God willing we will do this or that

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Psa 27:4 One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

Psa 27:5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

Psa 27:6 And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

Psa 27:7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

Psa 27:8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

Last week we talked about becoming more than conquerors through Christ (<u>Rom 8:37</u>) by way of the judgement of the first man Adam, and it is in these verses of John and Peter that we are reminded that are calling is wrapped up around that very judgement, which leads to us growing in God's love (<u>1Pe 4:17, 1Jn 4:17-18</u>).

As we will see in this study, if we are the apple of God's eye (<u>Zec_2:8</u>), then those eyes which are "as a flame of fire" are going to examine us (<u>Rev_19:12</u>), and prove us, and judge us for our good. Like a good physician who is looking after our health, in this case our spiritual health, God's elect are the apple of His eye, becoming healthier and healthier by this examination as He increases and we decrease (<u>Joh_3:30</u>, <u>Rev_21:9</u>, <u>Rev_15:8</u>).

These same eyes which are likened unto a "flame of fire" (Rev_19:12) are also likened unto a "fiery sword" (Rev_19:15) which proceeds from His mouth and finds us wanting and in need of healing (Rom_2:4). All of this judgement leads to repentance which is likened unto silver and is working together with the gold which God's elect are brought to see has been wrapped around the idols of our initially unconverted hearts making them spiritually wretched, miserable, poor, and blind (Rev_3:17) and in need of a physician who has a sword, which we pray will not depart from our house (Mat_9:12, 2Sa_12:10).

We are altogether as the body of Christ a small bushel of apples of gold that God is purifying (1Pe 4:12, Zec 4:10), with all this silver and gold being worked with unto His glory (Eph 2:10).

We must not despise this process of fiery trials which is upon us, knowing in advance that there will be wars and rumours of wars which will cause the love of many to wax cold (Heb 12:15, Mat 24:4-6).

The end result that God has written for His little flock is spiritual health in the midst of a crooked and perverse world (Php 2:15, Mat 24:37-38, Luk 17:28). God uses these diverse conditions to prepare us so that we can be used to heal the nations, and strengthened our brothers today and the rest of our brothers who will come after us. This can only come about by those apples (Rom 12:5) becoming purified so that we are all like "apples of gold in pictures of silver" which have this fiery (Jer 5:14) and fitly spoken word of God within us (Isa 53:5, Isa 4:17, Luk 22:32, Pro 25:11).

With some of these concepts in mind I pray that God will help us see how this process of being purified leads to our having a greater and growing desire to dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of our life, where we behold the beauty of the LORD in <u>each other</u>, and enquire of <u>each other</u> as we follow Christ's example in <u>each other</u> (1Co 11:1). God is leading us and granting us the gifts that are needed so that we learn to enquire of <u>each other</u> in his temple today (1Co 14:26).

<u>Psa</u> 27:4 One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

The desire that David speaks about to dwell in the house of the LORD, is another way of saying that he desired to be purified. It is through that purification, that 'one day' in the house of God (2Pe_3:10) which is better than a thousand days without (Psa_84:10), that we begin to "behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple." which we are (1Co_3:16). God is in the process of burning out the 'thousand days without' in each of us, by granting that we be dragged to Christ and His Christ in this age where we are being purified by this process (Joh_6:44).

<u>Psa</u> 27:5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

This "time of trouble" is the day of the Lord and it is trouble for our first man Adam. We are made a spectacle unto the world for the much tribulation which must come upon us (1Co 4:9, Act 14:22), while at the same time we are being hidden in the "secret of his tabernacle", which secret or mystery is defined for us as our hope of glory (Col 1:27).

How are we hidden? Aren't you the carpenters son (Mat 13:55)? The world see's Christ after the flesh, but God has shown us that Christ is hidden within us, and this is the hope of glory within! The world sees the outward changes in our life, and don't understand where we are drawing our living waters from (Joh 4:14, Zec 14:8).

We are set "upon a rock", and fitted into this temple by God who determines how the many members all work together for the overall good of the body of Christ (1Co 12:18, Rom 8:28, 1Co 12:1-31).

<u>Psa</u> 27:6 And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

Only by our Lord within us can our Head be lifted up above our enemies which are within and without (1Jn 4:4). What brings us to offer "sacrifices of joy;" is believing in the joy that is set before us in the midst of the trial (Heb 12:2, Act 7:55-56). With Christ in us we are not living any longer to gain our life but rather to lose it (Luk 17:33).

As we become more and more convinced of God's promise to finish this work of faith He has started within us (Php 1:6, Rom 8:38) we sing and shout for joy just like the angels in (Job 38:7) who prophesied not unto themselves either, but were a shadow of the joy we experience in earnest today and will one day experience in the fulness (1Co 15:52).

Psa 27:7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

Sacrifices of joy are proceeded by sorrow (Psa 30:5), and we understand that this sorrow is very temporary, and not worthy to be compared to the glory that will be revealed (Rom 8:18). We cry out for God's mercy upon each other as He brings us to our wits end and He answers us in His perfect

timing (<u>Psa 107:30</u>, <u>1Pe 4:18</u>).

In this process of narrowly escaping through Christ (1Co 10:13) we learn of God's faithfulness and how there is only one righteousness which God is interested in, and that is revealed through Christ and His Christ (Gal 2:20, Rev 19:14, Rev 19:8).

Psa 27:8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

When I read this verse I think of (<u>Jas 4:8</u>). When we seek the face of the LORD we are going to the altar of God, which is the cross where we are being saved yet so as by fire (<u>1Co 3:15</u>) by the Sun of righteousness (<u>Mal 4:2</u>).

It is a humbling experience to be dragged (<u>Joh 6:44</u>) to that altar and then caused to remember that your brother has ought against you and that this gift that you are bringing cannot be received as treasure layed up in heaven, until you are reconciled with your brother (<u>Mat 5:23-24</u>). God drags us into this humbling experience so that we can be purified and lifted up (<u>Jas 4:9-10</u>).

When we seek God's face he receives us as sons, after we have been chastened and scourged (<u>Heb 12:6</u>). That scourging and chastening has very much to do with being reconciled to your brother who has ought against you. (<u>Eze 36:25-26, 2Co 3:3</u>)

So if we look at the context of these verses in (<u>Jas 4:8-12</u>) and notice what comes right after these verses which are talking about a process of our drawing near to God so that He will draw near to us, we read a very interesting part of scripture which confirms to us, who has set in motion this process of drawing close to God so that he will draw close to you. <u>It is the law giver</u> (there is one lawgiver) who is controlling this relationship with mankind, and James is <u>then</u> given to say after putting our spiritual and earthly existence into perspective: <u>Jas 4:15</u> <u>For that ye *ought* to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.</u>

So here is David in type and shadow saying to the Lord seek my face, in other words examine me, and then I will seek you, or put another way, then I will go from glory to glory through this process (2Co_3:18) of you seeking my face and showing me what is wrong (Rom_2:4) so that I in turn can seek your face.

The only way that the man of perdition can be destroyed within us is by his being revealed by Christ showing us what is in our hearts, and except for the grace of God we would not see the need to go to our brother and confess our sins, or see the need to go to our brother who has something against us and be reconciled to that brother.

So this may not be as obvious the first time we read it, but God is telling us that overcoming sin is not just about repenting of what you've done wrong, but being concerned for your body and going to your brother who has something against you as we referenced in (Mat 5:24). When we go into a city to prosper, and if we think in spiritual terms we want to prosper by being of one mind and being united with our family in Christ, and this is a miracle which God is doing for His elect, and therefore we ought to say God willing we will do this or that.