

One Thing - cont.

Will you have life-long commitment to the Lord as you go through life?

To Behold the Beauty of the Lord

David wrote about the Lord's beauty He wanted to "see" the Lord and learn from Him, not be seen and not be entertained (Psalm 63:2).

Today, we look at the "beauty" of the Lord, not the beauty of the church building or something else. Worship is service, not spectatorship. God is the observer, we are the actors. What do you "behold" in the Lord when you come for worship?

And to Inquire in His Temple

David wrote about his purpose of going to worship. It was to see the Lord and to inquire of him. David wanted to ask questions and learn God's will in worship.

Today, we must have an attitude of wanting to learn God's will. We need to ask questions to learn what God has for us today. We come to Jesus by learning (Matthew 11:29), we are drawn to God by learning (John 6:45), we read the Old Testament for learn-

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ing (Romans 15:4), we learn by following Paul's example (Philippians 4:9), and we learn from God's word (2 Timothy 3:14). What are you learning in life?

Psalm 27:4 For Today

Friend, what is your one purpose, priority, or goal for living? What is the desire of your heart? Who do you want to be with most? Why do you come for worship? What are you learning? Why are you a Christian? - *Chris Reeves*

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

One Thing Have I Desired

One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of Jehovah, and to inquire in his temple.
- Psalm 27:4 -

Psalm 27 in Context

Psalm 27 is attributed to David and he wrote it when he was being pursued by his enemies and by Saul who wanted to kill him (1 Samuel 21-23). This was a difficult period of time for David, as you might expect, and when he was pursued, he turned to the Lord for help.

During this difficult time, David was shut off from the tabernacle and from his family. He was hated, slandered, and threatened. But, David turned to the Lord with fearless trust and praise. Let's consider the great truths that David wrote about in just this one verse of Psalm 27.

One Thing

David wrote about his priorities - "one thing". His priority in life was to serve the Lord and praise him. Here, we learn that the secret to spiritual success is singleness of purpose, focus

(Luke 10:42; Philippians 3:13-14).

In contrast, the Devil wants us to be divided, distracted, and have a double-mind (1 Kings 18:21; Matthew 12:25). We must resist this and always have a "one thing"- mentality of serving the Lord first and only. What is your priority in life?

Have I Desired of the Lord

David wrote about his heart's desire. In dire circumstances, David desired to be with the Lord. How commendable is this! He did not want to retreat to worldly people around him. He wanted to be with the Lord. There, he would be given the best help in life.

Today, those who have a strong desire to worship the Lord will truly worship the Lord (Hebrews 10:25; Colossians 2:23; Mark 7:7; Acts 17:23). Who do you desire to be with as you go through life?

That Will I Seek After

David wrote about his mission and pursuit in life. His holy desires lead him to zealous action in serving the Lord (Matthew 6:33; 7:7-8; Philippians 3:13ff).

A goal without action toward it is worthless. The reward of heaven comes

only to those who seek and pursue heaven (Hebrews 11:6; 12:1-2). What are you seeking after in life?

That I May Dwell in the House of the Lord

David wrote about where he wanted to be the most. He wanted to be where the Lord could be found, not with friends, family, or people of the world.

Like Anna and Jesus (Luke 2:37,49), David wanted to be in the Lord's house (tabernacle). That is the place where he could find the best help to make it through life. Like faithful Christians who make up the Lord's house (1 Timothy 3:15), let us do the same. Where do you want to be in this life?

All the Days of My Life

David wrote about his plan for life. This desire of his was not just a whim or a passing desire; it was a life-long commitment for him (Psalm 23:6; 128:5; Ecclesiastes 12:13).

We must be committed to the Lord in good times and bad times, at the beginning of our life and in the end (Hebrews 3:6; 6:11). - *continued*