

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

Asking of God

We are living in **troubled & troubling** times

On what shall we stand, **unshaken & unshakable**?

- Who **God IS**, and what **He has said**
- About **Himself**, and about **us**

.....
I suggest we join David in declaring –

Psalm 16:5-6,

"LORD, You have assigned me my portion and my cup;

You have made my lot secure.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

surely I have a delightful inheritance."

.....
Psalm 23:1-6,

"The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

For His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

For You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil;

My cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

All the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever."

.....
Based on your confidence of **who He is**, and **who you are**...

Please take a moment and **ask Him for something**..

- Something you are confident **He will give**.

.....
Matthew 7:7-12

What is He authorizing us to "**ask**" for?

- What does it even mean to ask for something?

In the N.T. language spoken, "**ask**" meant **several things**

Some of the asks in the N.T. meant:

- An inquiry about information
- To request a favor
- A search for something hidden
- An urgent need
- To learn & gain understanding

.....
Which of those did Jesus use here?

- **None**

The "**ask**" Jesus used here meant –

- Strictly **a demand of something Due**

.....
So, what shall we "**ask**" of God?

- According to **Christ's instruction here**...
- **Expecting Him** to give it...

- Because **He has specifically promised it**
- **NOT** simply because we desire it

.....
 Just a few words about who He does **NOT** promise answers to –

- The disobedient, unrepentant, indifferent, unmerciful, unlawful, killers of the innocent, the self-indulgent...

.....
Who are some people He made such promises to?

- **Abraham, Joseph, Moses, David, Gideon, Zach, Mary, Simeon, Peter...**
- They look huge to us in hindsight
- But **who were they** when they heard the promise?

.....
Psalm 50:16-17, But to the wicked God says: “What right have you to declare My statutes, or take My covenant in your mouth, seeing you hate instruction and cast My words behind you?”

.....
What & who does He make **absolute promises** for & to?

- Forgiveness, Guidance, Mercy, Peace, Reward, Salvation, Wisdom...
- The **generous, humble, meek, merciful, obedient, poor, tempted...**

James 4:3-4, “You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”

Those are just **Some**. Each have many, many examples, **O.T. & N.T.**

.....
When does He deliver on the promise?

- Ask Abe & Sarah, Joseph, Zach & Liz, Paul...
- **When He’s ready**, in His perfect will
- Sometimes **when we’re ready** (ask Moses)
- **Psalm 105:19** (Joseph)

Israel wanting meat, **James & John** wanting position and recognition

.....
 We can’t leave out **Vs. 12**

.....
 Better yet, ask Jesus – **John 5:19 & 14:10**

- That sheds a little light in today’s verses
- And **John 14:13-14 & 15:7** and **Matthew 6:8**
- Those are all the same “ask”

Do you think they realized what **Vs. 1-6** reveal we are asking for?

- God promises to give us **what we give others...**
- And withhold from us **what we withhold from others**

I really appreciate **Hebrews 4:14-6 & I John 1:9**