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**BIBLE STUDY**

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**"SHEW ME THY WAYS, O LORD; TEACH ME THY PATHS."**

**Psalms 25:1-10**

**{[A Psalm] of David}**

***Psalms 25:1 “Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul."***

In this psalm, King David expresses a deep longing for God’s intervention in his circumstances. The first thing that stands out, in this, is the fact that it was a voluntary act to lift up his soul. Lord, here, is Jehovah. Every time we pray in earnest, we lift our soul to God. Prayer, in a very real sense, is fellowship with God. The soul of man has to do with the will of man. Sometimes our soul struggles whether to follow the flesh, or the spirit.

***Psalms 25:2-3***

***2 "O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me."***

***3 "Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause."***

Notice the repetition: He does not want to be disgraced before his enemies. Notice, he says, my God. This shows that God is a God of individuals. Salvation is individual. He saves us one at a time. God is trustworthy. We can safely place our trust in Him. One of the arguments Moses gave God, for not destroying all the Israelites at the foot of mount Sinai was so the heathen world would not look on and think that God had let His people down. Faith, or trust, in God will not go unnoticed. We may sometimes think God is not going to answer our prayer, but He does in His own time. He knows that those who wait on God will not be disgraced. Instead, treacherous people will. David is confident that his trust in God is justified. He would experience a reversal. That which he feared would fall on his enemies. The word transgress, in this Scripture, means to cover, to act covertly, or deal deceitfully.

***Proverbs 20:22 "Say not thou, I will recompense evil; [but] wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee."***

When we are waiting for God, we must be careful not to be deceptive. We cannot fool God. There will be those who profess Christianity, who will stand before Jesus, and He will say, “get away from me I never knew you. We may deceive the world, but we cannot deceive God. He knows what is in our heart.” Many will tire of waiting on the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Don't be one of them. Those who have walked with God, and tire of waiting, and go back into a sinful life, should not only be ashamed, but are in danger of hell's fire.

***Psalms 25:4 "Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths."***

David requests divine guidance so that he might walk in God’s ways. Jesus is the Way. He is the bright and shining Light that we are to follow. The way is very narrow, and sometimes obstacles are in the path. Get your eyes off the obstacles and the fact that the path is narrow. Fix your eyes on Jesus Christ the Light. Follow His lighted path and you will make it all the way.

***John 8:12 "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."***

***Ephesians 5:8 "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now [are ye] light in the Lord: walk as children of light:"***

***I John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."***

***Psalms 25:5-7***

***5 "Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou [art] the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day."***

***6 "Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they [have been] ever of old."***

***7 "Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD."***

The God of our salvation is Jesus. The name, Jesus, means Saviour. David trusts in the Lord as the one who delivers and calls on him to remember his faithful love, his covenant love, instead of remembering his sins. David appeals to God based on the loyal, loving relationship they shared. The greater his intimacy with God, the greater his dependency on God. The greater his dependency on God, the greater the expectation for intervention and deliverance. This is why our covenant relationship with Christ is so critical. David knows that past sins could interfere with God answering his requests, so he confesses them to position himself for divine favor. The Holy Spirit {the Comforter} will teach us all truth.

***John 1:17 "For the law was given by Moses, [but] grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."***

***John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."***

***John 16:13 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."***

The best thing is that those who are willing to be taught of God, will be taught of God. David wants to be taught of God. We must desire to be taught of the Spirit before we can be taught. God never changes. David is reminding Him of His lovingkindness in the past.

***I Chronicles 16:34 "O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good; for his mercy [endureth] for ever."***

God had a mercy seat in the holy of holies, but even better than that, He was merciful to us the sinners and sent the Saviour. The love of God for mankind is not easy to understand. While we were yet in sin, God sent the Saviour. God did not save us, because we deserved to be saved, but because He loved us. His mercy endureth forever. We, like David, could ask this same thing. There is none who has not sinned.

***I John 1:10 "If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."***

We talked about how the blood of animals could only cover the sin. The precious blood of the Lamb of God {Jesus Christ} did away with the sin of those who choose to be Christians.

***Psalms 103:12 "As far as the east is from the west, [so] far hath he removed our transgressions from us."***

Notice, whose goodness it is. It is God's goodness. Jesus took our sin upon His body on the cross and gave us His righteousness in return.

***Psalms 25:8 "Good and upright [is] the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way."***

Because of God’s character (the fact that he is good and upright), sinners can learn from him the right way to live. The best teacher there is shows us the way. Jesus was our example. If we are to be Christians, we must become Christlike. The goal of every believer in Christ should be to learn to be more like Jesus every day.

***Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."***

***Psalms 25:9-10***

***9 "The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way."***

***10 "All the paths of the LORD [are] mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies."***

We know that the Lord does not like a proud and haughty spirit in a person. Jesus was meek, even though He was Emmanuel {God with us}. They ought to humble themselves and receive his instruction, rather than proudly assuming they can make it their own way. The Lord’s ways are always good and true, and they are experienced by those who come under the cover of his covenant. We are told in the Scriptures that Moses was a very meek man, as well. The meek can be easily taught. We must humble ourselves and repent, then the Lord will save us. Sin is disobeying God. Those who want to please God, try to obey all of His instructions. The sign, then, that we are a believer is we keep His commandments.

***I Peter 3:4 "But [let it be] the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, [even the ornament] of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."***

***I Samuel 15:22 "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD [as great] delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey [is] better than sacrifice, [and] to hearken than the fat of rams."***

***I John 2:3 "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments."***

**QUESTIONS**

1. Unto thee O Lord, do I lift up my \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Who is the Lord, in verse 1?
3. Every time we pray earnestly, we do what?
4. Prayer, in a very real sense, is what?
5. What does transgress mean, in verse 3?
6. Who is the way?
7. What should we keep our eyes on in our walk with God?
8. Who is the Light of the world?
9. What cleanses us from all unrighteousness?
10. Who is the God of my salvation?
11. Who was the law given by?
12. What 3 things did Jesus call Himself, in John chapter 14 verse 6?
13. Who is the Comforter?
14. What must we do, before we can be taught?
15. How long does the mercy of God endure?
16. Who, besides Jesus, was known as a meek man?
17. What is sin?
18. What is better than sacrifice?