

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

PSALM 004-03

CHOICE: ANGER

OR SELF-CONTROL

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PSALM 4:4-5

PROLOGUE: BEING IN THE WORLD IS TO BE ATTACKED

- BELIEVERS MUST EXPECT ATTACKS BY THE WORLD WHICH HATES GOD; HATES YOU ALSO

(MT 5:10-12)

- WORLD SURPRISED WHEN BELIEVERS DO NOT JOIN THEM; THUS, THEY ATTACK {ROUSSEAU'S GENERAL WILL JUSTIFICATION} (1PE 4:1-5)
- CHRISTIANS WILL SUFFER FOR DOING GOOD; DO NOT DO EVIL JUSTIFYING THE LOST'S ATTACKS (1PE 4:12-19)
- FAITHFUL TESTIMONY IS THE SCENT OF DEATH TO THE LOST REMINDING THEM OF THEIR IMPENDING DOOM WHICH THEY FEAR ABOVE ALL ELSE; EVEN AS THEIR FATHER DOES {SATAN} (JN 8:44; 2CO 2:15-17)
- WE DO NOT HIDE THE GOSPEL FROM THEM; IT IS HID FROM THEM BY SATAN AND THEIR WILLING EMBRACEMENT OF UNGODLINESS, SATAN'S DELUSION (RO 1:18-20; 2CO 4:3-6; 2TH 2:3-12)

PROLOGUE: TO WHOM CAN THE LOST PRAY?

- SAVED CAN PRAY TO THE FATHER IN HIS WILL TO RECEIVE GUIDANCE VIA THE SPIRIT IN HIS WORD TO MATURE ONE IN THE IMAGE OF CHRIST (1CO 2:14; GA 2:20)
 - THIS IS THE PURPOSE OF DISCERNMENT BASED ON SCRIPTURAL KNOWLEDGE (1CO 2:14; HE 5:11-14)
- LOST HAVE REJECTED GOD EXCHANGING HIS TRUTH FOR THEIR LIES (RO 1:18-28)
 - THE WORLD WITHOUT GOD THEY WANT IS VIOLENT AND DEGRADING; YET, THEY DO NOT REPENT
 - EVEN WHEN THEY PERCEIVE GOD, THEY REJECT HIM; BEGGING FOR DEATH IN THEIR SIN (RE 6:12-17)
 - LOST WILL STAND ALONE BEFORE A HOLY CHRIST WHILE THEIR OWN THOUGHTS, WORDS AND DEEDS CONDEMN THEM; THEN THEY WILL SPEND AN ETERNITY CURSING HIM (LK 16:16-31; RE 20:11-15)

EVENING PRAYER PSALM: CALL TO MEDITATION

- THE FIRST THREE VERSES *SET THE STAGE* FOR THE MAJOR THEME OF THIS *EVENING PRAYER PSALM*: MEDITATION OR CALMING ONE'S HEART FROM THE DAY'S TROUBLES (MT 6:27-34)
 - IT IS DURING THE QUIET OF THE NIGHT WHEN ONE MEDITATES ON THE DAY'S TROUBLES (PS 77:1-6)
- CHOICE: ON WHAT WILL YOU MEDITATE; SIN'S UNALTERABLE EVENTS OR GOD'S PROMISES?
(PS 77:11-20)
 - DAVID COULD NOT CHANGE HIS ADULTERY-MURDER NOR ITS CONSEQUENCES; I.E., REBELLION
 - CHRIST COULD NOT CHANGE HIS SACRIFICIAL PAYMENT FOR SIN (MT 26:36-46; LK 22:39-46)
 - YOU CANNOT CHANGE PAST EVENTS-SINS; BUT YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR FUTURE RESPONSES
 - CHOICE: ANGER {SIN} OR SELF-CONTROL {FAITH}? YOUR ROLE IN THE HAGIAZO PROCESS
(GA 5:19-26; 2PE 1:5-10)

ANGER: COVETOUSNESS DEFERRED

- OUR VERSE IS TRANSLATED, " BE ANGRY, AND DO NOT SIN;" HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE MORE CORRECT TO TRANSLATE IT AS, "WHEN (IF) ANGRY, DO NOT SIN!" {K&D (SEPTUAGINT)} (EP 4:25-26)
- IN *DUNE*, THE MANTRA IS, "*FEAR IS THE GREAT MIND KILLER;*" HOWEVER, BIBLE DEMONSTRATES THAT *ANGER IS THE GREAT SOUL KILLER!* {MAN'S PHILOSOPHY VS GOD'S TRUTH} (RO 1:18-28)
 - GOD CHOSE ABEL {WORTHLESS} OVER CAIN {GOD GIVEN} TO SUCCEDED ADAM AS PATRIARCH; I.E., GOD CHOSE HUMILITY OVER STRENGTH AS THE EXAMPLE FOR PEOPLE TO FOLLOW; ALWAYS (JN 3:29-20; GE 4:1-17)
 - CAIN'S RESPONSE WAS ANGER WHICH GOD WARNED HIM TO CONTROL; HIS FLESH FAILED-SIN
 - CAIN MURDERED THE VISIBLE IMPEDIMENT TO HIS COVETED LEADERSHIP; HE DID NOT LISTEN TO GOD AND MEDITATE ON HIS SINFUL ANGER TO SEEK GOD'S STRENGTH; REJECTED HUMILITY

ANGER: PATHWAY TO HELL

- JEWS BELIEVED THEY KEPT THE *TEN WORDS* IF THEY DID THE BASICS, NOT MURDER; BUT CHRIST TOLD THEM THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE *LAW*, USING EXAMPLE OF ANGER (MT 5:21-26; JA 2:10-13)
 - QUINTESSENTIAL EXAMPLE OF ANGER TO MURDER, CAIN AND ABEL, WHICH THEY IGNORED; FLESHLY ANGER REVEALS ONE'S SINFULNESS; GUILTY OF THE ENTIRE LAW
 - WORKS DOES NOT ABSOLVE ONE FROM SIN'S JUDGMENT; ENTIRE PENALTY MUST BE PAID!
- JEWS NOT ONLY HAD THE *LAW AND PROPHETS*, THEY HAD THE *WRITINGS* REVEALING CHRIST'S *HEART* IN HIS FIRST ADVENT STRUGGLES {FLESH}; WHICH THEY IGNORED (HE 2:14-18; 5:5-10)
 - RESURRECTED CHRIST TOLD HIS DISCIPLES HOW LITTLE THEY UNDERSTOOD THEIR BIBLE (LK 24:25-27)
 - WHY DO CHRISTIANS BELIEVE THEY CAN *BE ANGRY* AND *NOT SIN*? POOR HERMENEUTICS!

MEDITATION-PRAYER: PATH OF SIN?

- MEDITATION REVEALS ONE'S HEART: DO YOU PRAY FOR CONTROL OR HUMILITY?
 - SINNERS REFLECT ON WRONGS DONE TO THEM; EACH SLIGHT A GRIEVOUS WOUND (PR 18:14B; 29:11A)
 - IGNORING THEIR ANGER **REVEALS** THEIR SIMILAR SIN, THEY JUDGE THE OTHER TO ABSOLVE THEMSELVES, *APPEAR INNOCENT, SELF-RIGHTEOUS WHICH CONFIRMS THEM* (RO 2:1-11)
 - GOD REPEATED MULTIPLE TIMES IN THE BIBLE THAT JUDGMENT, CONDEMNATION, OF OTHERS IS HIS PREVIEW AS ONLY HE CAN JUDGE RIGHTLY; ON THE INSIDE VICE THE OUTSIDE (DE 32:35-38; 1SA 16:7)
 - CHRIST WARNED OF CONDEMNING OTHERS RATHER THAN YOURSELF WHICH HARDENS YOU IN YOUR SIN, UNREPENTANT; THIS IS NOT SAME AS PRACTICING DISCERNMENT {NON- CONDEMNING} (MT 7:1-5)
 - JUSTIFIES YOU REPAYING EVIL WITH EVIL WHICH OVERCOMES YOU WITH SIN {CAIN} (RO 12:17-21)

MEDITATION: PATH OF TRUST?

- MEDITATION REVEALS ONE'S HEART BY WHAT ONE MEDITATES UPON; PATH OF FAITH-TRUST IS THE MAJOR THEME OF PSALMS, NOT COMFORT; TRUST GOD IN AN EVIL WORLD, RIGHT PATH
 - CHRIST OUR EXAMPLE; SHOWS HIS TRUST IN THE FATHER CONSTANTLY (1PE 2:21-24)
 - BIBLE COMMANDS TO REFRAIN FROM ANGER AND REJECT WRATH; GOD WILL JUDGE (PS 37:8-9)
 - ONE MUST MEDITATE ON ONE'S OWN SIN WHILE FORGIVING OTHERS THEIR *SINS* AGAINST YOU LEST YOU REMAIN **ENSLAVED** IN THE *GALL OF BITTERNESS* {ANGER} (MT 6:12-13; AC 8:23-24 (KJV))
- PATHWAY TO HUMILITY, *HEBEL*, IS RECOGNIZING ONE'S DAILY SINS NEEDING FORGIVENESS
 - DEVELOPING MEEKNESS {BEATITUDES} IS TO LOOK AT SELF AND LET GOD DEAL WITH OTHERS
 - RIGHT SACRIFICE IS A *BROKEN, CONTRITE HEART*, REPENTANCE SEEKING FORGIVENESS
(PS 51:16-17; MT 5:2-12)

MEDITATION: JUDGMENT BEGINS AT HOME

- GOD STATES THAT IF YOU ARE WITHOUT DISCIPLINE; YOU ARE NOT SAVED (HE 12:5-8)
 - OLD TESTAMENT TEACHES THAT JUDGMENT BEGINS WITH GOD'S PEOPLE; NOT SINNERS (PS 50:3-15)
 - NEW TESTAMENT CONTINUES THIS THEME: ESPECIALLY IN THE CHURCH (1PE 4:15-19)
- MEDITATING ON THE WRONGS OF SINNERS WEAKENS ONE'S FAITH, ENTICING ONE TO RETURN TO SIN; ANGER REMOVES ONE'S REASONING; *BRUTISH BEAST* {DEGRADATION} (PS 73)
 - GOD WILL JUDGE SINNERS ON *THAT DAY*; HE WILL JUDGE US FIRST AT BEMA SEAT (2CO 5:10; RE 14:9-13)
 - SAVED: HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND HOPE IN HIS STEADFAST LOVE ARE CHRISTLIKE {MATURE} (PS 147:10-11)
 - LOST: ANGER WILL BE YOUR JUDGE BEFORE GOD ON *THAT DAY* (MT 7:2; 2CO 5:10; RE 20:11-15)
 - CHOICE: DO YOU MEDITATE ON THEIR ANGER OR YOURS? ONE PROMOTES SLAVERY, THE OTHER SEEKS FORGIVENESS AND ESCAPE FROM ANGER TO LEARN SELF-CONTROL {FRUIT OF SPIRIT} (PR 25:28; GA 5:22-26)