

Last week we looked at the first three verses of Psalm 40. Today I want us to see what verse 4-10 have to say to us. Last week we learned that when

WHEN GOD ANSWERS PRAYER, HE

- I. **KNOWS WHAT YOU ARE FACING**
HE KNOWS YOU ARE WAITING
HE KNOWS ABOUT YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES
HE KNOWS WHERE YOU ARE
- II. **SAVES YOU FROM WHAT YOU ARE FACING**
HE HEARS YOUR CRY
HE LIFTS YOU OUT OF THE MUD
- III. **GIVES YOU SOMETHING YOU DON'T DESERVE**
HE GIVES YOU SECURITY AND BELONGING
HE GIVES YOU PURPOSE
HE GIVES YOU A HEART OF PRAISE

v4 Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods. v5 Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders you have done. The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare. v6 Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but my ears you have spoken into; burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require. v7 Then I said, "Here I am, I have come-- it is written about me in the scroll. v8 I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." v9 I proclaim righteousness in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, as you know, O LORD. v10 I do not hide your righteousness in my heart; I speak of your faithfulness and salvation. I do not conceal your love and your truth from the great assembly. Psalms 40:4-10

Last week we saw how God responds to our requests to him. This week we see what God wants and does not want from us, and what our response to Him should be.

I have given this message the following title.

WHAT GOD WANTS AND DOES NOT WANT FROM US!

I. **WHAT GOD DOES NOT WANT FROM US!**

1.1 **GOD DOES NOT WANT FAME WORSHIP**

*Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, **who does not look to the proud***

Successful people are often pride filled people. They think the world owes them something. They demand respect and attention. AND SADLY PEOPLE CHASE AFTER THOSE WHO HAVE A HIGH OPINION OF THEMSELVES.

WE CALL IT HERO-WORSHIP.

The bible is full of examples of the ways of the proud.

Psalms 123:4 We have endured much ridicule from the proud, much contempt from the arrogant.

*Psalms 140:7-8 O Sovereign LORD, my strong deliverer, who shields my head in the day of battle- v8 do not grant the wicked their desires, **O LORD; do not let their plans succeed, or they will become proud.***

Proverbs 16:5 The LORD detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 21:4 Haughty eyes and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, are sin!

Proverbs 21:24 The proud and arrogant man-"Mocker" is his name; he behaves with overweening (showing excessive confidence or pride.) pride.

THE SIN OF SATAN WAS PRIDE

Ezekiel 28:17 Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendour. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings.

Hero worship is so temporary. Hero's today – no hear of the Ou tomorrow.

GOD DOES NOT WANT FAME WORSHIP

1.2 **GOD DOES NOT WANT FALSE WORSHIP**

*v4 Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not look to the proud, **to those who turn aside to false gods.***

To worship a living being may make some sense. BUT TO WORSHIP IDOLS MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL.

Isaiah 44:9-20 ⁹How foolish are those who manufacture idols. These prized objects are really worthless. The people who worship idols don't know this, so they are all put to shame. ¹⁰Who but a fool would make his own god—an idol that cannot help him one bit? ¹¹All who worship idols will be disgraced along with all these craftsmen—mere humans—who claim they can make a god. They may all stand together, but they will stand in terror and shame. ¹²The blacksmith stands at his forge to make a sharp tool, pounding and shaping it with all his might. His work makes him hungry and weak. It makes him thirsty and faint. ¹³Then the wood-carver measures a block of wood and draws a pattern on it. He works with chisel and plane and carves it into a human figure. He gives it human beauty and puts it in a little shrine. ¹⁴He cuts down cedars; he selects the cypress and the oak; he plants the pine in the forest to be nourished by the rain. ¹⁵Then he uses part of the wood to make a fire. With it he warms himself and bakes his bread. Then—yes, it's true—he takes the rest of it and makes himself a god to worship! He makes an idol and

bows down in front of it! ¹⁶ He burns part of the tree to roast his meat and to keep himself warm. He says, "Ah, that fire feels good." ¹⁷ Then he takes what's left and makes his god: a carved idol! He falls down in front of it, worshiping and praying to it. "Rescue me!" he says. "You are my god!" ¹⁸ Such stupidity and ignorance! Their eyes are closed, and they cannot see. Their minds are shut, and they cannot think. ¹⁹ The person who made the idol never stops to reflect, "Why, it's just a block of wood! I burned half of it for heat and used it to bake my bread and roast my meat. How can the rest of it be a god? Should I bow down to worship a piece of wood?" ²⁰ The poor, deluded fool feeds on ashes. He trusts something that can't help him at all. Yet he cannot bring himself to ask, "Is this idol that I'm holding in my hand a lie?"

GOD DOES NOT WANT FAME WORSHIP

GOD DOES NOT WANT FALSE WORSHIP

1.3 **GOD DOES NOT WANT FAKE WORSHIP**

*v6 **Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but my ears you have spoken into; burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require***

David, I believe, very early in his interaction with God, realised that God was far more interested in a relationship, rather than a performance. On more than one occasion, we read about the failure of the sacrificial system.

Psalms 51:16-17 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. v17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Proverbs 15:8 The LORD detests the sacrifice of the wicked, but the prayer of the upright pleases him.

Proverbs 21:3 To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Hosea 6:6-7 For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings. v7 Like Adam, they have broken the covenant-- they were unfaithful to me there.

Hebrews 10:5 Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me;

Fake worship, may appear real- BUT IT IS NOT.

I. **WHAT GOD DOES NOT WANT FROM US!**

GOD DOES NOT WANT FAME WORSHIP

GOD DOES NOT WANT FALSE WORSHIP

GOD DOES NOT WANT FAKE WORSHIP

II. WHAT GOD DOES WANT FROM US!

2.1 GOD WANTS OUR TRUST

v4 Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust,

The man must be blessed and happy who casts his soul with all its burden of sin and wretchedness, at the footstool of God's mercy; for he will save all who come to him through the Son of his love.

Psalms 2:12 Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 "But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. v8 He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

GOD WANTS OUR TRUST

2.2 GOD WANTS OUR WONDER

v5 Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders you have done. The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare.

John Piper, a famous American preacher has a phrase that truly resonates with my soul. He said:

God is most glorified in you when you are
most satisfied in him.

Many have rejected God because they believe that God is only interested in His own Glory. For them, God cannot condemn pride in people, when he is only interested in himself receiving glory.

There is only one difference. THERE IS NO ONE GREATER THAN GOD!!!

GOD WANTS OUR TRUST

GOD WANTS OUR WONDER

2.3 GOD WANTS OUR WHOLEHEARTED COMMITMENT

v7 Then I said, "Here I am, I have come-- it is written about me in the scroll. v8 I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

God wants us to do His will, because His will is good, pleasing and perfect. Many have rejected God because they believe that God is only interested in His

Romans 1:9 God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you

GOD WANTS OUR TRUST

GOD WANTS OUR WONDER

GOD WANTS OUR WHOLEHEARTED COMMITMENT

2.4 **GOD WANTS OUR TESTIMONY**

v9 I proclaim righteousness in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, as you know, O LORD. v10 I do not hide your righteousness in my heart; I speak of your faithfulness and salvation. I do not conceal your love and your truth from the great assembly. Psalms 40:4-10

Israel were called to be the LIGHT TO THE WORLD

*Isaiah 49:6 he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. **I will also make you a light for the Gentiles**, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."*

HOWEVER, They failed and the task is now given from Jesus to us:

John 8:12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Matthew 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. v15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. v16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

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GOD WANTS OUR TRUST

GOD WANTS OUR WONDER

GOD WANTS OUR WHOLEHEARTED COMMITMENT

GOD WANTS OUR TESTIMONY

III. WHY DOES GOD NOT WANT & WANT THESE THINGS BECAUSE THIS PASSAGE IS ALL ABOUT JESUS

I our study in the book of HEBREWS this part of the Psalm is quoted in *Hebrews 10:5-10* v5 That is why Christ, when he came into the world, said, "You did not want animal sacrifices and grain offerings. But you have given me a body so that I may obey you. v6 No, you were not pleased with animals burned on the altar or with other offerings for sin. v7 Then I said, 'Look, I have come to do your will, O God – just as it is written about me in the Scriptures.'" v8 Christ said, "You did not want animal sacrifices or grain offerings or animals burned on the altar or other offerings for sin, nor were you pleased with them" (though they are required by the law of Moses). v9 Then he added, "Look, I have come to do your will." He cancels the first covenant in order to establish the second. v10 And what God wants is for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time.

Conclusion

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