WHERE COULD I FIND HIM?

TEXT: Job 23:3: Oh that I knew where I might find Him! that I might come even to His seat!

Who are you hunting for, Job? Have you lost your poodle dog, or your son? Job feels a loss so keenly that his words take on an expression that troubles even those who hear him. He seems to feel that others understand Who is his chief concern, and what is his most treasured possession in life. He feels that others should surely feel as he does, for he mentions no name – just takes it for granted that they would surely know.

By the sound of his voice – by the agonized look on his face – he has lost something, or someone, more dear than a million worlds. Oh! The wail of his soul as he cries out: "Oh, where can I find Him?"

Dear ones, there are those of you who, upon questioning, have lost the Lord out of your life. He once was your chief joy, and you have esteemed Him more than anything else; but tonight you feel empty, forsaken – and since you have lost Him, your face is blank and sad.

You cannot have Him and your own ways at the same time. Settle your woeful condition once and for all. You cannot have Him and your own ways at the same time. You cannot have Him and hold to the hand of the world. This cry of deepest grief will be yours if you depart from the Living God. This is the greatest prayer that God can ever answer for an aching heart.

How then shall we find God? How shall He become more real and satisfying to our heart – to hold us back from following the vain things of earth? You and I must go back to the Word of God, for it is there we will find Him. **GOD IS LOVE**, and God so loved the world . . .

John 3:16: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

It is the law of the Lord that is perfect, converting the soul.

Psalm 19:7: The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

It will lead you back to Him. It was Adam's fall from grace that caused him to lose God.



Jeremiah 29:13: And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.

Abraham was like a little child stepping out into the great unknown, holding on to God's hand. Enoch enjoyed blessed communion with God for over 300 years.

The New Testament reveals God in a new and most wonderful light, as the God of compassion and of power to save and heal.

Our troubles and sickness and tribulations are only blessings in disguise often times, for they bring us to the end of ourselves – and to Him. Each proves an opportunity for Him to show His power and love.

We can find God in His people — among the true saints of the Most High.

Matthew 18:20: For where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them.

There are some things which will dim our vision of God, and of Jesus Christ our Lord. Love of pleasure, amusements, pride, jealousy, strife, lying, evil passions, thoughts, hatred, and bitterness.

Down on the plains of Sodom, Lot had no vision of God, but from the heights of Bethel, Abraham – with nothing to care for on earth but God – caught the Heavenly vision.



The prodigal found his Father coming to him only when he left the old life and came to himself.

An obedient heart will bring God near to you.

For those of you who are without God and without hope, do you know your sins have separated you from your God, and that His face cannot be seen, nor will He hear your prayers? There is but one prayer

you can pray and get an audience with Him: God be merciful to me, a sinner.

God has done everything for you to open the Pearly Gates and to make salvation possible and easy:

He gave you His Word [the Bible] to teach you the way.

He gave His Spirit to draw you to Christ.

He has established His Church here on earth with pastors who can teach you the Word of God and help you get right with Him.

What else do you want God to do now?

Isaiah 55:6: Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near:

Job cries out: "OH! Where can I find Him?" Needless to say, Job found Him, because he was in earnest and admitted his need. Just like blind Bartimaeus.

Mark 10:46-52:

- ⁴⁶ And they came to Jericho: and as He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.
- ⁴⁷ And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me.
- ⁴⁸ And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me.
- ⁴⁹ And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; He calleth thee.
- ⁵⁰ And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus.



- ⁵¹ And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto Him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.
- ⁵² And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

We cannot save ourselves, and it is that real confession that leads unto salvation. The best awakening you will ever have is the real insight into your own soul by the Spirit of God. Then you will see yourself in the Light of the Word of God and as God sees you and knows you to be.

"Oh, where can I find Him?"

Isaiah 59:1-2:

- ¹ Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear:
- ² But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.

Jeremiah 29:13: And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall

search for Me with all your heart.

The reason you have not found Him is seen clearly in the Bible and revealed by the Holy Spirit. Some lose Him by being offended at His Words:

John 6:53, 60-61:

- ⁵³ Then Jesus said unto them, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His Blood, ye have no life in you." ¹
- 60 Many therefore of His disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?
- ⁶¹ When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples murmured at it, He said unto them, Doth this offend you?

On another occasion Jesus said:

Matthew 11:6: And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in Me.

Matthew 15:12: Then came His disciples, and said unto Him, Knowest Thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?

Among the reasons that people find the Words of Jesus offensive and don't want to accept Him into their lives are:

- 1. They are too self-righteous
- 2. Too proud
- 3. Have an unforgiving spirit

Satan's appeals are always to separate you from the loving Lord, as satan did to Adam and Eve. He appeals to the physical — the lust of flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the things of the world.



1 John 2:1-29

¹ My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous:

¹ The point Jesus was making is that He is the Bread of **Life.** The manna their ancestors ate in the desert did not give them eternal life, nor did the multiplication of the loaves and fishes with which He fed the masses. All of them eventually died. Only those who totally and completely accept Him and are one with Him — the True Bread of Life — will have eternal life.

- ² And He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.
- ³ And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His Commandments.
- ⁴ He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His Commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
- ⁵ But whoso keepeth His Word, in him verily is the Love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him.
- ⁶ He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.
- ⁷ Brethren, I write no new Commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old Commandment is the Word which ye have heard from the beginning.
- ⁸ Again, a new Commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in Him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true Light now shineth.



- ⁹ He that saith he is in the Light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.
- ¹⁰ He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.
- 11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.
- ¹² I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His Name's sake.
- ¹³ I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known Him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.
- ¹⁴ I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known Him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the Word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.
- ¹⁵ Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- ¹⁶ For all that is in the world, the <u>lust of the flesh</u>, and the <u>lust of the eyes</u>, and the <u>pride of life</u>, is <u>not</u> of the Father, but is of the world.
- ¹⁷ And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the Will of God abideth for ever.
- ¹⁸ Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

- ¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.
- ²⁰ But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.
- ²¹ I have not written unto you because ye know not the Truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the Truth.
- ²² Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.



- ²³ Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.
- ²⁴ Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.
- ²⁵ And this is the promise that He hath promised us, even eternal life.
- ²⁶ These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.
- ²⁷ But the Anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is Truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in Him.
- ²⁸ And now, little children, abide in Him; that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His Coming.
- ²⁹ If ye know that He is Righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of Him.

The Lord loves to have us live in His Presence where there is fullness of joy.

Mary still may sit at His feet for "she hath chosen the needful place and it shall not be taken away from her."

Luke 10:38-42:

- ³⁸ Now it came to pass, as they went, that He entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received Him into her house.
- ³⁹ And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard His word.
- ⁴⁰ But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to Him, and said, Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.
- ⁴¹ And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art

careful and troubled about many things:

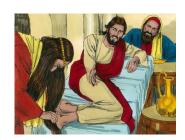
42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

John may still lie on the Lord's bosom.

John 13:23: Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved.

The poor woman may still pour her fragrant ointment on Jesus' feet and wipe them with her hair.

Matthew 26:7: There came unto Him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on His head, as He sat at meat.



The gates of communion never close, by day or by night, to those who live in righteousness and holiness unto the Lord.

The emptiness of the disciples' hearts would force them to say, "Master, send her away."

Matthew 15:23b: And His disciples came and besought Him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

But you need not depart from following after Him, for Jesus says,

Hebrews 13:5b: "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Akron Shalom Bible Learning Center www.AkronShalomMinistries.org