

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Psalm 37

EXTRA READING: Apostle's Creed and Canons V, 1 (pg. 112)

SINGING: 246:1-3 – 161:1-5, 7, 8 – 359:1-2 – 24:1-3

Opening Observations

- Ps. 37 records David's life of struggles in faith regarding God's providence

- Before considering the 4th let's answer these questions
 - Is God's glory weighing heaviest on our mind?

 - Are we remembering to *pray in plural*?

 - Are you praying in your prayers?

 - Are you praying in faith? (Heb. 11:6; James 1:6)

<p style="text-align: center;">CHRIST'S COMMAND HIS DISCIPLES IN THE FOURTH PETITION I. to seek God for all your needs II. to trust God to supply all your needs</p>

I. CHRIST COMMANDS HIS DISCIPLES TO SEEK GOD FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS

A. Let's consider each of these simple and yet so meaningful words

1. give: *admits we face needs we can't face without God*

2. give: *directs us that we may go to God for all our needs*

3. this day: *directs us leave tomorrow's needs tomorrow*

4. daily: *either refers to 'time' or to 'amount'*

5. bread: *points to the basic necessities*

6. our: *reminds us that 'we share the needs with others'*

II. CHRIST'S COMMANDS US TO TRUST HIM TO SUPPLY ALL YOUR NEEDS

A. Jesus' direction doesn't mean 'we simply ask and do nothing'

1. God could have decreed to supply our daily needs as a *daily miracle*

2. Instead God directed us to *work diligently for our daily bread*

B. Jesus' direction in 4th reminds us that *all blessings* still come from Him

1. Nothing will profit us without His gracious blessing: Matt. 4:4

2. Even God's gifts will do us no real good *if not given in His favor*

Three Closing Questions

A. Am I desiring temporal things for spiritual purposes? (1 Cor. 10:31)

1. As we live in this 'earthly environment' we need *temporal things!*

2. We are not to disconnect this 4th petition from the first three!

B. Are we careful to further *godly instead of worldly interests* in how we direct our inheritance?

1. Laying up for your children *who already have more than enough* may not be the wisest or most profitable decision (Luke 12:13-14)

2. Leaving extra riches behind which were not used for the purpose for which God gave the extra is referred James 5:1-6

C. Am I laying up gold and silver where neither rust nor moth can reach it?

THOUGHTFUL SAYINGS

Our wealth is often a snare to ourselves and always a temptation to others. (Colton)

Poor people are as much in danger from an inordinate desire towards the wealth of the world, as the rich from an inordinate delight in it.
(M. Henry)