

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. The text is centered on the slide.

PSALM 005-04 WAY OF GOD'S PATH

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PSALM 5:7-8

PROLOGUE: CHARACTERISTICS OF ALL SINNERS

- SINNERS DO NOT HIDE THEIR CONDITION BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THEY HAVE TRUTH
 - BOASTFUL – THEY LAUD THEMSELVES AS FREE FROM FEAR, GUILT AND CONSTRAINTS ON THEIR BEHAVIORS (PS 75:2-5; 1CO 3:18-22; 2PE 3:3-4; JUDE 1:8-13)
 - LIARS – BY REJECTING THEIR INNER WITNESS OF GOD AND HIS OUTER MANIFESTATION, THEY SECURE THEIR JUDGMENT WITH THEIR VERY DEEDS TESTIFYING AGAINST THEMSELVES (JN 8:44; RO 1:18-21; RE 20:11-15)
 - DECEIT AND BLOOD THIRSTY – SIN'S NATURAL RESULT IS **ALWAYS** DEATH EVEN AS THEY DECEITFULLY PLAN THE ENSLAVEMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF OTHERS (PR 1:10-19; EZ 28:15-16; JN 8:44)
- PSALMIST DESCRIBES THE CONTINUUM OF SINNERS SHOWING THEY ARE WITHOUT HOPE IN OPPOSITION TO GOD WHO DOES NOT DELIGHT IN THEIR DEATHS (EZ 33:11)

PROLOGUE: HEART OF SINNERS: REBELLIOUS PRIDE

- COMMON ASPECT OF EVIL, SIN: COVETING TO BE AS GOD VIA FLESHLY LUST, LUST OF EYE AND PRIDE OF LIFE (GE 3:5; 1SA 15:23; IS 14:14; COL 3:5; 1TI 2:3-6; 1JO 2:16)
- GOD CALLS THE DEAD WORLD TO SALVATION; BUT THEY DO NOT HEAR (JN 3:16; EP 2:1-9)
- GOD MAKES PEACE **ALONE** BY CHRIST'S SACRIFICE WHICH ERASES OUR SIN (PS 103:12; RO 5:1-11; HE 5:5-10)
- HOW DOES ONE BECOME SAVED? THROUGH FAITH WHICH DESTROYS BOASTING (RO 3:27-31; 10:9-13)
 - TRIBULATIONS & TRIALS, HAGIAZO PROCESS, *PUSHES* ONE TO CRY OUT TO GOD, LIKE: PHILIPPIAN JAILER; ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH; YOU? (MT 7:7-8; AC 8:26-37; 16:25-30)
 - THOSE WHOM GOD DRIVES SEEK AND FIND HIM EVIDENCED BY REPENTANCE AND HUMILITY; THUS, LIVING BY FAITH REVEALS GOD'S RIGHTEOUS TRUTH OF CHRIST'S LOVE IN BELIEVERS (PS 69:30-33; 107:1-32; HAB 2:4; RO 1:17; 1CO 13:1-3; 2CO 2:14-17; 1JO 3:16)

ABUNDANCE OF GOD'S MERCY

- WHILE LOVE IS A POPULAR CONCEPT TODAY, THOUGH LARGELY MEANINGLESS; THE BEST ENGLISH WORD TO CONVEY THE CONTEXTUAL CONCEPT IS UNMERITED MERCY
 - CONCEPT OF MERCY: THE ABSOLUTELY STRONG ONE REACHING DOWN TO THE ABSOLUTELY WEAK {SINFUL} ONE, NOT DUE TO NEED BUT SOLELY DUE TO THE DESIRE OF THE STRONG ONE
 - GOD'S MERCY ABOUNDS AS IT MUST BECAUSE SAVED KEEP SINNING WHILE IN THEIR BODIES OF FLESH WHICH IS ANTITHETICAL TO THE NEW NATURE (RO 6:1-6; 7:14-23; 2CO 5:17; 1JO 1:9-10)
 - YES, IT FLOWS FROM LOVE BUT ITS PRIMARY FOCUS IS UNDESERVED MERCY THAT ALLOWS PEACE BETWEEN GOD AND SAVED SINNERS (RO 5:6-11)
 - THIS **ONLY** IS THE BASIS ALLOWING US TO ENTER GOD'S HOLINESS, COVERED IN CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS AS WE HAVE NO INTRINSIC RIGHTEOUSNESS (RO 8:1-11; 2CO 5:21; RE 6:9-11; 7:9-17; 19:7-8)

WHAT IS GOD'S HOUSE?

- *HYPER-LITERAL* READER IMAGINES INDIVIDUAL MANSIONS IN HEAVEN; BUT WHAT IS THE NORMATIVE MEANING OF THE WRITER WHO DID NOT KNOW REVELATION TWENTY-ONE?
 - FAMILY CAN MEAN PHYSICAL DWELLING; BUT COMMON HEBREW USAGE CAN ALSO MEAN A FAMILY OR LINEAGE SUCH AS THE *HOUSE OF DAVID* (2SA 3:1)
 - TODAY SAVED PEOPLE BECOME PART OF THE *FAMILY* OR *HOUSE* OF GOD, ILLUSTRATED AS THE *BODY OF CHRIST*, CHURCH {BRIDE OF CHRIST}, *FIRST FRUITS* OF THE *NEW COVENANT* (1CO 12:12-13; EP 5:22-33)
 - CHRIST USED THIS CONCEPT EXPLAINING THAT THE FATHER'S *HOUSE*, *FAMILY*, HAD MANY ROOMS, OR *VARIETIES*, OF PEOPLES; I.E., NOT JUST OLD TESTAMENT JEWS (JN 14:1-4)
 - **EVERYONE** SAVED DURING THIS PHYSICAL, MATERIAL CREATION IS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST (RE 21:1-8)

BELIEVER'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT SALVATION IS ONLY OF GOD

- PSALMIST HUMBLES HIMSELF BEFORE GOD ACKNOWLEDGING HE BRINGS NOTHING BUT SIN, WORKS, WHICH BELIEVER CONDEMNS ACKNOWLEDGING SALVATION IS ONLY OF GOD (RO 4)
 - *FEAR OF THE LORD: AWE THAT OUR CREATOR WOULD EVEN ACKNOWLEDGE OUR EXISTENCE AND AWE THAT HE WOULD NOT ONLY NOT DESTROY US BUT EXCHANGE HIS SON'S LIFE FOR OUR LIVES; NOT OUT OF OBLIGATION BUT BASED ON HIS UNFATHOMABLE, TO OUR MINDS, UNMERITED LOVE*
(IS 1:18; 55:8-9; RO 3:21-31; 9:10-16)
- PSALMIST BOWS, HUMBLES HIMSELF, TOWARD **GOD'S** HOLY TEMPLE LIKE ABRAHAM WHOSE VISION WAS THIS CITY: NOT EARTHLY BUT HEAVENLY JERUSALEM (GA 4:21-31; HE 11:10)
 - NEW JERUSALEM OF NEW EARTH-HEAVEN HOUSES CHRIST, OUR LIGHT THROUGH ETERNITY (RE 21:22-27)

BASIS OF BEING LED; GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS

- BASIS OF WORLDLY LEADERSHIP IS STRENGTH AND CHARISMA; BUT GOD'S BASIS OF OUR LEADERSHIP IS RIGHTEOUSNESS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE HUMBLE CHRIST (IS 42:1-9; JN 14:8-10; COL 1:15)
 - BASIS OF GOD'S HOLINESS DEFINED BY HIS TEN WORDS (EX 20:1-17)
 - BASIS OF OUR *NEW* CHARACTER AS WE MATURE LIKE CHRIST IN HUMILITY: BEATITUDES (IS 53; MT 5:2-12)
- GOD LEADS US THROUGH THE *VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH* BECAUSE THE WORLD SEEKS OUR DESTRUCTION WHICH PROVES THEIR DELUSION IS THE LIE (PS 23; MT 5:11-12; 2CO 2:15-16; 2TH 2:3-12)
 - GOD DOES NOT ABROGATE HIS HOLINESS TO OVERPOWER SINNERS: PATH OF SIN (JN 8:44; JA 1:13-18)
 - OUR TESTIMONY INVITES LOST TO SALVATION; THEIR VIOLENCE CONDEMNS THEM (MT 5:11-12; RE 20:11-15)

PATH OF GOD MADE CLEAR TO MY SIGHT

- FUNDAMENTAL TO ALL SCRIPTURE IS THE METAPHOR OF *THE PATH* {DEREK; דֶּרֶךְ}
 - HEBREW-GREEK DEFINITION OF SIN IS THE *CROOKED PATH* NEVER LEADING TO SALVATION (IS 59:1-13)
 - GOD'S PATH IS LEVEL {STRAIGHT}; BUT IT IS NOT APPARENT TO US DUE TO OUR SINFUL FLESH
(MT 6:22-23; RO 7:7-15; 1CO 13:12)
- HAGIAZO PROCESS TRAINS OUR *NEW MINDS* TO PERCEIVE AS GOD DOES VIA DISCERNMENT USING HIS WORD AND SPIRIT: THIS TURNS OUR PATH FROM *CROOKED* TO *LEVEL* (HE 4:12-16; 5:11-14)
 - WE WILL NEVER COMPLETELY *SEE* THE STRAIGHT {LEVEL} PATH BUT IT WILL BECOME CLEARER TO OUR FACE, PERCEPTION, AS WE MATURE IN CHRIST (1CO 13:9-12; GA 2:20)
 - CHRIST LITERALLY MAKES **ALL** ROADS LEVEL IN MILLENNIAL KINGDOM, EXCEPT JERUSALEM
(ZE 14:10; RE 6:14; 16:19-21)

BELIEVER IS THE RECIPIENT NOT THE BASIS

- PSALMIST UNDERSTANDS HE IS UNDESERVED OF GOD'S MERCY THAT REMOVED HIM FROM THE CROOKED PATH AND STRAIGHTENS/LEVELS HIS PATH AS HE LEARNS TO THINK AS CHRIST (PR 3:6)
 - THUS, TO THE LOST THE *WAY OF CHRIST* IS FOOLISHNESS; THEY CANNOT SEE GOD'S LEVEL PATH, THEY ONLY PERCEIVE THEIR CROOKED, COMPLEX, PATH WHICH DOES NOT BRING PEACE
(IS 42:1-9; 1CO 1:20-31; 2:14)
 - AS MATURING BELIEVERS, WE *PERCEIVE* CHRIST'S TEMPLE IN HEAVEN'S NEW JERUSALEM AND GROAN AS WE AWAIT REDEMPTION OF OUR BODIES TO COMPLETE OUR SALVATION (2CO 5:1-5)
 - THOUGH WE DIMLY PERCEIVE ITS REALITY; THE SPIRIT HELPS US MATURE TOWARD THIS GOAL LAID OUT BY THE FATHER BEFORE THIS CREATION TO BE OUR REALITY IN THIS COMING *NEW CREATION*
(RO 8:23-30; EP 1:3-14; RE 22:1-5, 14-17)