

Making God Real To Us

- I. Introduction
 - a. Psalm 10 is about the wickedness around us.
 - b. The question is, where is God? (v.1)
- II. First description of the wicked (v.2)
 - a. Do we see the wicked “hotly pursue the poor” today?
 - b. Examples: Internet fraud, identity theft.
 - c. Maybe more apparent in our attitudes.
 - d. Where are you, God, when people are oppressed?
- III. Second description of the wicked (v.3)
 - a. Maybe this example seems more relevant.
 - b. Greed is a common temptation of our culture that people succumb to every day.
 - c. Do we see this one in ourselves sometimes?
 - d. We know that the root of all evil is the love of money (1 Tim. 6:10).
 - e. We know that we should worry about laying up our treasures in heaven, not on earth (Matt. 6:20).
 - f. We know that we cannot serve God and money (Matt. 6:24).
 - g. But physical gain is immediately satisfying.
 - h. Being greedy comes with a price- to curse and renounce the Lord.
 - i. We see this all around us. So God, where are you?
- IV. Third description of the wicked (v.4)
 - a. Suddenly, the passage hits home.
 - b. We don't like to think of ourselves as wicked, but how many days do we let go by without thinking about God?
 - c. How often are we tempted and we have the attitude in verse 11?
 - d. The common problem in all 3 cases is pride.
 - e. Pride blinds us to God.
- V. Are we wicked?
 - a. We don't like to think so.
 - b. We think, “the wicked person is the one who steals, kills, commits adultery, oppresses the poor, is greedy for money, etc.”
 - c. But being wicked starts with pride and not thinking about God.
 - d. How do we show our pride? (decision-making, coping with stress, acting when no one is around, etc.)
- VI. The danger of pride
 - a. Because of pride, God isn't real to us.
 - b. We can convince ourselves into believing that God isn't there.
 - c. This sounds like the opposite of what? Faith.
 - d. What does the Hebrews 11:1 definition of faith mean?
 - e. How is it best demonstrated?
 - f. Example of Moses, whose faith is described as “seeing Him who is invisible.” (Hebrews 11:27)
 - g. If we have faith like that, we'll know the answer to the psalmist's question in Psalm 10.

- i. Where is God?
- ii. He's been right here all along, but sometimes we're just too full of ourselves to realize it! Pride blinds us.

VII. Strengthening our faith

- a. To avoid being wicked, we need to work on our faith.
- b. We need to develop a genuine faith.
 - i. Examples of people in my life who I have been impressed with
 - ii. These people talk about God just like He is a real person.
 - iii. They see Him, walk with Him, and talk with Him every day.
- c. Faith like this can make us the opposite of Psalm 10:4.
- d. How can you make God more real to you?
- e. Example of Enoch in Hebrews 11:5
 - i. God was just as real to him as his wife or his companions.
 - ii. He walked with God every day of his life until one day, God just asked him to go home with Him.

VIII. Conclusion

- a. Before we're so quick to say we aren't wicked, let's consider our relationship with God and whether or not it's everything it ought to be.
- b. Talk with God every day. See Him as a real person who is with you at all times.
- c. In all of our thoughts, let's think, "There is a God."