LEAD ME, O LORD

**DATE: 7/31/2011 am**

**TEXT: Psalm 5**

**INTRODUCTION**

In the **5th Psalm**, we find David praying for Divine Direction

He says in **v.8 –** ***“Lead me, O LORD”***

In this psalm, there are 12 verses

There are 2 natural divisions

The 1st is in **vs. 1-7**

The 2nd is in **vs. 8-12**

As David writes this psalm, he goes back and forth between the believer and the wicked

He writes 1st of the believer in **vs. 1-3**

Then a warning about the wicked in **vs. 4-6**

Then back to the righteous in **vs. 7 & 8**

Then back to the wicked in **vs. 9 & 10**

He finishes up with the believer in **vs. 11 & 12**

It’s wonderful to know that God desires to guide us

Can you say, from your heart, that *you desire* Divine Direction?

In **vs. 1-3** the believer is spoken of in the *singular*

Then collectively spoken of in the *plural* in **vs. 11 & 12**

Are you willing to place the reins of your life in the hands of God?

Are you willing to let Him take you where He pleases?

God is our Creator

If we have trusted Him as our Saviour

He is also our Redeemer, and we can say with assurance …

***“Lead me, O LORD”***

The Lord will Provide Direction for all who will trust Him with their life

**~~~Prayer~~~**

**I. THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PERSONAL”**

The Lord wants to lead us on a daily basis in the path that He desires for us

**A.** This is a Psalm about the Life of a Believer

Every believer’s life should be a God-led Life

The Lord’s Leadership is always Personal

Let’s read **vs. 1-3** and make note of the Personal pronouns in this passage

But not everyone is a believer, though

*Salvation* is also a Personal matter

Everyone must meet the Lord Jesus Christ on a Personal level

It’s not about being a part of some Religion

It’s about having a Relationship

The Lord first, Leads us to a Personal relationship with Him in salvation

(Why do you think it is that people who are not saved are called “Lost”?)

And then Leads us on, daily, in our walk with Him

The Leading of the Lord is a Personal Matter

**B.** When we seek God’s guidance, He Provides it

**Ill.** Often as pastor I pray for the Lord to lead this church.

But in reality He does not lead the church. He gives direction to those individuals who have the responsibility of leadership. Then He confirms that leadership in the hearts of the people who are willing to follow the Lord’s leadership.

God’s Guidance is a Personal matter

Since I have been Born Again, the Holy Spirit came to indwell me

He then impresses upon me things I need to do

I cannot say that every decision I have made has been a God-led decision

But I can say that as I sought God’s guidance, He provided it

Our Lord declares in **Psalm 32:8 –** ***“I will guide thee”***

As we look back, I hope we can see how it is that the Lord has lead us

It’s hard to see it while you are in it

God desire, is to Personally Direct your Life, as we walk by faith

**THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PERSONAL”**

**II. THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PROVIDED”**

The Lord’s leading is not only Personal but also Provided

Many people say, *“I don’t know what to do”*

That is not God’s fault

God provides His leading to those who seek Him for it

**A.** Notice **How** God’s Leadership is Provided

Thru Meditation

Notice what David says in **v.1 –**

***“Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation”***

David talks about Meditation

In this particular context, meditation has to do with what David could not express in words

Turn with me to **Romans 8:26-28** and let’s read

There are ***“groanings which cannot be uttered”***

As we pray and meditate upon God’s Word, He will give us the leadership we need

Notice, David calls God ***“my King”***

Every king needs the ***“King of kings”***

Every father needs their ***“Heavenly Father”***

Every pastor needs the ***“Shepherd and Bishop of your souls”***

Notice what David says at the end of **v.3 –**

***“will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up”***

He doesn’t say he will look -

…Out …around …down or …in

He says ***“I … will look up”***

**Psalm 121:1, 2 – *“I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help”***

***“My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth”***

**B.** Notice **When** God’s Leadership is Provided

Make special note of the beginning of **v.3**

***“My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee …”***

The Example of George Mueller

A pastor who lived over a century ago in England

He prayed in over 8 million dollars without asking a single soul for it

A man like this can teach us a thing or two

In his autobiography he tells us how he started each day

We must determine to meet God every day in the morning and find direction from Him

If we do not learn to take what God has provided,

We are never going to be happy in the Lord Jesus as we serve Him

You may be an informed Christian,

But without God’s leadership you are not a spiritually minded Christian

**C.** God **Has** Provided Leadership

He waits for us every morning to ask Him for that leadership for the day

But most often we do not meet Him

Eventually it catches up with us

We need to determine to meet the Lord every morning to receive the leadership that He has provided for the day

**THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PERSONAL”**

**THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PROVIDED”**

**III. THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PLAIN”**

The Lord leads us in a plain path and clearly reveals to us what He has for our lives as we seek Him

Notice David’s prayer in **v.8 –**

***“Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face”***

The Lord’s leading is plain

Can someone who is a Christian know with certainty what it is that God wants him to do?

Certainly!

**A.** A wonderful prayer is found in **Psalm 27:11 –**

***“Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, (because of mine enemies)”***

This path is the path of righteousness

***“Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness”***

God is able to lead us in a plain path

Don’t pray that prayer unless you plan on following thru with the means God uses to teach us

i.e. meditating on His Word, the church services, personal study etc.

Because God will teach you, but by other means that may not be so pleasant

**B.** At times the Lord will make us wait on Him

It is not because He is late,

But because we are early

We are not always ready to receive what He as for us

But if we sincerely desire to know what God has for us,

Then in God’s good time, He will provide exactly the leadership we need

**THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PERSONAL”**

**THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PROVIDED”**

**THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PLAIN”**

**IV. THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PLEASANT”**

We need to pray for God’s leading and rejoice in Him as He gives direction and guidance to us

God’s commandments are not grievous – **I John 5:3**

The Lord’s leading is Pleasant

But the Bible says in **Proverbs 13:15 –**

***“…the way of transgressors is hard”***

This is why the **5th Psalm** weaves back and forth as it does

Here are the righteous; there are the wicked

The wicked are destroyed,

**Hosea 4:6 – *“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge,”***

But God takes the righteous right on through

His Leading is Pleasant

No wonder the Bible says in **v.11** –

***“But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy”***

The Bible says in **v.12 –**

***“For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield”***

We are not righteous (in and of ourselves)

The Lord leads us in a path of righteousness

**Psalm 23:3 – *“He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake”***

He has made us righteous by His imputed righteousness

He gives us favor

He waits in the morning to lead us through the day

**CONCLUSION**

Our prayer needs to be as David prayed

***“Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness”***

**THE LORD’S LEADING IS “PERSONAL”**

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