

Saturday – October 24, 2020.

Our Verses for the day: Psalm 25:14-15 (KJV) ¹⁴ The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant. ¹⁵ Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

Our devotion today as with each Saturday is an outline of the message at Belfield Baptist Church for October 25, 2020.

A Godly Person Psalm 119:33-40

Today we come to the fifth section of Psalm 119. In this segment of the Psalm, we have four pictures of a godly person. What makes a godly person? How do we identify a person who is godly? Let us look to this section of the Psalm and see what kind of person we would consider to be godly.

I. Sojourner (119:33-34).

Life is a journey, and as believers, we are wanderers in this world.

Like Abraham, we are a stranger and sojourner on the earth.

As travelers, we need directions.

Here we see the psalmist asking God to guide him on his way, and he promises to follow God's directions:

A. Faithfully (119:33)

1. He sees God's Word as a path to be followed, a sure way through the wilderness. We need directions
2. We need guidance.
3. We need to pay attention to the Lord's leading and follow it carefully.
4. Even though sometimes the Lord's leading seems contrary to

what our own thoughts on the matter might be.

5. God does not promise us an easy path to Heaven, but He does promise us a safe one.

6. So, the psalmist prays, "Teach me the way of Thy statutes."

a. Not just His statutes, but also the way of His statutes.

b. He is determined to follow that way faithfully no matter how difficult the road.

c. He is a sojourner in a hostile world and needs God's leading home.

B. He also promises to follow God's directions fully (119:34) **34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart**

1. Understanding is better than knowledge.

A man can fill his head full of knowledge and still have no real understanding of what he is doing.

2. We have knowledge of God available to us by reading the Bible.

3. But that does not mean we understand biblical principles.

4. However, meditation on God's Word will give us understanding.

When we understand God's Word, we will follow His direction faithfully and completely.

II. Soldier (119:35-36)

Life is not only a journey it is a battle. The psalmist realized that if he were to keep his life in line with God's Word there would be a struggle.

A. The Discipline Needed (119:35)

1. Imagine having to ask God to make us to do something we love doing.

2. We do not have to make a child eat ice cream! We might have to make him eat spinach or cottage cheese, but we have trouble keeping them away from the cookie jar. We might have to make them do their chores, but we will not have to force him to run and watch television.

3. So why must we be made to go in the path that we delight in?

a. We are not one person but two.

b. There is "the old man" and there is "the new man."

c. Note: Romans 7:22-25

The new man loves the path of God's commandments; the old man does not, so the fight is on. As a result, we tend to swing back and forth like a pendulum.

4. The psalmist says, "Lord, I need discipline, higher than anything I possess. I need You to make me to go in the path of Your commandments."

5. The psalmist wanted God to make him obedient. (Do we?)

B. The Desire Needed (119:36) ³⁶ **Incline my heart unto thy**

testimonies, and not to covetousness.

1. The psalmist has just told us that he delights in God's law.

2. But he needs that to be reinforced and strengthened. Incline means to establish a pattern; a predictable pattern; be programmed; to be habitual. **Covetousness means want without need**; it is our natural inclination.

III. Servant (119:37-38)

A. A Discerning Servant (v37) **37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.**

One law of spiritual victory we need to learn is to look the other way. A great deal of temptation comes to us through our eyes. Sinful things have great attraction for us.

'Quicken thou me' He was asking God to make him live to His way. He wanted inner strength to keep his eyes on the Master.

B. A Devoted Servant (119:38) **38 Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy fear.**

This is a healthy master-servant relationship.

The servant must respect his master, must measure the distance between them. There are at least three ways we can read the Bible.

1. There are those who read it and forsake it "rebellious against God's Word".
2. There are those who read it and forget it "they simply allow it to be crowded out of their lives."
3. Then there are those who read it and fear it, it gets a hold on them. The psalmist takes his stand with those who fear God's Word, with those who have respect for it.

IV. Saint (119:39-40)

God's Word Will Make Him Good (39) **39 Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments are good.**

The word reproach means "scorn" or "contempt." He wanted to be good; he wanted the goodness of the Word of God to become clear in his life. God never asks us to do anything wrong, anything bad, and anything not good. God's commandments are good because He is good. His commandments are for our good, and further, they are designed to make us good.

A. God's Word will also make him godly (40) **40 Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.**

The psalmist did not want merely to be good; he wanted to be like God Himself.

He longed after God's precepts, longed to live the kind of life set forth in God's Word.

We can only become godly, by living in obedience to His Word.

When we live in His Word, we are living in His righteousness.

What are we to be if we are to be godly?

We are to be like a:

Sojourner who needs direction from the Word.

Soldier who battles to keep his life in line with the Word.

Servant who looks to serve the God by obedience to the Word.

Saint who is empowered to live righteously by the Word.

As we move through COVID-19, let us walk the walk of the Godly Sojourner and serve the Lord in all ways.

Today, October 24, as you pray, pray for the pastors that will be preaching the Bible tomorrow, October 25.

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