

Sermon Notes – 03.09.2025 – Finding God

Finding the Lord Can Mean a Lot of Things – From Overpowering to Very Subtle

Isaiah

Isaiah 6:4-5 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke. **5** Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

Saul

Acts 9:3-4; 8-9 As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him; 4 and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" ; **8** Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

The Apostle John

Revelation 1:12-17a Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; **13** and in the middle of the lampstands *I saw* one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. **14** His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. **15** His feet *were* like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice *was* like the sound of many waters. **16** In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength. **17** When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man.

Elijah - [Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, James 5:17]

1 Kings 19:11-13 So He said, "Go forth and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD was passing by! And a great and strong wind was rending the mountains and breaking in pieces the rocks before the LORD; *but* the LORD *was* not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, *but* the LORD *was* not in the earthquake. **12** After the earthquake a fire, *but* the LORD *was* not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of a gentle blowing. 13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. And behold, a voice *came* to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

The Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:30-32 When He had reclined *at the table* with them, He took the bread and blessed *it*, and breaking *it*, He *began* giving *it* to them. **31** Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. **32** They said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?"

"I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me." **Proverbs 8:17**

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." **James 4:8**

Cains unrepentant life caused him to go out from the presence of God

"Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD..." **Genesis 4:16**

Speaking of an Opportune Time That Was Coming for the Exiles of Judah, God Said:

"Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. **13 'You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. 14 'I will be found by you,' declares the LORD"** **Jeremiah 29:12-14a**

"Thus says the LORD who made *the earth*, the LORD who formed it to establish it, the LORD is His name, **3 'Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'** **Jeremiah 33:2-3**

The Mystery of Sovereignty Superseded by the Father's Love –

"I permitted Myself to be sought by those who did not ask for Me; I permitted Myself to be found by those who did not seek Me. I said, 'Here am I, here am I,' To a nation which did not call on My name. **Isaiah 65:1**

Paul on Mars Hill

"... that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;"

Acts 17:27

God will be found when and how according to His Will and We Know He Wills to, "...give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?" **Luke 11:13**

Psalms 23 – Written by David – He Describes the Lord that He Found

A Psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He restores my soul; ... And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. **Psalm 23:1-6**

- "I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me" **John 10:14**

Finding the Lord –

All the "asking...seeking...knocking" All the 'Receiving, finding, and opening' are answered when the Father gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask." That is the beginning of it all.

Finding God: The Spirit Leads, I follow – I Experience "Adoption."

I Cry out to the Father – I Experience Acceptance [The Spirit testifies]

"... if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, **Romans 8:13b-16**