

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 004-04 WHAT IS THE GOAL OF YOUR FAITH?

DR. LEON L. SANDERS

PSALM 4:6-8

PROLOGUE: 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)

PROLOGUE: 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)

PROLOGUE: ORGANIZATION

PSALM FOUR

- THIS PSALM HAS A PROLOGUE AND EPILOGUE WITH THREE STANZAS BETWEEN THEM
 - PROLOGUE: FATHER HEARS PRAYERS AND WILL ANSWER BASED ON HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS
 - STANZA ONE: SINNERS SEEK TO TURN ONE'S RIGHTNESS IN GOD INTO SHAME BUT GOD PRESERVES THOSE HE SAVED
 - STANZA TWO: INCLINATION IS SELF-VINDICATION; BE SILENT AND OFFER RIGHT SACRIFICES: DO NOT ANSWER EVIL WITH EVIL
 - STANZA THREE: FIFTH COLUMN MOVEMENT QUESTIONS, AND WOULD HAVE YOU QUESTION, GOD; GOD GIVES SPIRITUAL PEACE WHILE MANY LOOK TO MATERIAL BOUNTY WHICH PASSES AWAY
 - EPILOGUE: REST IN THE FATHER IS PEACE AND SAFETY; NOW AND IN ETERNITY – NOT FOR SINNERS

ABSALOM'S REBELLION: RE-PRIORITIZING DAVID

- LORD GAVE HIS KINGDOM TO DAVID WHO GREATLY ABUSED HIS AUTHORITY; THUS, THE LORD REMOVED DAVID FROM BEING KING HUMBLING HIM PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY
 - THIS RUDE AWAKENING MUST HAVE REMINDED HIM OF SAUL WHOM GOD REMOVED FROM BEING KING FOR *LESSOR* DISOBEDIENCE (1SA 1:22-23)
 - HOLY SPIRIT *TEACHING* DAVID TRUE PRIORITIES OF SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD (PS 16:7-8; 1CO 2:14)
- DAVID'S ERROR IS THAT HE CHOSE SATAN'S GOALS RATHER THAN CHRIST'S GOALS
 - SINNER, IMMATURE, JUDGE THEIR FAITH BY THEIR CONTROL OF STUFF/OTHERS WHICH FAILS (HE 1:10-12)
 - CHRIST, MATURE, SEEK RELATIONSHIP BEYOND MATERIALISM THAT PASSES AWAY; THEY LOOK FOR A CITY TO COME AEB THE **HOPE-JOY-PEACE** THEY EXPERIENCE BEING SECURE IN THE FATHER
(PS 16:9-11; PH 2:3-8; HE 11:9-10)

WHOM DO YOU SERVE: MAMMON OR CHRIST?

- THE QUESTION, “WHO WILL SHOW US SOME GOOD?” BETRAYS REASON FOR THEIR BELIEF
 - CHRIST TAUGHT ONE SERVES WORLD OR GOD; NOT BOTH AS THEIR PRIORITIES ARE ANTITHETICAL (MT 6:24)
 - DO NOT CONFUSE THIS WITH A CALL TO AESTHETICISM AS CHRIST CLEARLY TAUGHT THAT IF YOU CANNOT HANDLE WHAT YOU CAN SEE, YOU CANNOT HANDLE SPIRITUAL THINGS? (LK 16:11-12)
 - GRASPING AFTER THE FORMER BRINGS FIGHTINGS AND WARS ENSLAVING YOU (JA 4:1-4)
 - PROPER PERSPECTIVE KEEPS THE MAMMON FROM CONTROLLING YOU AS YOU LEARN HUMILITY DESIRING PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH CHRIST’S *HAGIAZO PROCESS* (RO 5:3-5)
 - DAVID WENT FROM HAVING EVERY WANNA SATISFIED TO APPRECIATING HAVING HIS *NEEDS* MET: FROM PALACE TO A TENT ON THE RUN, JUST AS BEFORE HE BECAME KING (1SA 22:1-5)

“LIGHT OF YOUR FACE” ANOTHER MOSAIC REFERENCE

- MOSES’ BENEDICTION TO AARON AND SONS ENTERING THE PRIESTHOOD WAS FOR GOD’S LIGHT TO SHINE ON THEM SO THEY COULD GUIDE THE PEOPLE, INCLUDING KINGS (NU 6:22-27)
 - PEOPLE WOULD REMEMBER SAUL HAD THE PRIESTS OF NOB KILLED BY A GENTILE (1SA 22:6-19)
 - DAVID WAS LEARNING, OR RELEARNING, THAT GOD DESIRES A HUMBLER, REPENTANT SOUL WHO LOOKED TO HIM; SINCE DAVID ACCEPTED DISCIPLINE, HE PROVED HE WAS OF GOD (PS 51:17; HE 12:5-11)
- CHRIST LIVED HUMBLY DURING HIS FIRST ADVENT AND SATAN TEMPTED HIM OFT; YET HE DID NOT SIN (MT 4:3-10; LK 9:57-58)
 - HE LOOKED AHEAD TO THE GOAL OF SECURING SALVATION, HONORING THE FATHER (HE 5:5-10; 12:2)

EPILOGUE: PEACE

- DAVID-CHRIST-BELIEVER REST BECAUSE OF **PEACE** IN GOD THROUGH CHRIST (RO 5:1, 6, 9-11)
- MATERIAL POSSESSIONS AND LUST FOR CONTROL DO NOT SATISFY
 - POSSESSIONS WEAR OUT OR ARE TAKEN; EVERYTHING MATERIAL IS TRANSITORY (MT 6:19-21; 1JO 2:15-17)
 - NOTHING REMOVES THE **FEAR** THAT REMAINS BECAUSE OF COMING JUDGMENT (1JO 4:17)
- ONLY TRUE PEACE IS KNOWING YOUR NAME IS WRITTEN IN THE *BOOK OF LIFE* AND CANNOT BE ERASED (LK 10:20; JN 10:27-30)
 - GOD REJECTS THE PROUD FLOWS THROUGH SCRIPTURE; AS DAVID DISCOVERED (PR 3:34; JA 4:6)
 - THOSE WHO HUMBLE THEMSELVES IN CHRIST DRAW NEAR TO GOD WHO DRAWS NEAR TO YOU (JA 4:7-8)

TRULY IT'S NOT ABOUT THE STUFF: IT'S ABOUT THE SPIRITUAL

- SIN IS NOT ABOUT POSSESSING STUFF BUT THE LOVE OF POSSESSION, AND CONTROL (1TI 6:10)
- QUALITIES OF THOSE WHO LOVE THE WORLD (IS 29:20-21)
 - SCOFFING {SARCASM} SHALL CEASE {LAKE OF FIRE}
 - SUBVERTS THOSE WHO SEEK CHRIST; MAKE THEM LIKE THEMSELVES: DISCIPLES OF HELL (MT 23:15)
- QUALITIES OF THOSE WHO LOVE CHRIST (IS 29:19)
 - HUMBLE SHALL OBTAIN *GREATER* JOY; GREATER MEEKNESS MEANS MORE BLESSING (MT 5:2-12)
- GOAL OF DISCIPLINE AND MEDITATION IS **MORE** FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT EVEN AS THE WORLD SEEKS TO SUBVERT OR REMOVE YOU; REMEMBER, OUR CITY IS YET TO COME (GA 5:22-24; RE 21:1-4)