

June 7, 2020

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**Face-to-Face: Finding All You Need in God's Presence**  
**Sustained by God**  
Psalms 63:2-4

We are in a series that is all about worshipping in disruption from Psalms 63. The author of this scripture was King David of Israel. But when he wrote this Psalm, he wasn't sitting on his throne or leading his military forces against an enemy. He was in the desert, hiding in a cave because his own son, nephew, friends & tribe all betrayed him. They were trying to take his life & establish a new king. So David had to flee in order to regroup and decide what to do next. In this moment of betrayal, loss and disruption, he composes a beautiful song. The presence of God matters more than anything.

*"The Psalm is peculiarly suitable for the bed of sickness, or in any constrained absence from public worship."* **Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

*"You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."* **Psalm 16:11**

**Main Idea: An Intimate Encounter with God is Sustained by His Presence**

**Text:** *"So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power & glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands."* **Psalms 63:2-4**

**I. Memory of the Gathering**

*"So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power & glory."* **Psalm 63:2**

*"Then the king said to Zadok, 'Carry the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of the LORD, he will bring me back & let me see both it & his dwelling place.'" 2 Samuel 15:25*

**II. Hope During the Scattering**

*"Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands."* **Psalms 63:3-4**

*"Yet the Most high does not dwell in houses made by hands..."* **Acts 7:48a**

*"It is a precious thought that the divine power & glory are not confined in their manifestation to any places or localities; they are to be heard above the roaring of the sea, seen amid the glare of the tempest, felt in the forest & the prairie, & enjoyed wherever there is a heart that longs & thirsts to behold them."*

**Charles H Spurgeon**

**Two Key Worship Actions:**

- **Words of Praise:** The services are designed for worship! Sing out loud, praise God with your mouth & celebrate his love...that is better than life!
- **Physical Worship:** We are to engage our bodies in worship as much as we engage our voices. Kneeling, bowing, standing, dancing and even lifting our hands are all demonstrable acts of praise to God!

*"No hands need hang down when God draws near in love. The name of Jesus has often made lame men leap as a hart, & it has made sad men clap their hands for joy."* **Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

*"I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling."* **1 Timothy 2:8**

**We all have personalities that lend themselves to different expressions of worship. Some are expressive; others are reserved. It's not sinful to be either, but the Bible commands us to be both.**

*"His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life & godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory & excellence."* **2 Peter 1:3**

*"Just being in the Kingdom with the King ought to put you in a blessed location...the blessed person finds their sufficiency in Him."* **Tony Evans**

**In Christ, you have an invitation to an intimate encounter with God. Jesus made that available to you when he died for your sins on a cross!**

**Sources & Further Reading Opportunities:**

- *1001 Humorous Illustrations* – Michael Hodgkin (1994)
- *Tony Evans Book of Illustrations* – Tony Evans (2009)
- *The Treasury of David* – Charles H. Spurgeon (1689)
- *Psalms* – George A.F. Knight (2001)
- *Commentary on the OT: Psalms* – Carl Keil & Franz Delitzsch (1996)
- *Psalms 1-72: Intro & Commentary* – Derek Kidner (1973)
- *The Message of the Psalms* – Michael Wilcock (2001)
- *Tyndale Bible Dictionary* – Elwell & Comfort (2001)
- *Exploring Psalms: Volume 1* – John Phillips (1998)
- *Tyndale Concise Bible Commentary* – Hughes & Laney (2001)
- *Matthew Henry's Commentary* – Matthew Henry (1994)

