The God Who Invites Us Near

Exodus 33:18 (KJV)

"And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory."

Hebrews 4:16 (KJV)

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

We'll have a greater desire to seek His presence for ourselves.

1. <u>The Holiness of His Presence</u>

Exodus 3:6 (KJV) "Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God."

- 1 Kings 19:11–13
- Isaiah 6:1–5
- Revelation 1:17

We must never become so familiar with the presence of God

2. <u>The Hunger for His Presence</u>

Exodus 33:15 (KJV) "And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence."

Exodus 34:29 (KJV) "And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him."

2 Corinthians 3:7-18 (HCSB) 7 Now if the ministry of death, chiseled in letters on stones, came with glory, so that the Israelites were not able to look directly at Moses' face because of the glory from his face—a fading glory— 8 how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious? 9 For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness overflows with even

more glory. [10] In fact, what had been glorious is not glorious now by comparison because of the glory that surpasses it. [11] For if what was fading away was glorious, what endures will be even more glorious.

[12] Therefore, having such a hope, we use great boldness. [13] We are not like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the Israelites could not stare at the end of what was fading away, [14] but their minds were closed.[c] For to this day, at the reading of the old covenant, the same veil remains; it is not lifted, because it is set aside only in Christ. [15] Even to this day, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts, [16] but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. [17] Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. [18] We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at[d] the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory;[e] this is from the Lord who is the Spirit.[f]

Moses reflected God's glory on his face, but God desires to transform our lives through His Spirit.

3. <u>The Privilege of His Presence</u>

Exodus 33:20 (KJV) "And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live."

Matthew 27:50–51 (KJV)

"Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;"

Hebrews 10:19–20 (KJV)

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;"

The God whose presence was once approached through the restrictions of the earthly sanctuary has opened the way for us to draw near through Jesus Christ!

Hebrews 4:16 (KJV)

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

- Acts 2:1–4, 38–39
- 1 Corinthians 3:16

We don't have to wait until Sunday to spend time in God's presence. The invitation is open every day.

Summary

What are we doing with that privilege?

Think about it.

God invites you and me to draw near to Him.

What an incredible privilege we've been given!