

AN EVENING PSALM - PSALM 4.

6-1-2025 PM

- A. A few weeks ago, we studied Psalm 3 and noted that it is often referred to as the morning Psalm. We should give thanks for our night's rest.
- B. While chapter 3 deals with this rising in the morning, Psalm 4 deals with David's confidence as he lays down to peaceful sleep.

I. VS. 1, HEAR ME WHEN I CALL.

- A. David's Call to God to hear. Let us understand that God does hear the prayers of the faithful (**John 9:31**).
- B. 'O God of my righteousness' –
 - 1. David attributes his righteousness to God rather than calling God righteous.
 - 2. Yes, God is righteous, **Psalm 119:137** says, "Righteous are you, O LORD, And upright are your judgments."
 - 3. The gospel reveals God's righteousness to us. (**Romans 1:16-17**).
 - 4. But what made David righteous?
 - 1) It was his relationship with God.
 - 2) How are we made righteous with God? Through obedience and the blood of Jesus (**1 Peter 3:8-12; Philippians 3:9**).
- C. David expresses his confidence in Jehovah because of past blessings. As we pray to God, do we have this faith? Note "ask in faith" **James 1:6**.

II. VS. 2-3, THE LORD HAS SET APART HIM WHO IS GODLY.

- A. As with many Psalms, reference is made to David's enemies.
 - 1. How long will they love worthlessness and falsehood? Truly those of this world oppose those who dare to take a stand for righteousness.
 - 2. There is a call for them to change and cease turning that which is good to evil.
 - 3. Note also **vs. 3** which says, "But know." He is addressing the ungodly. Rest assured that they WILL know whom God respects and hears – (**Philippians 2:9-11; Romans 14:10-11**).
- B. Who will the Lord hear?
 - 1. The godly. The New Testament definition is reverence, respect toward God (Thayer, Vine's).
 - 2. Those who call to Him (**James 5:16**).
 - 3. Godliness is a respect for God as you strive to be like Him. As Paul said in **1 Corinthians 11:1**).
 - 4. He has set apart the righteous who strive to serve Him (**Ephesians 1:3-5**).

III. VS. 4-5, MEDITATE ON YOUR BED.

- A. **Vs. 4** records a familiar verse found also in the New Testament "Be ye angry and sin not (**Ephesians 4:26**).
- B. Before one closes his eyes in sleep he ought to consider his condition before God.
 - 1. "... commune with your own heart..."
 - 2. It is wise to resolve anger before you go to bed.
- C. David speaks of offering the sacrifice of righteousness; being right with God.
 - 1. How can we do this? By doing that which pleases God.
 - 2. **Romans 12:1-2** - a living.

IV. VS. 6, THERE ARE MANY.

- A. I think of the one whose life is so full of burdens that his sleep only comes because of pure exhaustion. This is NOT sweet sleep (Proverbs 3:24).**
- B. David's request is that the light of the Lord shine upon him.**
 - 1. Psalm 89:15.**
 - 2. Teach others the beauty of casting their cares upon Him? (**1 Peter 5:7**).
 - 3. Jesus invites all men to seek rest in Him (**Matthew 11:28**).

V. VS. 7-8, I WILL BOTH LIE DOWN IN PEACE AND SLEEP.

- A. David reflects upon God's goodness toward him.**
- B. Only God can give TRUE safety. Men can take your life, but not your soul (Matthew 10:28).**

VI. CONCLUSION:

- A. When you lay down at night, do you have a clear conscience. Do you have confidence that no matter what happens you will be alright?**
- B. Seek to have a clear conscience!**