

Draw Nigh

*Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you.
James 4:8*

What a promise we have in this simple statement from James. He will draw nigh to you. God will! Though preceded by a four-word condition, the resulting benefit of having close relationship with the Creator of the universe should make the condition a welcome invitation. As Jacob served his seven years with such great anticipation for the immediate desire of his heart, so that those years seemed but a few days, how much more should our desire for the presence of God in our lives make this condition fall into similar perspective? This desire aligns us with the aspirations of the psalmists:

“When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.” (Ps. 27:8)

“As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.” (Ps. 42:1)

“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.” (Ps. 63:1)

“My heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.” (Ps. 84:2)

And yet, how much do we pursue this exhortation to draw nigh to God? What is it that keeps us from doing so? As we behold by faith the glory of the Lord through the “glass” of His word, can we be overwhelmed by the sight of His majesty, as much as Jacob was overwhelmed by the sight of his bride, so that the distractions of this life cannot detain us from our pursuit of Him? We can’t if we don’t focus on this promise. Yet, we need His presence every passing hour. So, whatever our hindrance, let us lay aside those weights and sins that so easily beset us, and draw nigh to Him who has promised to reciprocate.