

"THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD"

SCRIPTURE: PSALM 27:1-14

TEXT: PSALM 27:4

INTRO: What do you think of when you hear the word "BEAUTY?" A Person? A Place? An Item? A Concept? A Piece of Clothing? I suppose all of those words could describe that which is BEAUTIFUL. According to the WEBSTERS COLLEGE DICTIONARY, the word "BEAUTY" means: **"THE QUALITY PRESENT IN A PERSON OR THING THAT GIVES INTENSE PLEASURE OR DEEP SATISFICTION TO THE MIND OR THE SENSES."** I suppose that is true and it certainly can be applied to many people and things in life. But, in our text, we are told that **OUR LORD HAS BEAUTY**. Have you ever considered that? Well, today we shall "ATTEMPT" to consider the BEAUTY OF THE LORD and I want to emphasize the word "ATTEMPT" because, to be honest, **GOD IS SO BEAUTIFUL THAT WE CANNOT, IN HUMAN WORDS OR EXPRESSIONS, TAP THE SERVICE OF HIS GREAT BEAUTY**. But let's consider HIS BEAUTY anyhow and see how He teaches us today.

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NOTE: King David, who was considered to be the **"FRIEND OF GOD"** wrote this Psalm. His FRIENDSHIP is seen in verse 4 in FOUR GREAT ELEMENTS:

- 1) His Priority = "One Thing" - A Desire to walk with the Lord.
- 2) His Plan = "Seek After" - Determination to follow the Lord.
- 3) His Presence = "Dwell in the House of the Lord" (Temple) - Fellowship with the Lord.
- 4) His Perspective = "Behold the Beauty of the Lord" - See the Splendor of the Lord.

NOTE: The Hebrew word for "BEAUTY" means **Splendor, Delight, Grace**.

NOTE: The **"Beauty of the Lord"** is not seen in His Physical Appearance, as God is a SPIRIT. But rather, is seen in His **PERSON and PERFORMANCE**, that is, **IN WHO THE LORD IS AND WHAT HE DOES**.

I. THE REVELATION OF THE LORD'S BEAUTY

HOW IS THE LORD'S BEAUTY REVEALED?

- A. Through His Creation
 - Nature around Us.
- B. Through a Relationship
 - Knowing Him through Faith in Christ.
- C. Through Fellowship
 1. By Prayer
 2. By Bible Study
 3. By Trusting Him
 4. By Obeying Him

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE REALITY OF THE LORD'S BEAUTY

NOT A PHYSICAL SIGHT, BUT IN HIS GENUINE QUALITIES

- A. The Glory of the Lord shows His Beauty
 - As seen in His Creation - Psalm 19:1
- B. The Grace of the Lord shows His Beauty
 - As seen in His **UNDESERVED FAVOR TOWARD MANKIND**.
 1. In Salvation - Ephesians 2:8,9
 2. In Sustaining - 2 Corinthians 12:9
- C. The Mercy of the Lord shows His Beauty
 - As seen in His **PITY TOWARD MANKIND** - Ephesians 2:4a
- D. The Love of the Lord shows His Beauty
 - As seen in His **SACRIFICIAL GIVING FOR MANKIND**
 - Ephesians 2:4b-7
- E. The Faithfulness of the Lord shows His Beauty
 - As seen in His Reliability - 1 Corinthians 12:13

ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE RESPONSE TO THE LORD'S BEAUTY

- A. A Motivation to Serve Him
 - In Light of ALL He is and ALL that He has done.
- B. A Motivation to Share Him
 - So that others may know Him.

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. THE RESULT OF THE LORD'S BEAUTY

- A. We have Confidence in the Lord
- B. We have Strength through the Lord
- C. We have Courage from the Lord
- D. We have Worship of the Lord

ILLUSTRATION:

LESSON/CONCLUSION:

EVERY ONE OF US SHOULD HAVE THE DESIRE TO SEE, KNOW AND EXPERIENCE THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD. DOING SO WILL CHANGE OUR LIVES IN MANY POSITIVE AND BLESSED WAYS. BUT ABOVE ALL, DOING SO WILL EXALT THE LORD.....AND THAT IS WHAT HE DESIRES! SO MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOU HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM AND ARE FELLOWSHIPING WITH HIM....THEN YOU WILL SEE HIS BEAUTY!