

“Holy Prayers, Fears, Faith, & Fights?”

Psalm 119:41

March 20, 2022

INTRO: Let me ask... **5 Questions:** 1 macro via 4 micro

How seriously are YOU taking God and HIS Gospel?

1. *How's your prayer life?*
2. *What are you afraid of?*
3. *Where do you stand with God?*
4. *Who & how are you fighting?*

CONTEXT:

- **Psalm 119** sermon series: *PERSPECTIVE*
- Last week: vv.33-40...
- Theme has been: **Pray, Obey, & Repeat!**

“Continuously cry-out to Christ for increased consistency in comprehensive Christ-likeness.”

- This week: v.41 in prep for **vv.41-48**

The Psalmist's prayer, process & pattern continues...
with a twist!

BIG IDEA: You'd better get your prayers, fears, faith, & fights (a.k.a. "Head, Heart, & Hands") in biblical, God-honoring order!

T/S: Today we're going to see the universal & personal application of **The Gospel in Psalm 119:41...**

PREVIEW:

1. How seriously ARE you taking the God of The Bible?
2. How is YOUR prayer life?
3. What ARE you afraid of?
4. Where do YOU stand with the God of The Bible?
5. Who & How are you fighting?

T/S: Before we jump into our text, I want to tenderize your heart with a Psalm like song...

I. *How Seriously Are You Taking God?*

VIDEO: "BRIDGE worship – Corners"

Few things in the world are more eternally revealing than a person's heart-felt prayer-life. – JDP

II. *How Is Your Prayer Life?*

- Remember... Psalm 119 is **prayer vs. preaching**

Psalm 119:41

Let Your *steadfast love come to me, O LORD,
Your salvation, according to Your Word.*

- Your prayer life is a direct reflection of how seriously you take the God of the Bible...

REMEMBER:

- a. Prayer's **PERSON** - ***O LORD!***
- b. Prayer's **POWER**

*You are just one fresh encounter away from
The Almighty's **AMAZING** grace!*

- c. Prayer's **PURPOSE** - *God' glory!*
- d. Prayer's **PROMISE** - *ALL things!*

But... don't look for God's hand... before you seek His face.

- JDP

- e. Prayer's **PROBLEMS** - sin... Sin. SIN!

“Prayer is the key to preparing our hearts & aligning our wills to God’s will (and ways), in order to step thru the doors of His opportunities.”

- Daniel Henderson

***When our prayer life is healthy & holy,
God lays His heart over our hearts...***

&

*When we park our hearts before the LORD in prayer,
He launches us into the middle of His blessings.*

- Rick Fisher

**Let us take seriously a continuous commitment to
cry out to Christ with Adoration, Confession,
Thanksgiving, and Supplication...**

**Let us take seriously our need for prayer
to be at the center of ALL that we are, do, and hope for!**

III. *What Are You Afraid Of?*

Psalm 119:41

***Let Your steadfast love come to me,
O LORD, Your salvation, according to Your Word.***

- Your fears offer a direct reflection of how seriously you take the God of the Bible...

Don't miss the implied & expressed fears here!

What if God's steadfast love does NOT come?

- Psalm 119:41 is continuing vv.33-40's prayer...
- Now we see "the twist" we discussed earlier...
 - "Teach me..."
 - "Give me understanding..."
 - "Lead me..."
 - "Bend my heart..."
 - "Turn my eyes..."
 - "Give me life..."
 - "Confirm Your promises..."

"SO THAT... You may be... FEARED."

T/S: This begs the question:

**What is the healthy, biblical relationship between
FEAR & FAITH?**

The Bible's #1 most repeated command: ***Fear not!***

AND

The MOST FOOLISH people in the world... have to be those who do not fear God... because, fearing God is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 1:7 & 9:10).

Thus, the “fearless” have ZERO wisdom!

There is a faithful-fear (of God) vs. worldly, a fear-filled faith (one is a WIN and the other's a SIN)!

Fear of faithful obedience in a fallen world is a SIN.

Worldly FEAR is the opposite of biblical FAITH. - JDP

In fact, it has been said that:

“Fear is putting faith in the Enemy.”

*A reverent fear of God... (is the beginning of wisdom)
and faith in the face of all other fear is a WIN!*

T/S: We'll come back to the fear factors at the close...

IV. *Where Do You Stand With God?*

Psalm 119:41

*Let Your steadfast love come to me, **O LORD**,
Your salvation, according to Your Word.*

- NOTHING is more serious about how serious you are about God than where you stand in regard to His salvation...

Remember:

- We're talking about (and to) **Almighty God!**
- Note: word "**salvation**" can also be translated:
 - **RESCUE**
 - **DELIVERANCE**
 - **VICTORY**

Be honest... Where do YOU stand
in regards to "God's salvation"?

*The saved & serious Christians &
churches live prayerfully, fearfully,
faithfully, and tenaciously submitted,
surrendered, and continuously
sanctified in, by, & for Christ!*

T/S: *Here's another Psalm like song to tenderize your heart.*

VIDEO: *"My Uncomfortable Question"*

T/S: Given the fact that we're asking some uncomfortable questions, let's take a closer look at our text...

Psalm 119:41

(ENGLISH... 15 words)

Let Your steadfast love
come to me, O LORD, Your salvation,
according to Your promise.

Here's another emphasis of the Holy fear in this prayer...

Psalm 119:43

And do not take the Word of Truth
utterly out of my mouth...

Psalm 119:41

(HEBREW... 5 words)

1. Also, let come in
2. Your loving-mercies,
3. O LORD,
4. Your salvation,
5. according to Your Word.

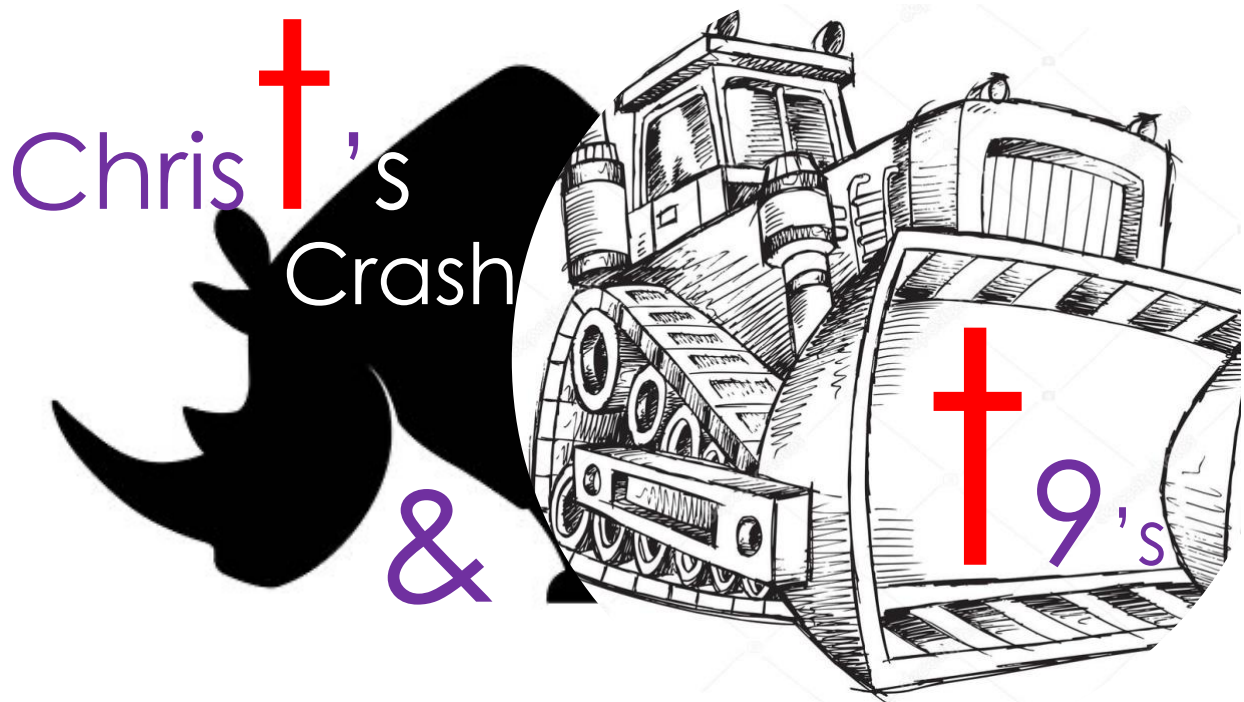
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Before we move on... Don't miss this:

1. Psalm 119:41 shares & shows The Gospel!
2. The “**chiastic arch**” points to the Point!
3. Your prayers, fears, faith, & fight should be *IN Christ!*
4. This is NOT a “one and done” deal...
 - i. *Salvation* question...
 - ii. *Sanctification* questions...

V. *Who & How Are You Fighting?*

- Your fighting offers a direct reflection of how seriously you take the God of the Bible...



Psalm 119:41

*Let Your steadfast love come to me, O LORD,
Your salvation, according to Your Word.*

Remember **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

- Do you have a **child-like faith**?
- Do you have “No matter what!” faith?
- **How serious are you about trusting God?**

VIDEO: *“8 yr. old Silas in Perspective”*

NOW, like the Psalmist... **Are YOU biblically serious about:**

- 1.** ...Almighty God and His Word, will, & ways?
- 2.** ... Your personal & church prayer life?
- 3.** ...Fear & Faith? **Do you faithfully fear:**
 - a. You WON'T receive God's fullest blessing?
 - b. You WILL be an empty spiritual shell?
 - c. You WON'T trust God's Word & promises?
 - d. You WILL do things yours & the world's ways?
 - e. You WON'T be filled with God's loving mercies?
 - f. You WILL be filled with the world, flesh, & Devil?

- g. You WON'T receive eternal life & Christ's victory?
 - h. You WILL be eternally damned in a very real hell?
 - i. You WON'T love, fear, and follow Creator Christ?
 - j. You WILL play, hate, and rebel against Him?
4. Where you personally stand with God?
5. Who & How you are fighting?
- Are you fighting for or against God?
 - Are you fighting per His Word or against it?
 - Are you fighting for or against His will & ways?

*For those who are fighting with and for God's Word,
will, and ways... here's a closing piece
of peaceful inspiration :-)*

VIDEO: *"My Fight Song"*

CLOSE:

I hope that we will all BE like this Psalmist and have a healthy & holy prayer-life, biblical understanding of fear & faith, that we will be both saved & sanctified. Then, we will fight from victory and not for victory, all according to God's Word, will, & ways... locally, regionally, & globally... ALL by His grace, thru His Gospel, and for His glory!
Amen & AMEN

PRAYER