

JEWELS FROM THE PSALMS

**Ps 27:4-5 - The one thing I
desire**

Jewels from the Psalms...

- The value of the OT to the Christian:
- “For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope” (Rm 15:4).
- As Christians, we are commanded to utilize the Psalms:
- “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Col 3:16).
- Why Study The Psalms?
- The word Psalm (Greek *psalmos*) translates the Hebrew noun *mizmôr*, "song" from the verb "sing, sing praise, make music."

Jewels from the Psalms...

- When you study the Psalms, there are some main features to keep in mind.
 1. **Psalms provide an inspired book for worship.**
- It was and is intended for singing and contains "prayers and songs of joyous trust and praise."
- In the Psalms one finds the eager yearning and longing for God's presence.
- Ps 73:25 expresses total devotion - "**Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.**"

Jewels from the Psalms...

2. Psalms cover the entire range of human feelings and emotions.

- **Indeed, every emotion known to man is expressed in beautiful and inspired terms (e.g., joy, anger, praise, repentance, trust, even doubt).**

3. Psalms tell us of the experience of the wicked and the righteous.

- **We are told of their thoughts, their manner of life and final destiny.**

Jewels from the Psalms - the one thing I desire... (Ps 27:4-5)

- **“One thing have I desired of the Lord...”**
- **What is the ONE THING that makes living worth while?**
- **“One thing”** – divided aims tend to distract.
- **“Have I desired”** – God judges us by the desires of our heart (II Chron 6:7-8).
- **“Of the Lord”** – the right target.

Jewels from the Psalms - the one thing I desire... (Ps 27:4-5)

- Lesson 1 – keeping our focus
- A lesson from the frog
- Too preoccupied with the things of the world?
- No longer able to discern what is truly important?
- “Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, and revived me in Your way.” (Ps 119:37).
- Martha was distracted from the “One Thing” but Mary has chosen it (Lk 10:39-42).



Jewels from the Psalms - the one thing I desire... (Ps 27:4-5)

- **“... that will I seek after.”**
- **Holy desire must lead to resolute action.**
- **We must do all we can to attain it.**
- **The reward of diligent search:**
- **Mt. 7:7-8 – “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”**
- **Jer 29:13 – “And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.”**



Jewels from the Psalms - the one thing I desire... (Ps 27:4-5)

- **But what is it that David seek so much after?**
 1. **“That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.”**
- **That means to be in constant communion with God – living in the presence of God**
- **Ps 73:28 – “But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord God..”**
- **Why? That he may constantly enjoys God’s goodness and mercy (Ps 23:6).**

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2. “To behold the beauty of the Lord.”

- **The joy and pleasure of meditating upon the holiness of God.**

3. “And to enquire in His temple.”

- **To be instructed of God and to learn of Him.**

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- Lesson 2 – The One Thing SOUGHT (Ps 27:4).
- David understood what was important in his life - Being Near God. To live in the presence of God.
- He starts out by requesting ONE THING that sums up his entire life
- **Psa 27:4 I'm asking GOD for one thing, only one thing: To live with him in his house my whole life long. I'll contemplate his beauty; I'll study at his feet.**
- Is the one thing , that makes life worth living our desire to **SEEK GOD?**
- If so, get into his **WORD, SPEND TIME IN PRAYER AND** make every effort to be **NEAR TO GOD**



Jewels from the Psalms - the one thing I desire... (Ps 27:4-5)

- **Our greatest desire should be a greater presence of God in our lives**
- **What is man's chief end?**
- **Man chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.**
- **Peter's reaction to the transfiguration (Mt 17:4)**
- **"Lord, it is good for us to be here."**
- **He felt the blessedness, the joy, the happiness that came from close contact with the glory of Jesus.**



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- **Found in an old prayer book in 1870**
- **“Some go to church just for a walk**
- **Some go to laugh, some to talk,**
- **Some go there to meet a friend**
- **Some the tedious hours to spend,**
- **Some go there to meet a lover**
- **Some, new fashion to discover,**
- **Some go there to doze or nod**
- **But few go there to worship God.”**



Jewels from the Psalms - the one thing I desire... (Ps 27:4-5)

- David based the justification of his one desire on what the sanctuary of God is to him!
- **“For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion.”**
- Pavilion (Heb sukkah) – symbolizes the most secured place.
- **“In the secret of the tabernacle shall He hide me.”**
- Tabernacle – most holy place where none dare to enter.
- **“And He shall set me up upon a rock.”**
- Secured and impregnable.
- God shall provide him with the best of shelter in the worst of danger.

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- **Conclusion – the benefit of being in His Presence.**
- **Safe & secured.**
- **The safety of believers today is not within walls of the church building but in God.**
- **The well known hymn – “How firm a foundation” tells how God preserves His own in the midst of difficulties.**

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- **“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed;**
- **I, I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;**
- **I’ll strengthen thee, help thee and cause thee to stand;**
- **Upheld by My gracious omnipotent hand.**
- **When thru fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,**
- **My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply,**
- **The flame shall not hurt thee – I only design thy dross to consume, and they gold to refine.”**