Psalm 134

"Reciprocal Benedictory Festival Blessings"

(A Song of Ascents.)¹

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A1 A CALL FROM DEPARTING WORSHIPERS FOR NIGHT-WATCH PRIESTS AND LEVITES TO BLESS YAHWEH 134:1-2

- B1 The Call to All Servants to Bless: *{1}* Behold, bless the LORD, all servants of the LORD,
- B2 The Specificity of Servants: Who serve by night in the house of the LORD!
- B3 The Mode of Blessing
 - C1 $\{2\}$ Lift up your hands to the sanctuary
 - C2 And bless the LORD.

A2 THE RECIPROCAL CALL FROM NIGHT-WATCH PRIESTS AND LEVITES FOR YAHWEH TO BLESS THE DEPARTING WORSHIPERS 134:3

- **B1** The Origin of Yahweh's Blessing: {3} May the LORD bless you from Zion,
- **B2** The Sovereign Power of the Blessor: He who made heaven and earth.

Expanded Analysis of Psalm 134 Prepared by James T. Bartsch June, 2006, updated September 16, 2019

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¹ Psalm 134 Superscription: Song of Ascents: See note on Psalm 120 for discussion. This psalm constitutes a fitting benediction to the Songs of Ascents (120-134). The setting for this delightful hymn is evening, and the departing worshipers hail the priests and Levites standing in the house of <u>Yahweh</u> to bless Him throughout the night. In turn, the gathered priests and Levites offer a farewell blessing upon the departing worshipers that <u>Yahweh</u>, the Creator of both heavens and earth, might bless them from <u>Zion</u>, the earthly home in which He condescends to dwell. It is a fond, worshipful, benedictory farewell.