

## Face to Face

*“Heart to Heart”*

*[“A David Psalm”]*

### Psalm 103: 1-8a [Message]

“1-2 O my soul, bless God. From head to toe, I'll bless his holy name! O my soul, bless God, don't forget a single blessing!

3-5 He forgives your sins—every one.

He heals your diseases—every one.

He redeems you from hell—saves your life!

He crowns you with love and mercy—a paradise crown.

He wraps you in goodness—beauty eternal.

He renews your youth—you're always young in his presence. 6-18 God makes everything come out right; he puts victims back on their feet. He showed Moses how he went about his work, opened up his plans to all Israel. God is sheer mercy and grace...”

### Psalms 103:7

“He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel”

\* Are you satisfied?

\* Are you satisfied with merely knowing the acts of God, or do you also want to know His ways?

**There is a difference**

\* This difference is illustrated in the lives of the children of Israel as compared to Moses.

\* The Israelites witnessed the miracles God performed; they walked across the dry Red Sea just as Moses did.

\* They ate the manna and quail from heaven even as Moses did.

They were content to receive God's provision without ever knowing God Himself

\* Yet Moses saw beyond the provision of God to the person of God.

2.

Others, such as the Egyptian magicians, might perform miraculous acts, but no one else did things the way God did (Exodus7: 11–12)

**The way God acted provided a window into His nature**

\* If Moses had been content with only God’s power, he could have accepted the presence of an angel and been victorious in his efforts

[Exodus 33:15](#))

\* But Moses wanted to experience more.

Moses wanted to experience God Himself, not just God’s activity

\* Some today, like the Israelites, are content to experience God’s activity without ever coming to know God.

\* I want to know God face - to - face and heart to heart

[Exodus 33: 11-15 \[KJ\]](#)

“11 And the LORD spake unto Moses *face to face*, as a man speaketh unto his friend.

And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

\* God met Moses at the tent of meeting – the sacred tent – the tabernacle.

\* At that place the Bible tells us that God and Moses came face to face.

\* A very intimate meeting as friend would speak to friend – simply the Lord was revealing himself to Moses. Face to Face / Heart to Heart!

[12 And Moses said unto the LORD, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight.](#)

\* Moses was asking God as he stood at the door of the Tabernacle for the Lord to grant His presence with Israel for the rest of their march to Canaan despite the things they had done to anger the Lord.

\* Moses makes petition, and reminds the Lord the commission that was given to him by the Lord to do this task.

\* He begins with ‘Lord you said to me, you told me to bring this people’

**3.**

**13 Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.**

- \* Moses calls upon the Lord and says, Lord if I have found grace in your eyes show me your way**
- \* So me that I may know you**
- \* Then Moses calls upon the Lord on behalf of his people**
- \* Moses valued the very presence of the God**

**14 And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.**

- \* The Lord responds with the assurance that His presence will go with him**
- \* And that in His presence there will be rest!**

**15 And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence**

- \* Moses said without your presence we will go no farther.**
- \* We need to understand the presence of the Lord far out weighs anything else, our talents, our knowledge; our best is not enough without His presence.**

**Exodus 33: 15 [Message]**

**"15-16 *Moses said*, "If your presence doesn't take the lead here, call this trip off right now.**

**How else will it be known that you're with me in this, with me and your people?**

**Are you traveling with us or not?**

**How else will we know that we're special, I and your people, among all other people on this planet Earth?"**

- \* Simply YOUR PRESENCE is the factor of our witness**
- \* YOUR PRESENCE is what leads us, it is what lets everyone else know that your are with us**
- \* The PRESENCE of the Lord is how we know you are with us and what separates us from all other people on this earth!**

**17 God said to Moses: "All right. Just as you say; this also I will do, for I know you well and you are special to me. I know you by name."**

**18 Moses said, "Please. Let me see your Glory."**

\* Now having this conversation with the Lord was face to face – friend to friend to this point.

\* Moses now asked to get sight of Gods glory.

\* Lord show me your Glory and enable me to bear the sight of it.

**Moses did not really understood what he was asking.**

**19 God said, "I will make *my Goodness pass* right in front of you; I'll call out the name, God, right before you. I'll treat well whomever I want to treat well and I'll be kind to whomever I want to be kind."**

\* The Lord said - I will show you my Goodness

\* My Goodness is my Glory

\* We are to know him by the Goodness of His mercy

\* His grace is always with those who love and obey Him

**20 God continued, "But you may not see my face. No one can see me and live."**

\* Moses we can and will continue to talk face to face / heart to heart

\* Moses my Presence will continually be with you as you requested

\* Moses we will talk but you have requested to see something that you can not bear to see and stay alive.

\* At your present state you are not fit to be granted this, for you could not bear it

\* My Glory at this point is my Goodness, my mercy.

**21-23 God said, "Look, here is a place right beside me.**

**Put yourself on this rock. When my Glory passes by, I'll put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with my hand until I've passed by. Then I'll take my hand away and you'll see my back.**

**But you won't see my face."**

\* Now Moses – HERE IS A PLACE RIGHT FOR YOU

\* Stand on this Rock [Jesus is the rock]

5.

**The Lord told Moses that I have a place for you next to me.**

- \* **PUT YOURSELF** on this rock!
- \* **MY Glory** - because you have placed yourself in the cleft [along a natural line or grain – deep into the folds] of the rock [Jesus] my protection, the authority of my hand will protect you until my glory has passed.
- \* **And only when I move my hand that is when you will see me, and what you will see is the results of my glory.**
- \* **The Lord was telling Moses that he has seen much more of God than most but that he would not see more of God than those who are in heaven.**

**You will see my glory only because of the rock and because my protection and what you will see in the *manifestation* – the results of my Goodness, My Grace, My Authority, and the results thereof!**

- \* **You will not see my face in the realm of my Glory**
- \* **You will see my Glory only through Jesus and my Protective Hand**
- \* **You will see the wonderful, powerful manifestation of my tangible PRESENCE!**

**And it is only when we come to the understanding that THERE IS A PLACE GOD HAS FOR US BESIDE HIM – WE MUST STAND UPON THE ROCK – WE MUST COME TO JESUS.**

- \* **Simply the Lord was telling Moses**
- \* **THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD IS HERE!**

**Because of JESUS – WE now can come BOLDLY UNTO THE THRONE OF GRACE!**

**Hebrews 4:16**

**“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need”**

- \* **The Lord told Moses you get in the right place I have for you and you will find grace to help in time of need!**

6.

## Illustration

### Painting Faces

- 0.\* When Leonardo da Vinci was painting the Last Supper, he had an intense, bitter argument with a fellow painter.
- \* Leonardo was so enraged that he decided to paint the face of his enemy into the face of Judas.
- \* That way the hated painter's face would be preserved for ages in the face of the betraying disciple.
- \* When Leonardo finished Judas, everyone easily recognized the face of the painter with whom Leonardo quarreled.
- \* Leonardo continued to work on the painting.

But as much as he tried, he could not paint the face of Christ.

- \* Something was holding him back.
- \* Leonardo decided his hatred toward his fellow painter was the problem.
- \* So he worked through his hatred by repainting Judas' face, replacing the image of his fellow painter with another face.
- \* Only then was he able to paint Jesus' face and complete the masterpiece. [Source: Unknown]

## Face to Face / Heart to Heart

### 2 Chronicles 29:6

“For our fathers have trespassed, and done that which was evil in the eyes of the LORD our God, and have forsaken him, and *have turned away their faces from the habitation of the LORD*, and turned their backs”

- \* It is time to once again turn our faces toward Gods Habitation
- \* Turn to HIS PRESENCE!
- \* We must learn to that our face must reflect glory of the Lord
- \* We must seek the face God and we can through the Lord Jesus Christ

0.2 Chronicles 30:9

“For if ye turn again unto the LORD, your brethren and your children shall find compassion before them that lead them captive, so that they shall come again into this land: for the LORD your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him”

2 Chronicles 7:14

“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land”

Numbers 6:25

“The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee...”

1 Chronicles 16:11

“Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually”

Psalms 27:8

“When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek”

Psalms 24:6

“This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah”

Revelation 22:4

”They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads”

**The Presence of the LORD – FACE – TO - FACE – Anointing**

- \* Marked by the Presence of the Lord
- \* A physical – tangible presence

**Oh, we can become the generation that seek the face of the Lord!**

- \* What would and could happen if we would seek the face of God

8.

In Exodus 33, Moses makes a requests to God regarding His presence.

Exodus 33:13

13 Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.

**Moses' first request is to know God's ways that he might know God.**

\* One of the ways you know you're getting to know somebody, is that you know their ways, their habits, and their intensions.

\* And Moses is saying: *"God I am not clear about my next move.*

*I know You brought me to this point, but this next leg of the journey where I'm supposed to take the people to the promise land, I'm just not certain of, so let me know what You are thinking.*

*Let me know Your ways."*

\* In other words, by asking this Moses isn't just looking for information here, he is asking for illumination [Clarity]– He is asking for Revelation

[Divine Supernatural Disclosure]

*Illumination / God Revelation is when the Holy Spirit takes information and lets you see how to apply it.*

\* That is...*illumination is information applied*, not just heard.

\* It's one of those moments when you've heard or read something at least a dozen times before, when all of a sudden you say, "Ah ha!!!"

\* Suddenly what you've read over and over reveals itself in a different way so that now you understand how to apply it.

So *illumination* [Clarity]– *Revelation* [Divine Supernatural Disclosure] is when the light comes on – When the Word of God is Revealed – Divine Revelation sets forth! God Wisdom Manifest – God Things Take Place!

9.

Moses needs that right now, and so Moses says, “God, I’m in a place where I need some clarity.”

- \* He says, “I want to know Your ways.”
- \* So on what basis does Moses make this request?

Well Moses told us in *verse 12*

He felt free to make this request...he says...because God said he had found favor in His sight.

- \* In other words, their relationship had grown to the place where they seemed to be sharing intimacies. And indeed to find favor is to be able to share intimacies.

### **Illustration**

It’s like our relationships with spouses leading up to marriage.

Karen found favor in my eyes. I found favor in her eyes.

It’s not that we did...or that we do every thing perfect.

It’s that a trust relationship developed.

And now our relationship exists at such a high level of trust, that we are willing to share with each other our deepest thoughts and feelings.

Moses says, “You said You are happy with our relationship, so show me deeper things.”

- \* So here’s the implication: don’t expect God to tell you His secrets if you don’t have the intimacy of relationship.
- \* *You don’t share your private stuff with people you don’t trust, or with whom you don’t have a deep relationship, do you?*

Moses says, “I want to know Your ways”

10.

**Moses is in the midst of a crisis here**

\* He's got God's Word, but what he needs to know is what to do with it, and how to understand it.

\* Have you ever been there?

**That is it's a time when you need a direct word from God.**

\* Moses says, "I'm in a crisis here and I need to know what You want me to do?!"

\* But you say, "I prayed that and nothing happened."

\* Well the question is, do you have relationship?

**That's why the verses leading up to this moment are so important**

**Exodus 33: 7**

**"7-10 Moses used to take the Tent and set it up outside the camp, some distance away.**

**He called it the Tent of Meeting.**

**Anyone who sought God would go to the Tent of Meeting outside the camp.**

**It went like this: When Moses would go to the Tent, all the people would stand at attention; each man would take his position at the entrance to his tent with his eyes on Moses until he entered the Tent; whenever Moses entered the Tent, the Pillar of Cloud descended to the entrance to the Tent and God spoke with Moses. All the people would see the Pillar of Cloud at the entrance to the Tent, stand at attention, and then bow down in worship, each man at the entrance to his tent"**

\* The reason Moses pitched the tent outside the camp is because God wasn't inside the camp, because inside the camp there was idolatry: Sin was in the camp.

**11.**

**Moses had built this prayer closet outside the camp, but God said, “*Even though I’m not fellowshipping with the group, everybody who wants Me is welcome to the tent.*” Now that’s good news.**

**\* Even when most of the group was disobedience, God will still listen to the individuals.**

**Exodus 33:11 [Message]**

**11 And God spoke with Moses face-to-face, as neighbors speak to one another. When he would return to the camp, his attendant, the young man Joshua, stayed—he didn't leave the Tent.**

**Conclusion**

**\* Are you in a place in your relationship with God that you can speak face to face?**

**\* To speak face to face is to speak with openness and candor, ie...with no pretense.**

**Genesis 32:30**

**“And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved”**

**\* Jacob: Son of Isaac, grandson of Abraham, and father of the 12 patriarchs of the tribes of Israel – [Seed – Generational Seed brought to a place called Peniel – a Surplanter / Heel Holder – a character change was coming]**

**\* Peniel: “facing God”: the place named by Jacob when he wrestled with God**

**Genesis 32:28**

**“And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed”**

**12.**

**Jacob was on his way to make things right with his brother Essau.**

\* Before things were right Jacob had to have a name change, his character would never be the same at place called “facing God” – Jacob would not let go of the Lord – He saw God face to face and his life was preserved!

**His named was changed to Israel “*God Prevails*”**

\* Jacob

\* Then the stuff in his life began to be set in order – God order

**Psalms 103:7**

**“He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel”**

\* Right now, it is time to get in a place with the Lord that He will make known His ways to you

\* Come face to face / heart to heart with the Lord