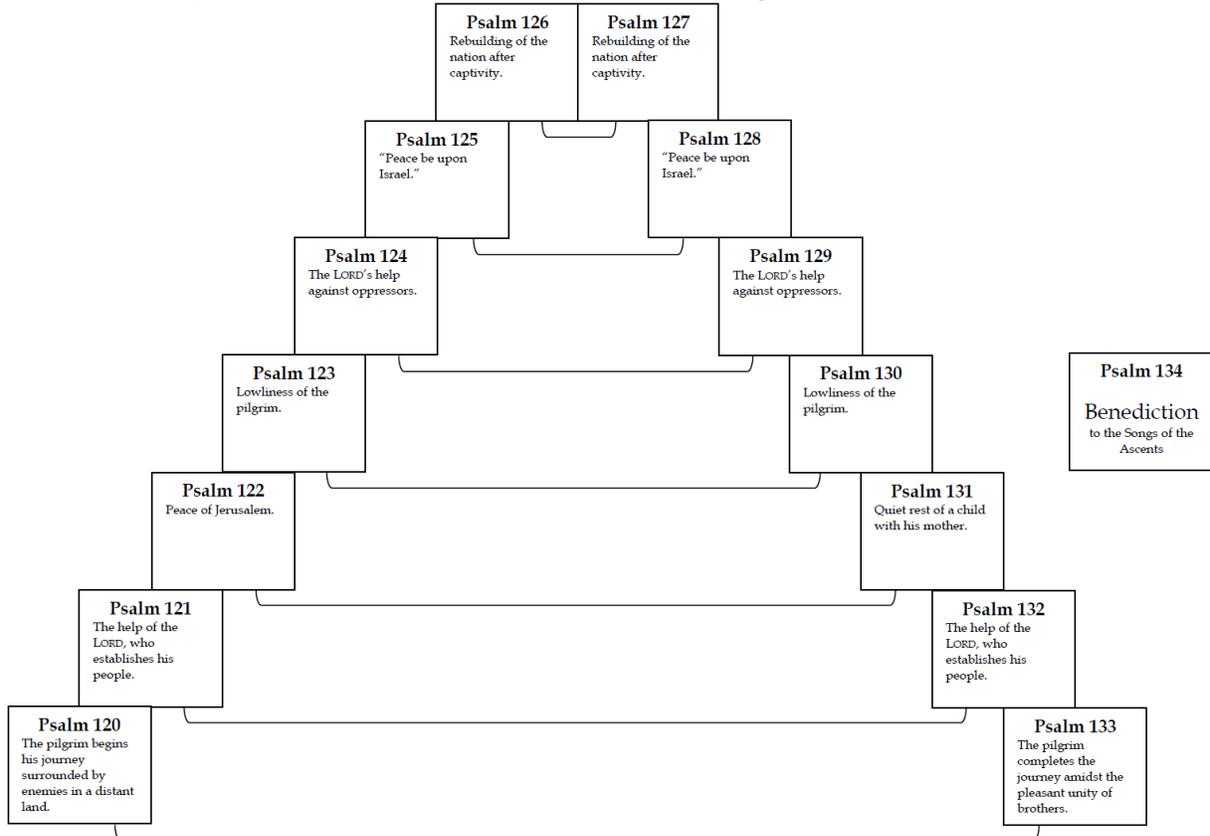
Psalms that lift your soul (Psalm 120-134)

June 16, 2021.....Introduction: Psalms 120 and 133
 June 23, 2021.....Psalms 121 and 132; Psalm 122 and 131
 June 30, 2021.....Psalms 123 and 130; Psalms 124 and 129
 July 7, 2021 Psalms 125 and 128
 July 14, 2021 Psalms 126 and 127; Psalm 134 and Review

A possible *linear* relationship in the Songs of the Ascents



A possible *chiastic* relationship in the Songs of the Ascents



Psalm 126

1. Psalms 126 and 127 point to the rebuilding and restoration of the nation after captivity. Psalm 126 is general enough to include every deliverance experienced by God's people, including the final delivery into eternal life. It also celebrates the restoration of the right relationship with God. Identify some of the emotions that the psalmist is going through.
2. What are the causes of those emotions?
3. How do we as Christians experience the same emotions and their causes?

Psalm 127

1. This psalm elaborates on the relationship between human labor and divine blessing that was introduced in Psalm 126. No human effort can prosper without God's blessing, but in earthly matters human effort is necessary. Explain why that is true.
2. What does "house" refer to?
3. In the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, many, even among the leaders of Israel, were deserting their first marriages and intermarrying with their heathen neighbors. What dangers did those decisions present?
4. Agree or disagree: In our nation, personal satisfaction has become a more important goal than raising godly families.
5. Agree or disagree: The investment in children is the best investment in the future, both for the church and for society.
6. This psalm speaks to contentment at work and contentment at home. Why will it be tragic for our society if we fail to learn the lessons taught by this psalm?

