



Mighty in the Word

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1.18).*

Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)

The Wise Still Seek Him

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of the
Lord
Jesus Christ

I Sought the Lord, and He Heard Me And Delivered Me from All My Fears.

Were the seven churches in the Book of Revelation seeking the Lord? Or were they walking in their own willful way? The Psalmist made it clear that, though a king, he sought the Lord. Too often, we seek the Lord to get us out of something we got ouselves into. It is like, bail me out, Lord. Sad to say, we continue walking on in our own willful way, believing the Lord will bless our way.

When asking people if they know the Lord – and, are they reading the Word, their response is dialetic and many say to us, I pray. My response is, But, what is it to seek the Lord and to listen to His voice, to which they hold to their statement, I pray.

Oh, that we might seek the Lord in the midst of our lives, seeking His will in our lives – as did the Psalmist.

<[A Psalm] of David, when he changed his behaviour before Abimelech; who drove him away, and he departed.> I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise [shall] continually [be] in my mouth.

My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear [thereof], and be glad.

O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears (Ps 34.1-4).

The above Psalm comes to me quite often as I sing it. It is significant for those who are endeavoring to follow the Lord Jesus Christ in the midst of life, and all that comes to us to deter us from the Lord. However, I thought of this passage as we have looked at the seven churches whose lives were much like our individual lives - with great distractions from walking with the Lord.

Many times we choose to walk with the enemy, so as not to offend him, his followers - as so often this is taught in ways that may not be recognized. Nonetheless, we may be too quick not to offend and find ourselves walking with the enemy and his followers.

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that *[spirit]* of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because **greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.**

Do we really believe in the Lord God Almighty in Christ Jesus?

Do we?

Are we seeking Him in our daily walk trusting Him with our lives?

How long - since you sought the Lord in your life?

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Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

Review the *Messages* of the Seven Churches in the Book of Revelation to see what it is that the Lord Jesus makes clear to us regarding our walk of disobedience. You may say that you see no harm in what the churches were doing. The Lord makes it clear what He hates in Revelation 2.6 and 15. There is no place for Balaam or the Nicolaitans.

The Lord is calling us to walk with Him in everything, to walk in obedience. We cannot have it both ways; we must choose this day whom we will serve. We cannot seek the Lord and live a lie unto Him; we cannot go on living to please ourselves.

Let us look at the Psalm 34 passage and experience the King's joy in living for the Lord. It is not an easy word, and, yet, I believe it is exactly what the Lord wants of His people, come what may.

Verse one brings to us a question: How do we bless the Lord at all times? What does it mean to bless the Lord at all times? The word means to kneel, to be brought to our knees because of the power of His presence, because of His love for us – and, given to us, The Psalmist goes on to say "His praise shall continually be on my mouth," Oh, if we could see Jesus in our lives, if we could look unto Him in the midst of whatever comes our way, we could say with the Psalmist, "His praise shall continually be in my mouth." But we, too often, are looking down, worrying, trying to work things out in our own strength – instead of looking unto the author and finisher of our lives, instead of seeking what it is He wants of us right where we are – right now. If we could seek Him moment by moment come what may in our lives and, do as the Psalmist, praise Him continually, I believe we would see Jesus as never before.

How many of us can say as the Psalmist, "My soul shall make her boast in thee, Lord"? Oh, how many of us look to the world for our peace and joy – that never comes. It is in the Lord God Almighty that we have peace and joy, in His righteousness, in His wisdom, His strength, His Word, redemption, salvation, and communion with Him. Nehemiah wrote, "The joy of the Lord is our strength."

Oh, that we would glory in the Lord, that we would keep our eyes and heart upon Him!

What would it be like if we could exalt His Name together, proclaim His Name to the world? What would it be like if we could come together under His Lordship, if we could put down the walls that have been built by people proclaiming they have the answer for all at "their building," and unite in the Lord proclaiming Jesus Christ is Lord. He is the only living God, and He reigns now and forevermore. Oh, let us exalt His Name together that the world will know there is but one God, one Lord over all. Let us exalt His Name together, and tell them of His great love for all, that He was crucified on the Cross of Calvary - that all might repent of their sins, and surrender their lives to Him, to live for Him, Who died for all and rose victoriously over sin, hell, and the grave.

And then, the Psalmist had reason to seek the Lord (I Sa 21.1-15). Too often, we go through this life using our knowledge to work things out that have gone awry or have deeply hurt us. How often I have heard, the Lord gave me a brain to work things out. He gave me a brain to go to a physician. How often do people walk ahead of the Lord trying to work out their own salvation, so to speak, only to dig themselves in a deeper pit.

Oh, if only we could stop where we are at all times giving thanks to the Lord for being present to us in our sorrow - as well as our joy, in our pain - as well as in the peace!

The Psalmist wrote, "I sought the Lord . . ." What does it mean to seek the Lord? Do you seek the Lord in your daily walk – or just when things do not go your way?

The word **דָרַשׁ**, *sought*, has depth to it compared to our understanding today. When the Psalmist wrote, "I sought the Lord . . ." he was saying that he was seeking the Lord, seeking Him in prayer and worship, but also was desiring to come to know what the Lord wanted of him, endeavoring to understand what the Lord wanted of him, and to follow the direction of the Lord. He was asking the Lord for guidance in his life; he was inquiring of the Lord concerning his life. The Psalmist had concerns; he had his enemies, and was seeking of the Lord in his life. The Psalmist was not seeking a quick fix in his life, but seeking *The Way* in which he should go, should live, for the Lord in the midst of the difficulties.

Can you say with the Psalmist,

I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears (Ps 34.4).

I am reminded of Elisha, and his servant, in II Kings Six. Oh, how God's people were people of prayer, people seeking the Lord- and His wisdom and discernment, desiring to live for Him (II K 6.15-17). Where is that hunger to know the will of the Lord today in our lives? Elisha prayed that his servant would open his eyes - and see the work of the Lord. Are we praying one for another that we might be encouraged in the Lord?

And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

And he answered, **Fear not: for they that [be] with us [are] more than they that [be] with them.**

And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain [was] full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

Elisha knew the Lord would go before them, and that they need not fear. Those who have experienced such as this in the Bible are those who walked in obedience with the Lord God Almighty.

I John 4.1-3 teaches us that we need to confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, that he "is come in the flesh." The teaching in this passage in verse four, specifically, is what Elisha was saying in II Kings 6.16.