

July 17, 2021

Ps. 6:9, “*The LORD has heard my cry for mercy; the LORD accepts my prayer.*”

I must admit something. I have a pet peeve or two. Do you? Is there something that just drives you up the wall? One of mine is people who act like they are interested, but you know they are not. You can tell when you are talking to them whether they are engaged in the conversation or just “putting up” with you.

I wonder if it bothers our God when we do the same with Him. You might wonder what I’m talking about, but haven’t you prayed a prayer that was just a prayer and not really communication with the Father? (Ex. Dear Lord, bless this food we are about to eat and us to Your kingdom.) Haven’t you sung a hymn or praise song that sounds good, but you are really not connected with the lyrics nor the One that they are being sung to?

I dare say that most of us get somewhat caught up in the "religion" of our lives rather than the relationship that the LORD desires. I honestly don’t believe that He is concerned with the form of our prayers or the style of our worship. It reminds me of the chiding that He gave the prophet Samuel when he was sent to anoint the new King of Israel from the sons of Jesse. **1 Sam. 16:7, “*But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.*”**

Our LORD looks at the heart. When you cry out for mercy, He hears you. When you earnestly pray, He accepts your prayers. Why? Because He wants to hear the true cry of your heart, not just words from our lips. Let’s make sure that our hearts and our words are coming from the same place. **Ps. 51:17, “*My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God will not despise.*”**

Dear LORD, You are Almighty God. We come to You because we know You listen to our earnest prayers. Please hear our cries to You and accept our prayers because we know You alone can answer them. In Jesus Name, Amen.