

## God's Obsessions: Truth, Trust, and You!

- I. **Understanding Obsessions: The Dynamics of Passion on Earth and Heaven**
  - A. **All Obsessions Create Clarity of Values**
    - i. For themselves
    - ii. For others
  - B. **All Obsessions are considered Excessive**
    - i. By the uninformed
    - ii. By the uninterested
  - C. **All Obsessions Reveal Character**
    - i. Of the Person
    - ii. Of their Purpose
  
- II. **Explaining God's Obsessions: The Delight of Passion for Earth as it is in Heaven (Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Ps. 149; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31)**
  - A. **God is Obsessed with TRUTH - "God does not lie"**
    - i. **The Meaning of Truth: In the OT, the word translated 'truth' means 'reliability. In the NT, the word means "reality, accuracy, and honesty.**
      1. **Primarily a characteristic of actions rather than words (We can depend on it)**
        - a. Micah 7:20 God delivers the people
        - b. Genesis 32:10-11 God gives Jacob success
      2. **Fulfill responsibilities with loving-kindness**
        - a. God's act of rescuing Israel satisfies the promise to the patriarchs, Is. 61:8; Ps. 90:14-18
        - b. God of '*emeth* is the one on whom Israel can depend (2 Chr. 15:3; Ps. 31:5; Jer. 10:10)
      3. **God is reliable (Romans 3:7; 15:8; John 17:28; 17:3; I Thess. 1:9; I Jn. 5:20; Rev. 3:7, 14; 6:10; 15:3)**
      4. **Gospel message is reliable (Gal. 2:5,14; Col. 1:5; Eph. 1:13; 2 Tim. 2:15;; Jas. 1:18; I Tim. 3:15; 4:3; Titus 1:1; Heb. 10:26; I Peter**
    - ii. **Implications of God being obsessed with Truth based on liturgical readings**
      1. **Daniel 7: The truth is all saints (past, present, and future) will receive and possess the kingdom forever.**
      2. **Ps. 149: The truth is all powerful people will submit to the power of God and his judgment.**
      3. **Eph. 1:11-23: The truth is Jesus Christ is king over this age and the age to come.**

**4. Luke 6:20-31 The truth is all are welcomed to be blessed in His Kingdom**

**iii. Truth trumps the powers and propaganda of the world system**

**B. God is obsessed with TRUST “Without faith, it is impossible to please God”**

**i. Examples of Great Faith: Centurion, Gentile Women**

**ii. Examples of Little Faith: Disciples at various stages**

**iii. Examples of the Lectionary Readings**

**Why is God obsessed with trust? Because God has established credibility in character through integrity and intent; and competency in capabilities and results!**

**If you don't trust, you will only attempt to coordinate your life with God or at best, cooperate with your life with God, but you will never be a collaborator (partner) with God!**

**TRUST = PEACE + JOY + RIGHTEOUSNESS (Life Dividend)**

**TRUST = PEACE + JOY + RIGHTEOUSNESS (Life Tax)**

**C. God is obsessed with YOU – “saints” “Holy ones” “Set apart”**

**i. For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory – Ps. 149**

**ii. Having been destined . . . marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit . . . this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people . . . riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints – Eph. 1:11-23**

**iii. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven – Luke 6:20-31**

**God is obsessed with you, for who you are, how much you cost, and what you can become!**

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