

**“Seeing God in the Sanctuary”**  
**Psalm 63:1-2**

Introduction: The caption of this psalm reads, “A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.” It is believed that David was going through one of toughest times in his life. He had been driven from the throne by Absalom and had headed out across the northern edge of the wilderness of Judea far from Jerusalem. His journey took him through some of the wildest, most barren, and discouraging scenery in the world. The desolate scenery which surrounded him reminded him of his thirst for God. David did not leave off singing because he was in the wilderness. There was no desert in his heart, though there was a desert around him.

1. Acts 13:22- *“And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.”*
2. Psalm 63:1- *“O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is”*

David had barely left the palace on that dark night before someone took the Ark of God and followed David (II Samuel 15:24). They had succeeded in getting out of Jerusalem with it! The Ark was a token of God’s presence, power, and glory. We must remember that it was David that brought the Ark back to Jerusalem (II Samuel 6:12-22).

But what did David do? He sent it back (II Samuel 15:25, 29)! He was not a slave to superstitions. He needed not a sacred object but a sovereign God. David possessed the substance of God, now why should he retain the shadow of God? He longed not so much to see the sanctuary as to see his God; he looked through the veil of ceremonies to the invisible One.

David went up by the ascent of Mount Olivet and began to pray and worship God (II Samuel 15:30, 32). No doubt David prayed that the time would come when again he might see the power and glory of God as he had seen it in the sanctuary in the past.

- There have been times that I have seen God’s Power
  1. Dogwood Valley Baptist Church Youth Camp- 30 something saved in one night
  2. McAlpin, Florida- Three saved and one called to preach
  3. Erwin, Tennessee- Teenage girl saved that they have been praying for many years
  4. Blessed Hope Baptist Church- Two teenagers saved
  5. Faith Baptist Church in Primrose, Georgia- Preaching on missions and one of his church members got saved
  6. Jail in Calhoun, Georgia- Man got saved there that I later met at Canaanland Baptist Church
  7. Prison at Mecklenburg- Big Guy
  8. Why do we not see the power of God in saving sinners at Bluestone?
  9. Matthew 13:58- *“And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.”*
- There have been times that I have seen God’s Glory
  1. On God’s landing strip and in the old brush arbor

2. Prayer meetings at Faith Baptist Camp and Concord Baptist Church
3. At Bluestone during our last camp meeting

Body: What David missed most of all was seeing God's power and glory in the sanctuary (v. 2). It was not his own palace he mourned, nor his own throne, nor family and friends left behind, but seeing God's power and glory in the sanctuary. Where else was he going to see God's glory? At the ballgame, bowling alley, etc.? If we do not see His power and glory then your hearing will be in vain; and your praying will be in vain; there will be no spirit moving, no voice answering, no heart warnings, no soul refreshing, and no God meetings.

This should be our desire in our day. There are too many services that we have that His power and glory is not manifested. Are we not tired of the monotony of no power and glory? Have we become accustomed to operating without it? It is our desire to see God's power and glory in His sanctuary. If we are to have His power and glory in the sanctuary, then:

I. We Must Have A Proper Desire Psalm 63:1-2

A. There is a Definite Glory

1. Exodus 40:33-35
2. II Chronicles 5:1, 13-14
3. Ezra 3:10-13
4. Nehemiah 8:6

B. There is a Departed Glory I Samuel 4:21- *"And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband."*

C. There is a Desired Glory

1. Moses had a Desire Exodus 33:18- *"And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory."*
2. David had a Desire II Chronicles 6:7, Psalm 63:1-2

D. Does anyone have a desire to see God's power and glory in the sanctuary?

II. We Must Have A Proper Dwelling Psalm 27:4- *"One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple."*

A. DEEP THOUGHT: It is hard to see God's power and glory in the sanctuary when you are not there.

B. Hebrews 10:25- *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."*

C. To make it possible for everyone to attend church this Sunday, we are going to have a special "No Excuse Sunday". Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say, "Sunday is my only day to sleep in." There will be a special section with lounge chairs for those who feel that our pews are too hard. Eye drops will be available for those with tired eyes from watching TV late Saturday night. We will have steel helmets for those who say, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church." Blankets will be furnished for those who think the church is too cold, and fans for

those who say it is too hot. Scorecards will be available for those who wish to list the hypocrites present. Relatives and friends will be in attendance for those who can't go to church and cook dinner too. We will distribute "Stamp Out Stewardship" buttons for those that feel the church is always asking for money. One section will be devoted to trees and grass for those who like to seek God in nature. Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday. The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who never have seen the church without them. We will provide hearing aids for those who can't hear the preacher and cotton wool for those who think he is too loud. Hope to see you there.

- D. Some reasons why I cannot go to ballgames:
1. Whenever I go to a game, they ask for money.
  2. The other fans do not care about me.
  3. The seats are too hard.
  4. The coach never visits me.
  5. The referee makes calls I do not agree with.
  6. Some of the games go into overtime and make me late for dinner.
  7. The band plays songs I do not know.
  8. I have other things to do at game time.
  9. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up.
  10. I know more than the coaches do anyway.
  11. I can be just as good a fan at the lake.
  12. I will not take my kids to a game either. They must choose for themselves which teams to follow.
- E. DEEP THOUGHT: It is hard to see God's power and glory in the sanctuary when you are not there.

### III. We Must Have A Proper Doctrine

#### A. Concerning the Saviour

1. He Is Saviour Acts 4:12- "*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*"
2. He Is Sinless
  - a. II Corinthians 5:21- "*For he hath made him to be sin for us, **who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*"
  - b. Hebrews 4:15- "*For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, **yet without sin.***"
  - c. I Peter 2:22- "**Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth**"
  - d. I John 3:5- "*And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and **in him is no sin.***"
  - e. Hebrews 7:26- "*For such an high priest became us, **who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens***"

#### B. Concerning the Scriptures

1. We Must Have the Proper Word I Peter 1:23- *“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”*
2. We Must Have the Preached Word
  - a. II Timothy 4:2- *“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”*
  - b. I Corinthians 1:21- *“For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”*
  - c. Titus 1:3- *“But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour”*
- C. Concerning the Sanctification James 4:4- *“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”*

#### IV. We Must Have A Proper Dedication

- A. My Soul Psalm 63:1, 5, 8
- B. My Flesh Psalm 63:1
- C. My Lips Psalm 63:3
- D. My Hands Psalm 63:4
- E. My Mouth Psalm 63:5
- F. My Bed Psalm 63:6
- G. Mark 12:30- *“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.”*

Conclusion: The key to seeking God’s power and glory is early (Psalm 63:1). Observe the eagerness implied in the time mentioned; he will not wait for noon or the cool eventide; he is up at cockcrowing to meet his God. Communion with God is so sweet that the chill of the morning is forgotten, and the luxury of the couch is despised. The word early has not only the sense of early in the morning, but that of eagerness, immediateness. He who truly longs for God longs for him now. Do we have anyone that will seek Him now? Do we have anyone that longs to see God’s power and glory in the sanctuary?

Psalm 29:9- *“The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.”*