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PRAY:

Father show us who you are. Show us your person, your power, your purposes. Overwhelm us with a knowledge of you that penetrates our minds and imbeds itself in the deepest recesses of our hearts. Let this knowledge so change our hearts that it results in our lives being lived in light of who you are, what you have done and what you say is true about us in Jesus Christ.

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AS YOU READ THROUGH TODAY'S PASSAGES REFLECT ON THESE QUESTIONS:

What are some things revealed in these passages about the person and character of God? Who is he? What is he like?

What are some things that God has done to reveal who he is?

Who are you in light of God's work? What is it that God is saying about you?

How should knowing who God is, what he has done and what he says about you change how you live?



Unclean People

5 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² "Command the people of Israel that they put out of the camp everyone who is leprous or has a discharge and everyone who is unclean through contact with the dead. ³ You shall put out both male and female, putting them outside the camp, that they may not defile their camp, in the midst of which I dwell." ⁴ And the people of Israel did so, and put them outside the camp; as the LORD said to Moses, so the people of Israel did.

Confession and Restitution

⁵ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ⁶ "Speak to the people of Israel, When a man or woman commits any of the sins that people commit by breaking faith with the LORD, and that person realizes his guilt, ⁷ he shall confess his sin that he has committed. And he shall make full restitution for his wrong, adding a fifth to it and giving it to him to whom he did the wrong.

⁸ But if the man has no next of kin to whom restitution may be made for the wrong, the restitution for wrong shall go to the LORD for the priest, in addition to the ram of atonement with which atonement is made for him. ⁹ And every contribution, all the holy donations of the people of Israel, which they bring to the priest, shall be his. ¹⁰ Each one shall keep his holy donations: whatever anyone gives to the priest shall be his."

A Test for Adultery

¹¹ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ¹² "Speak to the people of Israel, If any man's wife goes astray and breaks faith with him, ¹³ if a man lies with her sexually, and it is hidden from the eyes of her husband, and she is undetected though she has defiled herself, and there is no witness against her, since she was not taken in the act, ¹⁴ and if the spirit of jealousy comes over him and he is jealous of his wife who has defiled herself, or if the spirit of jealousy comes over him and he is jealous of his wife, though she has not defiled herself, ¹⁵ then the man shall bring his wife to the priest and bring the offering required of her, a tenth of an ephah of barley flour. He shall pour no oil on it and put no frankincense on it, for it is a grain offering of jealousy, a grain offering of remembrance, bringing iniquity to remembrance.

¹⁶ "And the priest shall bring her near and set her before the LORD. ¹⁷ And the priest shall take holy water in an earthenware vessel and take some of the dust that is on the floor of the tabernacle and put it into the water. ¹⁸ And the priest shall set the woman before the LORD and unbind the hair of the woman's head and place in her hands the grain offering of remembrance, which is the grain offering of jealousy. And in his hand the priest shall have the water of bitterness that brings the curse. ¹⁹ Then the priest shall make her take an oath, saying, 'If no man has lain with you, and if you have not turned aside to uncleanness while you were

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under your husband's authority, be free from this water of bitterness that brings the curse.

²⁰ But if you have gone astray, though you are under your husband's authority, and if you have defiled yourself, and some man other than your husband has lain with you, ²¹ then' (let the priest make the woman take the oath of the curse, and say to the woman) 'the LORD make you a curse and an oath among your people, when the LORD makes your thigh fall away and your body swell. ²² May this water that brings the curse pass into your bowels and make your womb swell and your thigh fall away.' And the woman shall say, 'Amen, Amen.'

²³ "Then the priest shall write these curses in a book and wash them off into the water of bitterness. ²⁴ And he shall make the woman drink the water of bitterness that brings the curse, and the water that brings the curse shall enter into her and cause bitter pain. ²⁵ And the priest shall take the grain offering of jealousy out of the woman's hand and shall wave the grain offering before the LORD and bring it to the altar. ²⁶ And the priest shall take a handful of the grain offering, as its memorial portion, and burn it on the altar, and afterward shall make the woman drink the water. ²⁷ And when he has made her drink the water, then, if she has defiled herself and has broken faith with her husband, the water that brings the curse shall enter into her and cause bitter pain, and her womb shall swell, and her thigh shall fall away, and the woman shall become a curse among her people. ²⁸ But if the woman has not defiled herself and is clean, then she shall be free and shall conceive children.

²⁹ "This is the law in cases of jealousy, when a wife, though under her husband's authority, goes astray and defiles herself, ³⁰ or when the spirit of jealousy comes over a man and he is jealous of his wife. Then he shall set the woman before the LORD, and the priest shall carry out for her all this law. ³¹ The man shall be free from iniquity, but the woman shall bear her iniquity."



PSALM 39

What Is the Measure of My Days?

39 TO THE CHOIRMASTER: TO JEDUTHUN. A PSALM OF DAVID.

- I said, "I will guard my ways, that I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth with a muzzle, so long as the wicked are in my presence."
- I was mute and silent; I held my peace to no avail, and my distress grew worse.
- My heart became hot within me.
 As I mused, the fire burned;
 then I spoke with my tongue:

- 4 "O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!
- Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you.
 - Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath! Selah
- Surely a man goes about as a shadow!
 Surely for nothing they are in turmoil;
 man heaps up wealth and does not know who will gather!
- ⁷ "And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you.
- Deliver me from all my transgressions.
 Do not make me the scorn of the fool!
- ⁹ I am mute; I do not open my mouth, for it is you who have done it.
- Remove your stroke from me;

 I am spent by the hostility of your hand.
- When you discipline a man with rebukes for sin, you consume like a moth what is dear to him; surely all mankind is a mere breath! Selah
- "Hear my prayer, O LORD,
 and give ear to my cry;
 hold not your peace at my tears!
 For I am a sojourner with you,
 a guest, like all my fathers.
- Look away from me, that I may smile again, before I depart and am no more!"

SONG OF SOLOMON 3

The Bride's Dream

3 On my bed by night I sought him whom my soul loves; I sought him, but found him not.

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² I will rise now and go about the city, in the streets and in the squares; I will seek him whom my soul loves. I sought him, but found him not.

³ The watchmen found me as they went about in the city.

"Have you seen him whom my soul loves?"

⁴ Scarcely had I passed them when I found him whom my soul loves.

I held him, and would not let him go until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her who conceived me.

⁵ I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the does of the field, that you not stir up or awaken love until it pleases.

Solomon Arrives for the Wedding

⁶ What is that coming up from the wilderness like columns of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all the fragrant powders of a merchant?
⁷ Behold, it is the litter of Solomon!
Around it are sixty mighty men, some of the mighty men of Israel,
⁸ all of them wearing swords and expert in war, each with his sword at his thigh,

⁹ King Solomon made himself a carriage from the wood of Lebanon.

against terror by night.

¹⁰ He made its posts of silver, its back of gold, its seat of purple; its interior was inlaid with love

by the daughters of Jerusalem.

¹¹ Go out, O daughters of Zion, and look upon King Solomon,

with the crown with which his mother crowned him on the day of his wedding, on the day of the gladness of his heart.



Jesus Greater Than Moses

3 Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ² who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. ³ For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴ (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶ but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

A Rest for the People of God

⁷Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says,

"Today, if you hear his voice,

- ⁸ do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,
 - on the day of testing in the wilderness,
- 9 where your fathers put me to the test

and saw my works for forty years.

Therefore I was provoked with that generation,

and said, 'They always go astray in their heart;

they have not known my ways.'

11 As I swore in my wrath,

'They shall not enter my rest.' "

¹² Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. ¹⁵ As it is said,

"Today, if you hear his voice,

do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."

¹⁶ For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? ¹⁷ And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? ¹⁹ So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

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THE DISCIPLINE OF GRACE BY JERRY BRIDGES

After Reading Chapter 6 of The Discipline of Grace answer questions 3, 6, and 7 beginning on page 281.



JOURNAL A PRAYER TO THE LORD FROM YOUR READING TODAY.