

Message Four

The Blessing Received by God's Loving Seekers through the Function of the Word of God

DT Hymns 799, 812

Scripture Reading: Psa. 119:25, 50, 57a, 58a, 103, 105, 107, 130a, 135a, 154; 1:2-3;

John 1:4; Col. 2:7a; 2 Tim. 3:16a; Col. 1:12; 2 Cor. 4:6; 3:18

- Psa 119:25 My soul clings to the dust; / Enliven me according to Your word.
- Psa 119:50 This is my comfort in my affliction, / For Your word has enlivened me.
- Psa 119:57a Jehovah is my portion; ...
- Psa 119:58a I entreated Your favor with my whole heart; ...
- Psa 119:103 How sweet are Your words to my taste! / Sweeter than honey to my mouth!
- Psa 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet / And a light to my path.
- Psa 119:107 I have been greatly afflicted; / O Jehovah, enliven me according to Your word.
- Psa 119:130a The opening of Your words gives light, ...
- Psa 119:135a Cause Your face to shine on Your servant,
- Psa 119:154 Plead my case, and redeem me; / Enliven me according to Your word.
- Psa 1:2 Rather his delight is in the law of Jehovah, / And in His law he meditates by day and by night.
- Psa 1:3 And he will be like a tree / Transplanted beside streams of water, / Which yields its fruit in its season, / And whose foliage does not wither; / And everything he does prospers.
- John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- Col 2:7a Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, ...
- 2 Tim 3:16a All Scripture is God-breathed ...
- Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
- 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
- 2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

I. Through the function of the Word of God, God's loving seekers receive the blessing of light becoming life—Psa. 119:130a, 105, 25, 50:

- Psa 119:130a The opening of Your words gives light, ...
- Psa 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet / And a light to my path.
- Psa 119:25 My soul clings to the dust; / Enliven me according to Your word.
- Psa 119:50 This is my comfort in my affliction, / For Your word has enlivened me.
- A. A great principle in the Bible is that light and life always go together; where light is, there is life, and where life is, there is light—36:9; John 1:4; 8:12:
- Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; / In Your light we see light.
- John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- John 8:12 Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.
1. There is a line throughout the Bible that speaks of light and life together—Gen. 1:3; John 1:4; 8:12; Rev. 21:23; 22:1, 5:
- Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light; and there was light.
- John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- John 8:12 Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.
- Rev 21:23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.
- Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
- Rev 22:5 And night will be no more; and they have no need of the light of a lamp and of the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shine upon them; and they will reign forever and ever.

- a. There is only one realm and source of life, and that is light.
- b. Life comes from light; light is the key to life.
- c. On God's side, there is first life and then light; on our side, there is first light and then life—Psa. 36:9; John 1:1, 4-5; 8:12; 2 Cor. 4:6; Acts 26:13.
 - Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; / In Your light we see light.
 - John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
 - John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
 - John 1:5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
 - John 8:12 Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.
 - 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
 - Acts 26:13 At midday, on the way, I saw, O King, a light from heaven beyond the brightness of the sun, shining around me and those who journeyed with me.

2. The Bible reveals that life comes from the shining of light and that the amount of life is in direct proportion to the amount of light—Gen. 1:3-25; 2 Cor. 4:6.

- Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light; and there was light.
- Gen 1:4 And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness.
- Gen 1:5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.
- Gen 1:6 And God said, Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.
- Gen 1:7 And God made the expanse and separated the waters which were under the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse, and it was so.
- Gen 1:8 And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.
- Gen 1:9 And God said, Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear; and it was so.
- Gen 1:10 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas; and God saw that it was good.
- Gen 1:11 And God said, Let the earth sprout grass, herbs yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit according to their kind with their seed in them upon the earth; and it was so.
- Gen 1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, herbs yielding seed according to their kind, and trees bearing fruit with their seed in them according to their kind; and God saw that it was good.
- Gen 1:13 And there was evening and there was morning, a third day.
- Gen 1:14 And God said, Let there be light-bearers in the expanse of heaven to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;
- Gen 1:15 And let them be light-bearers in the expanse of heaven to give light on the earth; and it was so.
- Gen 1:16 And God made the two great light-bearers, the greater light-bearer to rule the day and the lesser light-bearer to rule the night, and the stars.
- Gen 1:17 And God set them in the expanse of heaven to give light on the earth
- Gen 1:18 And to rule over the day and over the night and to separate the light from the darkness, and God saw that it was good.
- Gen 1:19 And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.
- Gen 1:20 And God said, Let the waters swarm with swarms of living animals, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of heaven.
- Gen 1:21 And God created the great sea creatures and every living animal that moves, with which the waters swarmed, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind; and God saw that it was good.

- Gen 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.
- Gen 1:23 And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.
- Gen 1:24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth living animals according to their kind, cattle and creeping things and animals of the earth according to their kind; and it was so.
- Gen 1:25 And God made the animals of the earth according to their kind and the cattle according to their kind and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind, and God saw that it was good.
- 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
3. **In Genesis 1 the first-day light was for generating life, and the fourth-day lights were for the growth of life; the first-day light is sufficient for our regeneration, but for our growth in life, we need the fourth-day lights—vv. 3, 14-19; John 3:3; 2 Cor. 4:6; Eph. 4:16; 5:8-9, 13-14.**
- Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light; and there was light.
- Gen 1:14 And God said, Let there be light-bearers in the expanse of heaven to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;
- Gen 1:15 And let them be light-bearers in the expanse of heaven to give light on the earth; and it was so.
- Gen 1:16 And God made the two great light-bearers, the greater light-bearer to rule the day and the lesser light-bearer to rule the night, and the stars.
- Gen 1:17 And God set them in the expanse of heaven to give light on the earth
- Gen 1:18 And to rule over the day and over the night and to separate the light from the darkness, and God saw that it was good.
- Gen 1:19 And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.
- John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
- 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
- Eph 4:16 Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.
- Eph 5:8 For you were once darkness but are now light in the Lord; walk as children of light
- Eph 5:9 (For the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),
- Eph 5:13 But all things which are reprov'd are made manifest by the light; for everything that makes manifest is light.
- Eph 5:14 Therefore He says, Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.
4. **Both the spirit of man and the Spirit of the Lord are lamps, shining and enlightening our inward parts—Prov. 20:27; Luke 15:8.**
- Prov 20:27 The spirit of man is the lamp of Jehovah, / Searching all the innermost parts of the inner being.
- Luke 15:8 Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one silver coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek carefully until she finds it?
5. **Where the light shines, there the life supply goes.**
6. **God's way of transforming us is through enlightening; wherever the light shines, life is supplied to that place for our transformation—2 Cor. 3:18; 4:6.**
- 2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.
- 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
7. **The divine light is the divine life in the Son operating in us; this light shines in the**

darkness within us, and the darkness cannot overcome it—Acts 26:18; 1 Pet. 2:9; Col. 1:12-13; John 1:5.

Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

1 Pet 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people acquired for a possession, so that you may tell out the virtues of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

John 1:5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

8. **When we walk in the light, the divine things are real to us, and we see one reality after another; however, when we are in darkness, nothing is real to us—1 John 1:7; 2:8.**

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

1 John 2:8 Yet again a new commandment I am writing to you, which is true in Him and in you because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.

B. **The Word of God gives us light, and then it enlivens us, giving us life—Psa. 119:25, 50, 107, 154:**

Psa 119:25 My soul clings to the dust; / Enliven me according to Your word.

Psa 119:50 This is my comfort in my affliction, / For Your word has enlivened me.

Psa 119:107 I have been greatly afflicted; / O Jehovah, enliven me according to Your word.

Psa 119:154 Plead my case, and redeem me; / Enliven me according to Your word.

1. **Although it is good to have light, the light must penetrate deeper until it becomes life.**

2. **When light goes deeper, reaching into our spirit, it becomes life, and we receive the life supply—Mal. 4:2.**

Mal 4:2 But unto you who fear My name will the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings, and you will go forth and leap about like well-fed calves.

C. **As sons of light, we should live in the light, walk in the light, remain in the light, and be persons altogether in the light—John 12:36; 1 John 1:5, 7; 2:8.**

John 12:36 While you have the light, believe into the light, so that you may become sons of light. Jesus said these things, and He went away and was hidden from them.

1 John 1:5 And this is the message which we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

1 John 2:8 Yet again a new commandment I am writing to you, which is true in Him and in you because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.

II. Through the function of the Word of God, God's loving seekers receive the blessing of being watered and of absorbing God—Psa. 1:2-3:

Isa 1:2 Rather his delight is in the law of Jehovah, / And in His law he meditates by day and by night.

Psa 1:3 And he will be like a tree / Transplanted beside streams of water, / Which yields its fruit in its season, / And whose foliage does not wither; / And everything he does prospers.

A. **God's loving seekers experience the blessing of being watered by the Word:**

1. **When the Word becomes water in our spirit, we receive its nourishment, for the food supply is in the water—Isa. 55:1; Rev. 22:1-2.**

Isa 55:1 Ho, Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters,/ And you who have no money;/ Yes, come, buy and eat;/ Yes, come, buy wine and milk / Without money and without price..

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

- Rev 22:2 And on this side and on that side of the river was the tree of life, producing twelve fruits, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.
2. **If we would be watered by the Word, we must have proper roots and fine root hairs, which absorb the life supply— Mark 4:5-6, 17; Luke 8:6.**

Mark 4:5 And other seed fell on the rocky place, where it did not have much earth, and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth.

Mark 4:6 And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered.

Mark 4:17 Yet they have no root in themselves, but last only for a time; then when affliction or persecution occurs because of the word, immediately they are stumbled.

Luke 8:6 And other seed fell on the rock, and as it grew, it withered because it had no moisture.
- B. **God's loving seekers experience the blessing of absorbing God through the Word—Col. 2:7a:**
- Col 2:7 Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, ...
1. **As believers in Christ, we are living plants rooted in Christ, and now through our roots we are absorbing the riches of the processed and consummated Triune God into our being— 1 Cor. 3:9; Col. 2:19.**

1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.

Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.
 2. **If we contact the Lord and spend time in the Word with much prayer, we will absorb God into us to be the element that causes us to grow.**
 3. **If we would absorb God, we need to have tender, new roots; therefore, we should not let ourselves get old but be fresh, revived, and renewed day by day—2 Cor. 4:16; Lam. 3:22-23.**

2 Cor 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Lam 3:22 It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, / For His compassions do not fail;

Lam 3:23 They are new every morning; / Great is Your faithfulness.

III. Through the function of the Word of God, God's loving seekers receive the blessing of inhaling God—2 Tim. 3:16a; John 20:22:

- 2 Tim 3:16a All Scripture is God-breathed ...
- John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
- A. **The Holy Pneuma is the Holy Spirit, or Holy Breath—v. 22:**
- John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
1. **In the Gospel of John there are three wonderful words: *Word, flesh, and breath*; the Word is God, the flesh is man, and the breath is the Spirit—1:1, 14; 20:22.**

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
 2. **As we inhale the Holy Breath, the Spirit supplies us for our experience of Christ and for our living because He lives— 6:57b; 14:19.**

John 6:57b ... so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

John 14:19 Yet a little while and the world beholds Me no longer, but you behold Me; because I live, you also shall live.
- B. **To say that all Scripture is God-breathed is to say that the Bible is the breath, the breathing out, of God, who is Spirit— 2 Tim. 3:16a:**
- 2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed ...

1. Because the Bible is the breathing out of God, the Bible has the element of God.
 2. The Bible is not only the breathing out of God but is God Himself breathed into His Word.
- C. God has breathed Himself out in the Word so that we can inhale Him, breathe Him in, through the Word:
1. God has breathed Himself out in the Scriptures, and thus our reading of the Scriptures should be the receiving of God's breath.
 2. When God breathes Himself out, He exhales Himself, and when we contact God through the Word, we inhale God.
- D. In order to be a man of God with the breath of God, we need to inhale, to breathe in, God's word— John 1:1; 20:22; 2 Tim. 3:16a.
- John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
 John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
 2 Tim 3:16a All Scripture is God-breathed ...

IV. Through the function of the Word of God, God's loving seekers receive the blessing of enjoying God as their portion— Psa. 119:57a; 73:26:

- Psa 119:57a Jehovah is my portion; ...
 Psa 73:26 My flesh and my heart fail, / But God is the rock of my heart and my portion forever.
- A. The highest blessing is the enjoyment of God Himself as our portion—Num. 6:22-27; 2 Cor. 13:14.
- Num 6:22 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,
 Num 6:23 Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the children of Israel; you shall say to them,
 Num 6:24 Jehovah bless you and keep you;
 Num 6:25 Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
 Num 6:26 Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
 Num 6:27 So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, that I Myself may bless them.
 2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- B. When we have God as our portion, we have God Himself as everything to us.
- C. The more we come to the Bible in the proper way, the more the Author of this book—God Himself—becomes our portion—Psa. 73:26.
- Psa 73:26 My flesh and my heart fail, / But God is the rock of my heart and my portion forever.
- D. God can be our portion because in the Word, by the Word, and through the Word He is real, present, practical, enjoyable, and available to us—119:103; 34:8.
- Psa 119:103 How sweet are Your words to my taste! / Sweeter than honey to my mouth!
 Psa 34:8 Taste and see that Jehovah is good; / Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him.

V. Through the function of the Word of God, God's loving seekers receive the blessing of enjoying God's countenance and the shining of His face—119:58a, 135a; 80:3; 24:6; 105:4; 2 Cor. 4:6; 3:16, 18:

- Psa 119:58a I entreated Your favor with my whole heart; ...
 Psa 119:135a Cause Your face to shine on Your servant, ...
 Psa 80:3 O God, restore us; / And cause Your face to shine, and we will be saved.
 Psa 24:6 This is the generation of those who seek Him, / Those who seek Your face, even Jacob. Selah.
 Psa 105:4 Seek Jehovah and His strength; / Seek His face continually.
 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
 2 Cor 3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.
 2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

- A. As seekers of God, the psalmists lovingly sought God in a deeply personal and intimate way, seeking the help of His countenance and asking for the shining of His face—Psa. 42:5; 80:3.
- Psa 42:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? / And why are you disquieted within me? / Hope in God, for I will yet praise Him / For the salvation of His countenance.
- Psa 80:3 O God, restore us; / And cause Your face to shine, and we will be saved.
- B. In the blessing in Numbers 6:25-26, we have both the face and the countenance:
- Num 6:25 Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
- Num 6:26 Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
1. The face denotes the presence of a person, and the countenance denotes the expression of the person.
 2. When the processed and consummated Triune God is dispensed into us through the function of the Word, we have the face of God and also His countenance—2 Cor. 13:14; 4:6.
- 2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
- C. If we are faithful in contacting the Lord through the Word, we will experience the shining of His face—v. 6; 3:16, 18:
- 2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
- 2 Cor 3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.
- 2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.
1. Like Moses, we all, with an unveiled face, should be on the mountaintop under the shining of the face of God—Exo. 24:15-18; 2 Cor. 3:16.
- Exo 24:15 And Moses went up to the top of the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.
- Exo 24:16 And the glory of Jehovah settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.
- Exo 24:17 And the appearance of the glory of Jehovah was like consuming fire on the top of the mountain to the eyes of the children of Israel.
- Exo 24:18 And Moses entered into the midst of the cloud and went up on the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.
- 2 Cor 3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.
2. Our desire should be, through the Word, to remain under this pleasant, delightful shining, staying with God, being infused with God, and glowing with God—Exo. 34:29; 2 Cor. 3:18.
- Exo 34:29 And when Moses came down from Mount Sinai-and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain-Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone by reason of His speaking with him.
- 2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.