

Wed Night



FRESH ENCOUNTER

PRAY AT YOUR OWN RISK

JUNE 28, 2023 | JERRY FERRSO

*"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: 24 And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."
(Psalm 139:23-24)*

INTRODUCTION

- no one can hide from God
- God is the skilled craftsman
- 4 part prayer

1. For His omniscience (knows all)
2. For His omnipresence (everywhere)
 - death won't hide us from God (139:8-7)
 - distance won't hide us from God (139:9-10)
 - darkness won't hide us from God (139:11-12)
3. For His omnipotence (all powerful) - 139:13-14
13-15

THESE 4 REQUESTS ARE NOT FOR...

1. The cold -hearted Christian.
2. It is not for the calloused Christian.
3. It's not even for the casual Christian.
4. It's definitely not for the complacent Christian.
5. But it is certainly for the courageous Christian.

- Christian's worship (139:17-18)

"Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;" (Hebrews 12:15)

1. Search ME-A PRAYER OF examination

"Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart." (Psalm 26:2)

A. A Personal invitation

THIS WAS A SINCERE REQUEST

Scripture convicts

THIS ALSO WAS A SERIOUS REQUEST

"How many are mine iniquities and sins? make me to know my transgression and my sin." (Job 13:23)

B. A Profound integrity - *Titanic submarine differences in material integrity*

"Doth not he see my ways, and count all my steps? 5 If I have walked with vanity, or if my foot hath hastened to deceit; 6 Let me be weighed in an even balance, that God may know mine integrity. 7 If my step hath turned out of the way, and mine heart walked after mine eyes, and if any blot hath cleaved to mine hands;" (Job 31:4-7)

"This also were an iniquity to be punished by the judge: for I should have denied the God that is above." (Job 31:28) ?

2. Know ME-A PRAYER OF perception

A. Our heart

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? 10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

Rom 3:4 (Jeremiah 17:9-10) all actions watched

1 Jn 1:10 the hearts." (Proverbs 17:3)

"Let me be weighed in an even balance, that God may know mine integrity." (Job 31:6)

B. Our thoughts

"In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul." (Psalm 94:19)

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" (2 Corinthians 5:10)

3. Try ME—A PRAYER OF consecration

A. Expect the Testings — God prepares us

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you." (1 Peter 4:12)

"But, O LORD of hosts, that triest the righteous, and seest the reins and the heart..." (Jeremiah 20:12)

B. Embrace the Testings — shows us the ~~hidden~~ hidden parts of ourselves

"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." (James 1:2-4)

C. Be excited about the Testings

"But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." (1 Peter 4:13)

"Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." (1 Peter 4:16)

D. Exalt Him through the Testings

"If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified." (1 Peter 4:14)

4. Lead ME—A PRAYER OF dedication

A. Lead me from Satanic deception

"And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil." (Luke 11:4)

"Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matthew 26:41)

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:3)

"Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." (James 1:13-15)

THE DESIRE of unclean lusts
THE DECEPTION being enticed (fish hook)
THE DISOBEDIENCE in sin
THE DEATH from sin

B. Lead me into God's design

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way." (Psalm 37:23)

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10)

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

CONCLUSION

FOUR TAKE AWAYS:

1. He felt totally confident that God could see through all disguises.
2. David thoroughly wanted to be acquainted with himself.
3. David wanted to discover if he had any hidden sin in his life.
4. He longed for his God to be pleased with his conduct and desired to walk in God's way and not his way.



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