

Come closer to HIM

August 2, 2021

JAMES 4:8a NKJV – (8a) Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

To submit to God is to recognize your weakness, to stop fighting and to surrender to Him as your ultimate and final authority. If we had the power to live a transformed life on our own, we wouldn't need greater grace (**James 4:6**).

Therefore, to draw near to God is to come into His presence with prayer, praise and obedience. However, if we reserve this for mid-week service and Sundays only, we won't draw near enough.

Read the scripture again and keep this in mind, He will only draw near to you if you draw near to Him first!

The regenerate heart has a sincere desire for truth. We are to draw near to God with a true heart. The word "True" speaks of that which is absolute, incontrovertible, irrefutable, incontestable, unarguable, and unchanging...that is, the truth. This is God's absolute truth with no concept of "all things are relative" here. Therefore, the command is for us to draw near unto God with a heart that is truly set to obey Him, to worship Him, to line up its will with His.

On the other hand, how often do we encounter those who say they want to be near God or want to get close to God, but when confronted with the cost and the absolutes of His Word, they rebel? In other words, they say they want to be near God, but not really. They are like those Jews our Lord confronted in **Matthew 15:7-9**.

Drawing near unto God means having a desire for holiness. We are forever coming back to the Cross, for it is there that our sin was dealt with and our conscience was cleared. Hence, as I stated above, to draw near unto God and live there requires a daily walk with Him and walking in repentance is a huge part of that. How else can we do that unless we are being constantly brought back to the blood of Christ for daily cleansing? Therefore, no one can say they are walking close to God and are drawing near unto Him if they are walking in sin.

SCRIPTURE READING

ACTS 3:19

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The bible never once said, "Figure it out." But over and over it says, "Trust God." He's already got it figured out.

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"