

14 Dec 2006

## **SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE!**

The Bible shows **FOUR** benefits of seeking God's presence:

### **The 1<sup>st</sup>. Benefit JOY!**

*Psa 16:11 KJV Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.*

It is impossible not to experience joy in our lives when we are in God's presence. There is a joy in the presence of The Lord and this joy is a spiritual force and it is spiritual strength [Nehemiah 8.10].

### **The 2<sup>nd</sup>. Is GREAT LIGHT!**

*Psa 89:15 NIV Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.*

God is light and wherever He is there is illumination and revelation.

*Psa 119:130 NIV The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.*

In any area of your life if there is a difficulty or darkness invite the presence of God into that area by His Word and He will light that area up for you, and give you understanding about it! Because the entrance of His Word gives light that means in His presence you will have Revelation Knowledge.

### **The 3<sup>rd</sup>. Benefit is DIVINE PROTECTION!**

As you seek His presence there is DIVINE PROTECTION.

*Psa 31:20 KJV Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.*

Thank God for His presence, everybody needs a hiding place, a place of safety and refuge from the strife of other people's tongues. The very presence of God provides a shelter for you today from the wagging tongues of those who would speak evil against you.

If you are troubled by what people say about you, invite God's presence into those circumstances. His presence can protect you while you are in the circumstances.

If you work in a negative atmosphere, in which people are creating problems by their words for you, invite The presence of The creator into that situation and He will be a shelter, a hiding place in the time of storms right there in the midst of the storm.

*Isa 54:9 KJV For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.*

*Isa 54:10 For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.*

*Isa 54:11 O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires.*

*Isa 54:12 And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones.*

*Isa 54:13 And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children.*

*Isa 54:14 In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.*

*Isa 54:15 Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake.*

*Isa 54:16 Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy.*

*Isa 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.*

So being in God's presence gives protection from gossip. It cannot harm you if you are close to Him.

## **The 4<sup>th</sup>. Benefit of seeking God's Presence is REST!**

1 John 3:19 NIV *This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence*

This is the place of great peace and rest in His presence, free from trouble, anxiety, nervousness, worry, anxiety, all flee from His presence.

Invite Him in and rest.

The problem with most of God's people is this **THEY HAVE BEEN SEEKING HIS PRESENTS RATHER THAN HIS PRESENCE.**

Learn the secret of His abiding presence Jesus said in John 14:16

John 14:16 KJV *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever,*

You can experience His presence with you wherever and whenever you need to have that assurance.

Just remember God is always near, he is just a prayer away, and He has a plan for your life, for good and not for evil to give you a hope and an expected end [Jeremiah 29:11].