



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis
March 11, 2012
"The God You Long For"

desert breeze community church

[Psalms 27:1-14] "Is Beautiful"

What is your strategy for calamity? We will learn the "one thing" that can get us through anything.

Why Do We Need the Beauty of God?

- Because life can get really _____:
(Jn16:33; Eph. 6:12; 1 Pet. 4:12)
External problems vv2-3 ↔ Internal problems vv10-11
- Because an experience of beauty is _____ in 3 ways: vv5-6 (1999 Harvard English professor Elaine Scary – "On Beauty and Being Just")
1st Beauty creates community through the joy of praise.
2nd Beauty infuses hope through the conviction of meaning.
3rd Beauty gets you out of your self-absorption.
- Because any beauty short of God _____ completely satisfy. Rom.1:18-32

What is the Beauty of God?

- It is a sustained & profound sense of the reality of _____. V4a that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life... (Ps23:4; Isa43:2-3; Heb13:5)
- It is to be enthralled, captivated & enamored by the LORD _____. V4b to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD... (Ps.26:8, 50:2, 84:1-2)
- It is to seek, consider & reflect on the will (_____) of the LORD. V4c to inquire in his temple... "Inquire" = to seek an oracle (Ps.119:18, 103)

How Do We Get the Beauty of God?

- _____ of your disordered loves. V7 be gracious to me v9 Hide not your face...in anger. V11 Teach me your way...lead me on a level path (spiritual progress).
- _____ your schedule to make prayer & Bible study a practice. V4 One thing I ask (prayer)...to inquire in His temple (Bible study) v14 Wait for the LORD, be strong...

- _____ yourself that God is more willing to show you His beauty than you are to seek it. V1 the Lord is my light and my salvation...v5 He will hide me...conceal me...lift me upon a rock V9b, v10, v13

Jesus Christ who was absolutely beautiful gave up His beauty and became radically deformed and disfigured on the Cross (Isa.52:14) so that we who are spiritually ugly and disfigured can become absolutely beautiful. (2Cor.5:21)



Growing

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- 1)** What role does beauty play in our lives? Why do you think we are attracted to beautiful music, homes, landscapes, vacation spots, etc? How important is beauty in our American culture? Do you think there is too much emphasis on beauty or not enough? What comes to mind when you think of the beauty of God?
- 2)** Read Psalm 27. What is the full range of problems David is facing (external threats vv2-3 to internal threats vv10-11)? How does this Psalm teach us that Christian Living isn't a denial of reality but the embracing of God in the midst of reality?
- 3)** According to Elaine Scary an experience of beauty can be transforming in what 3 ways? What are some of your own experiences with beauty? What happens when we make any beauty short of God the ultimate in our life (Rom.1:18-32)?
- 4)** What's the "one thing" that is David's strategy for dealing with a full range of life's problems (v4)? What is a sustained & profound sense of the reality of God's presence (v4a; Ps.23:4; Isa. 43:2-3; Heb. 13:5)? What does it mean to be enthralled, captivated & enamored by the LORD in & of Himself (V4b; Ps.26:8, 50:2, 84:1-2)? What does it mean to seek, consider & reflect on the will (Word) of the LORD (V4c; Ps.119:18, 103)?
- 5)** How do we get the beauty of God (three points)? Which one(s) are strengths & which one(s) are growth areas for you? What area of your life are you needing God's beauty & what is your next step in experiencing more of His beauty? How did Jesus give up His beauty so that we could be clothed in His beauty (2Cor.5:21)?