

Jan 18th
Psalms 5 vs 7-12

But as for me

“But as for me, I will come into your house, in the multitude of your mercies; in fear of you, I worship towards your holy temple.” - vs 7

“But as for me” I am coming into God’s house, even though in the previous verses it was stated that evil will not dwell with God. But now, because I have the indwelling Holy Spirit (the presence and power of Christ), who is the evidence that the offering of Christ is accepted in the tabernacle of heaven *“made without hands”* (meaning no human effort - on the merits of who I am in Christ), I won’t waste a moment! I’ll come into your house, surrounded by Your unfathomable mercies! I will pour out worship because Your grace has taught my heart to fear, and Your grace my fears have relieved. In this place,

the evil of unbelief cannot survive and I don't care about the judgments of those around me. They are not to be feared, because I know that I've been forgiven so much - so I will bow at your feet and love You much! I'm not afraid of an increased awareness of my sinfulness, because this will give way to an increased awareness of how much I've been forgiven!

So I confess _____ sin
and receive your forgiveness. (See Luke
7:36-50)

Your Way

*“Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness,
because of my enemies; make Your way
straight before my face.” - vs 8*

“Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don’t let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.”
- *Romans 12:14 NLT*

We want God to lead us, and make His way clear before us. The Holy Spirit provides the next step for each and every decision and the thoughts that lead up to those decisions. We are to put on Jesus as clothing. That is how we avoid making an opportunity to indulge the flesh. Jesus is our way, truth, and life. Yes, we know the way, and God has put it straight in front of our face! It is there for the asking.

Lord, how am I making provision for the flesh right now? Thank you that, because of Christ, I stand forgiven - forever! The understanding of this incomprehensible love that You have for me overwhelmingly displaces the “attraction” of sin (Eph. 3:19)!

Your ways are the ways of life (Ps. 16:11), so show me the error and death path that my sin is leading me on (Rom. 6:23). What specific step of obedience do You want me to take right now on Your path of life and joy?

Funeral Stopper

“For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is destruction; their throat is an open tomb; they flatter with their tongue. Pronounce them guilty, O God! Let them fall by their own counsel; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions, for they have rebelled against You.” - vs 9-10

Yes, the human condition is just this bad. The inward part from which life flows are death and destruction. So much so that when we open our mouth, the awful smell of deadness within comes out. This cannot be covered up even with flattery or “good deeds” that are deceitful because they come from a

disingenuous heart. God has given us the law (His righteous standard, both written on our hearts and recorded in Scripture) not to clean up the death within, but to expose it. *“But what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on the account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirements of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”* (see Romans 3:10-20 and 8:3-4)

Yes, Jesus is in the business of stopping funeral processions and touching open caskets with corpses in them and bringing the spiritually dead back to life! If this is you, or someone you have compassion on, cry out to God for yourself or for them. He is merciful and says to us also “Do not weep”. (See Luke 7:13-18)

Search me, O God! Is the evidence in me of a changed, resurrected heart? If not, change me now by the power, blood, and worthiness of Christ alone!

Lord, will You resurrect _____ from the (spiritual) grave? What part do You want me to have in sowing seeds of the Gospel in him/her?

Rescued and Tasting of Glory

“But let all who take refuge in You be glad, let them ever sing for joy; and may You shelter them, that those who love Your name may exult in You. For it is You who blesses the righteous man, O Lord, You surround him with favor as with a shield.” - vs. 9-10

Now, in Christ, I am in the full favor of God, and no good thing is withheld from me - on the basis of His merits, not mine!

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.” - Eph. 1:1

“He who did not spare His only Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?” - Rom. 8:32

“And raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” - Eph. 2:7

“And these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.” - Rom. 8:30

Thank You, Jesus, for the overwhelming, never-ending blessings that You have and will outpour on me eternally! I repent of doubting Your goodness in _____.