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What's The Way?

Psalm 25:4-5 (Topical Message)

What's the way?

Today many of us ask this question about life with its twists and turns and uncertainty. Life isn't easy to manage. Image if we had a LIFE GPS to get directions?

Well, if you didn't know this, all man has available to them a GPS to guide them in life. Its not like todays GPS found in our cars. No, this GPS is a Spiritual one and this Spiritual GPS is God. This is what I want to preach on today – God being our Guide in life. Amen!

Today, I want to look at Psalm 25:4-5, which is part of a prayer of King David to God for guidance's in his life that is still a relevant prayer in man's life today. This prayer is about knowing God. Specifically, David prayed to know 3 specific ways of God. Thus, the title of my message "***What's the Way?***"

Knowing God's:

- 1. Ways*
- 2. Pathways*
- 3. Guideways*

Psalm 25:4-5 (HCSB)

4 Make Your ways known to me, LORD;
teach me Your paths. **5** Guide me in Your
truth and teach me, for You are the God of
my salvation; I wait for You all day long.

What is a Psalm?

Psalm (Websters Definition) – (1) A sacred Song or Poem used in worship (2) Biblical Hymns collected in the Book of Psalms

Psalms – There are 150 Psalms recorded in the Old Testament book of Psalms. There are 2 types of Psalms. One type of Psalms are **(1) Praise**, and the other are Psalms of **(2) Prayer**.

There are 8 authors referenced in the Psalms (David wrote the majority)

David - (75 total psalms)

Asaph (and family) - (12 psalms)

The sons of Korah - (11 psalms)

Heman - (1 psalm, with the sons of Korah)

Solomon - (2 psalms)

Moses - (1 psalm) - 90

Ethan the Ezrahite - (1 psalm)

Anonymous - (the 48 remaining psalms)

The Psalms were written from about 1400 BC (Moses) to 600 BC.

Warning

When Reading the Psalms today we need to read them through the **Lens of Grace**. **What do I mean by that?** The books of Psalms were written looking forward to the Cross of Christ, and from an Old Covenant perspective in one's relationship to God. Amen!

The Old Covenant relationship with God was based on performance in keeping the Mosaic Law (613 Commandments). The Law's purpose is to show man's sinfulness, and his need of a savior (Was the case then, and is still the case now). Attempting to keep the Law shows man that he cannot obtain righteousness by works (right standing with God by attempting to keep the Law). Righteousness is only obtained by faith in the Gospel message of Christ sacrifice on the Cross for the forgiveness of sins. Amen!

1 Timothy 1:8-9 (HCSB)

⁸ But we know that the law is good, provided one uses it legitimately. ⁹ We know that the law is not meant for a righteous person, but for the lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinful, for the unholy and irreverent, for those who kill their fathers and mothers, for murderers,

The Law isn't meant for men that are already made righteous by faith in Christ. Amen! The Law is man's guardian (tutor) that leads men to Christ!

Galatians 3:24-26 (HCSB)

²⁴ The law, then, was our guardian until Christ, so that we could be justified by faith. ²⁵ But since that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

Paul says to the Galatian believers that were sliding back to Old Covenant thinking in their relationship with God. That's the main point in the book of Galatians. Being saved by faith, and going back to Law based living thinking one has to maintain their righteousness is an error. That's another message!

In this verse Paul says now that faith has come, you are no longer under a Guardian (Law). That is very powerful – Brothers & Sisters. It's very important to know when reading scripture what Covenant you are reading from in context.

With that said -

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (HCSB)

¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

All Scripture (Old Testament / New Testament) is profitable to read and understand for equipping man.

Right off the bat, David prays in verse 1 to the LORD

Psalm 25:1 (HCSB)

¹ LORD, I turn to You.

This might seem basic to some of us, but maybe not to others. David for guidance in his life turns to God (HCSB) in verse 1 in prayer:

David doesn't turn to:

(1)Idols (2) Mosaic Law (3) 10 Commandments (4) Flesh (5) Bathsheba his wife (6) Solomon his son (7) Some Philosophy (8) Some Thing

No David turns to God in prayer – Amen!

This begs the question?

Where do you turn for Guidance in your life?

David knew the secret to all guidance or His life only comes from God!

Knowing God's:

1. Ways

Psalm 25:4-5 (HCSB)

⁴ **Make Your ways known to me**, LORD; teach me Your paths. ⁵ Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; I wait for You all day long.

What ways could David be praying for here?

He prays to God to make His ways known!

As I was preparing this message, the Holy Spirit gave impressed upon me this.

David is praying that God would show & make known God's ways in areas in his life in which David ***isn't Trusting in God, or areas of a lack of Faith in God.***

David does say He trusts in God in the beginning of verse 2,

Psalm 25:2a (HCSB)

² My God, I trust in You.

But this psalm is written after David commits adultery with Bathsheba and murders her husband (Uriah – the Hittite). He is killed in battle as their army pulls back, and leaves Uriah open to be killed (Compounding Sins – A sin to cover another sin).

David says he trusts God, but He didn't trust God when he committed these sins prior to writing this Psalm!

How can I say that?

Because:

Romans 14:23b (NASB)

^{23b} whatever is not from faith is sin.

David committed these sins because He didn't trust or have faith in God in some area of his life. I can't look into David's souls, but I can tell you this. David didn't trust God in some area of His life, and decided to commit the sin of adultery & murder to meet a need he didn't think God could meet!

David knew what these sins were wrong:

Psalm 25:11b (HCSB)

forgive my sin, for it is great.

Psalm 25:18b (HCSB)

take away all my sins.

Here David is asking why did I sinned, by Praying - Make Your ways know to me (Show me Your Ways), so I can trust in them and put my faith in them. Show me areas that I am not trusting in you:

Show me Why I did the things I did?

Show me areas in my life of Unbelief?

What a great prayer – Amen!

Psalm 25:4a (HCSB)

⁴ Make Your ways known to me,

My question to you this morning is, have you asked and prayer this type of prayer to God?

God will answer your prayer!

Knowing God's:

2. Pathways

Psalm 25:4-5 (HCSB)

⁴ Make Your ways known to me, LORD; **teach me Your paths.** ⁵ Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; I wait for You all day long.

David prays this in the 2nd half of verse 4 – teach me Your paths. I'm calling this knowing God's pathways in life and the roads to take by faith.

He prays as similar prayer in:

Psalm 16:11a (HCSB)

¹¹ **You reveal the path of life to me**

Psalm 27:11b (HCSB)

¹¹ **lead me on a level path**

How do we know the paths God wants us to take as a New Covenant Believer today?

God wants us to **take steps of faith** in the paths of life He has laid out for every one of His Children. These pathways in life are revealed to one's Spirit (Spirit/spirit), and many times confirmed externally in the physical world.

Knowing God's:

1. Guideways

Psalm 25:4-5 (HCSB)

⁴ Make Your ways known to me, LORD; teach me Your paths. ⁵ **Guide me in Your truth and teach me**, for You are the God of my salvation; I wait for You all day long.

David prays to be guided into God's truth, Amen. Today we have God's Word which is truth written for us to read:

John 17:17 (HCSB)

¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth.

In David's day, he probably had only had the 1st 5 books of the Bible available to read: Today we have the Bible – 66 books, and a lot more scriptures on how to live in dependance and faith in Christ post cross (New Covenant of Grace).

John 8:32 (HCSB)

³² You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

The truth of new life in Christ (believing the Gospel) sets us free from the penalty of sin, the power of sin, a guilty conscience, and from keeping the Law. Amen!

David concludes – God you are my salvation (Deliverer), and I will wait on you to answer my prayer.



F₄ A₁ Q₁₀

God make His ways known to us if we ask Him!

Psalm 25:4-5

What's The Way?

Knowing God's –

Ways

Pathways

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Psalm 25:4-5

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