

LEARNING SOMETHING DAVID KNEW

Text: Psalm 56:9

INTRO: In this lesson, we want to consider some thoughts from the pen of David. This psalm is thought to have been written about the time spoken of in 1 Samuel 21. David was fleeing from King Saul. While hiding in Gath, he was in danger from the Philistine king Achish. David pretended to be harmlessly insane. Let us pause a few minutes to learn what David knew.

I. WHY SHOULD WE TAKE NOTE OF DAVID'S WORDS?

- A. Because he assures us he KNOWS what he is talking about

Not "I think" or "I feel" or "It seems to me" or "Some say" Inspired: I know.

- B. Because of the VALUE of what he knows.

1. Some knowledge makes us poorer than before.
Gen. 2:17; 3:5-7.

2. Some knowledge is not particularly dangerous or harmful, but is practically worthless.

Trivial pursuit. Chappell tells of a man who "knows more things that are not worth knowing than any other man I ever met."

- C. But the knowledge David possessed was of supreme value.
It supplied hope & strength to face life's problems.

II. WHAT DID THE PSALMIST KNOW?

- A. He knew that God IS.

1. No doubt, David had been raised in a godly home & had been taught from early childhood of the existence & the love of God.

2. As he became more aware of his surroundings, he could see the evidence of God virtually everywhere he looked. Psa 19:1; 139:13-14

3. He had known God as his Helper in times past.

READ I SAMUEL 17:34-36

4. Perhaps he saw God most clearly through His word.
READ PSALM 119:9-12.

B. David knew that God CARES, is for "me."

1. He knew the importance of a personal relationship with God. "God so loved the world" is a great thought, but a still greater thought to me is that God loves me.
2. I often think of Jesus' words to Simon Peter in LK 22:32, "I have prayed for you." How meaningful that must have been.
3. While Jesus walked on earth He healed the sick, the blind, the lame, the deaf, raised the dead, forgave sins--yet we do not know the names of 1/10 of the people He stopped to help as He passed along the roads of ancient Palestine. To us, they are a bunch of nameless nobodies. But to Jesus, there are no nameless nobodies. Not even me. Not one person in a million knows who I am or ever heard my name. But Jesus knows me & loves me.

C. David knew that prayer makes a difference.

1. Some say, "everything has already been determined; God is in a rocking chair."
2. Some say it is good for US to pray, but it doesn't really change anything.
3. Some think that since the days of miracles are over God can't or won't respond to our prayers.
4. The Bible says prayer makes a difference.
 - a. We sometimes miss blessing because we do not ask for them, James 4:2. elder bro.
 - b. We have no promise or guarantee that our prayer will always produce exactly what

we had in mind--Abraham, Paul--but the prayers of the righteous always avail, James 5:16.

III. HOW DID THIS KNOWLEDGE HELP DAVID, AND HOW CAN IT HELP ME?

- A. It gives courage in the face of opposition, vs. 10-11.
- B. It gives strength to walk in the light, vs. 13; 1 JN 1:7

CONCLUSION: I don't always understand God's ways. They are as high above my own ways as the heavens are above the earth, Isa 55:8-9. It was a wise man who penned:

I asked God for strength that I might achieve.
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.
I was asked for health that I might do greater things.
I was given infirmity that I might do better things.
I ask for riches that I might be happy.
I was given poverty that I might be wise.
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men.
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things that I might enjoy life.
I was given life that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am, among all men, most richly blessed.

I don't always understand God's ways, but this I know, God is for me & with me, & if I will serve Him faithfully, He will see me through to the end.

Exton, PA, November 18, 1984
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, July 28, 1985
Liberty Hill, TX, July 28, 1985

Jonestown, TX, July 31, 1985

College Park, Deer Park, TX, August 4, 1985

Imhoff Ave., Port Arthur, TX, August 11, 1985

Exton, PA, July 8, 1990

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, July 25, 1993

South Loop, Taylor, TX, June 16, 1996 (meeting)