

Elements Class: Psalm 63

Choir Room: Sunday, July 3rd 10:45am



This Psalm has a
fivefold emphasis.

1

2

3

4

5

The first two cover
human action.



The first two are
‘the cause’.



The final three cover
divine intervention.



The final three are
‘the effect’.





The Pursuit of God.

By 'the pursuit of God' we mean:

How David expresses his
incredible, ever constant **need** for
God and his great longing to be
with him & experience him more.

**Three times in the
opening stanza**

David expresses his
**desperate pursuit &
unrelenting need for God**

You, God, are my God,
earnestly I seek you. (v1)

...I thirst for you. (v1)

...my whole being longs for you,
in a dry and parched land
where there is no water. (v1)

David's expression of his desperate pursuit & unrelenting need for God is a major theme in all of his Psalms.

One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: *that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life*, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and *to seek him in his temple.* (27:4)

Whom have I in heaven but you? And *earth has nothing I desire besides you.* My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (73:25-26)

Seek the LORD and His strength;
Seek His face continually.

(105:4)

ACTION

The first action that is directed to us from God through David is an active, continual, purposeful and never ending pursuit of God.

APPLY NOW

1. *Pursuing God entails two major things:
Regular prayer & immersion in truth.*

APPLY NOW

2. *We must build prayer into our daily routine. Through talking to God we are able to seek an active relationship with him, experience his presence in our lives and get his counsel in our decisions.*

APPLY NOW

3. *We must build Bible study into our priority list. In order to know how to obey & follow (pursue) God we must have his truth ringing in our ears, convicting our heart and charting our steps.*



The Praise of God.

By 'the praise of God' we mean:

How David expresses his great esteem of God in worship, adoration, song and praise.

**Five times in the
next five verses**

David expresses his

continual awe of God,

expressed in praise & worship.

I have seen you in the sanctuary
and *beheld your power and your glory.*

(v2)

... my lips will glorify you. (v3)

I will praise you as long as I live,
and in your name *I will lift up my hands.*

(v4 x2)

... with singing lips ***my mouth will praise you.***

(v5)

David's description of his continual awe of God, expressed in praise & worship is a major, major theme in the Psalms. We could easily review 100's of verses where he is praising the Lord.

ACTION

The second action that is directed to us from God through David is an active, continual, genuine and never ending praise of God.

APPLY NOW

1. *Praising God entails two major things:
A right spirit & correct knowledge.*
(John 4:24)

APPLY NOW

2. If our praise is to be worthy and acceptable we must worship in the right spirit. That is: with the correct motives, correct emotions. (Matthew 15:8)

APPLY NOW

3. If our praise is to be worthy and acceptable we must worship in the light of the correct knowledge. That is: with the correct understanding. (John 4:22)



The Pleasure of God.

By 'the pleasure of God' we mean:

**How David experiences great joy
in God...and how he experiences
full satisfaction in the Lord and
deeply rejoices in God.**

It would be easy to miss that the major theme of this Psalm is the **pleasure, satisfaction and joy** *that comes from* **the pursuit & praise of God.**

I have seen you in the sanctuary
and beheld your power and your
glory... your love *is better than life*...

(v2-3)

I will praise you as long as I live,
and... *I will be fully satisfied* as with the
richest of foods... (v4-5)

David's belief that God is the highest pleasure, highest beauty, highest satisfaction and joy in all the universe is a major theme in all of his Psalms.

You will make known to me the path of
life; *In Your presence is fullness of joy;*
In Your right hand there are pleasures
forever. (16:11)

I will go to the altar of God, to God,
my joy and my delight. I will praise you
with the lyre, O God, my God.

(43:4)

For You make him *most blessed forever*;
You make him *joyful with gladness in*
Your presence. (21:6)

END RESULT

The first promised result given to us from God through David is a true, deep and lasting joy, satisfaction and pleasure in God.

the Promise

God promises that a genuine pursuit of himself and a correct praise of his name will result in true and lasting joy. The application for us is to believe and to continue to pursue and praise.



The Presence of God.

By 'the presence of God' we mean:

How David experiences the
comforting nearness of God in
very real ways.

**Four times in the
next two verses**

David expresses how he
experiences the relational,
personal nearness of God.

... you are *my help*,
I sing *in the shadow of your wings...*
(v7 x2)

I cling to you;
your right *hand upholds me...*
(v8 x2)

David's very real experiences of the comforting presence of God in his life is a major theme in all of his Psalms.

The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid.

(118:6)

Even though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for
You are with me; Your rod and Your staff,
they comfort me.

(23:4)

END RESULT

The second promised result given to us from God through David is a very real, experiential and comforting presence of God.

the Promise

God promises that a genuine pursuit of himself and a correct praise of his name will result in experiencing the nearness of God. The application is to draw near to God, confess our sins and purify our hearts and he will draw near to us. (James 4:8)



The Protection of God.

By 'the protection of God' we mean:

How David experiences the securing power of God to protect him from ultimate harm.

**Three times in the
next three verses**

David expresses how God will
protect him and keep him safe
from harm.

Those who want to kill me
will be destroyed... (v9)

They will be

given over to the sword... (v10)

... while *the mouths of liars will
be silenced...* (v10)

David's experiencing the protection of God is not a casual theme restricted to this Psalm. Again this is a major theme in all of his Psalms.

*The angel of the LORD encamps
around* those who fear him, and
he delivers them. (34:7)

The LORD will *keep you from all harm*-- he will watch over your life... (121:7)

END RESULT

The third promised result given to us from God through David is an eventual vindication before the enemy and ultimate, eternal protection.

the Promise

the

Promise



God promises that a genuine pursuit of himself and a correct praise of his name will result in eternal & ultimate protection. The application is to trust that God will deliver us and even when the earthly affliction is not lifted, death is a doorway to ultimate safety.

SUMMARY



As the believer actively and daily **pursues** & **praises** God he/she will experience more and more of the true **pleasure** that comes from the Lord, the comforting **presence** of His personhood and the daily spiritual & physical **protection** from his/her enemies.