

The background is a solid brown color. In the center, there is a faint, circular emblem. Inside the emblem, there is a gold cross at the top, a red heart with black thorns in the middle, and an open book at the bottom. The text is overlaid on this emblem.

Psalm 147:12-20

God Is Doing Something Special

Psalm 147:12-20

- Another psalm of exultant praise
- Why do we start in the middle of the Psalm?
 - Psalm 147 is one Psalm in the MT
 - It is Psalm 146 and Psalm 147 in the LXX
 - LXX heading reads "Hallelujah (a Psalm of) Haggai and Zechariah
 - That would reinforce understanding this as a post-exilic psalm
 - Delitzsch speculates that it was written for the completion of the Jerusalem city wall under Nehemiah (cf. Neh 12:27-47) perhaps because of v 2
 - Rebuilding the wall was a critical task – Neh 4

Psalm 147:12-20

- v13 - The bars were to strengthen the gates during attack - Neh 3
 - Their sons had been slaughtered in the fall of Jerusalem – Jer 52:1-11, II Chron 36:11-21
- v14 - Literally "appoints your boundary peace"
 - Could be peace within the boundaries as most translations phrase it
 - Could be more poetic meaning of being bounded by peace
- v15 - Image of a swift running messenger carrying the message
 - Is 55:10-13
- v16 - Such weather would be unusual for Palestine and the psalm may also be giving thanks for God relieving such unbearable cold, q.v. v 17

Psalm 147:12-20

- v17 - ice - hail or sleet
 - morsel - fragment, bit, morsel of bread (BDB)
- v19 - The same word that controls all nature in v15 and v18
 - cf. John 1:1-3, Col 1:15-17
- v20 - cf. Deut 4:5-8
 - This is even more true of Christianity
 - God provides the finest wheat – praying hands
 - God sends forth His word to melt our frozen hearts (cf. Rom 10:6-18)
 - God places His Word within us (Jer 31:31-33)
 - Christianity is not merely one religion among many - it is unique
 - It is our responsibility to invite all to become part of this one unique people