

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

20 September 2026

Text: Psalm 4

Title: "The Lord has set apart for Himself him who is godly"

INTRODUCTION

1. The doctrine of holiness/righteousness

2 This was greatly emphasised by Moses

a) In Deuteronomy

"For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 7:6

b) In Leviticus

¹And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

²"Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.' "

Leviticus 19:1-2

3. This doctrine of holiness was closely intertwined with the worship of God

GOD OF MY RIGHTEOUSNESS

To the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. A Psalm of David.

Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have relieved me in my distress;

Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer.

Psalm 4:1

1. God has many titles
2. His titles reflect who He is
3. David's address of God is of significance

"O God of my righteousness"

AN IMPORTANT CONTRAST DRAWN

*² How long, O you sons of men,
Will you turn my glory to shame?
How long will you love worthlessness
And seek falsehood?*

*³ But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is godly;
The LORD will hear when I call to Him.*

Psalms 4:2-3

1. The Ungodly described
 - a) They turn people's glory to shame
 - b) They love worthlessness
 - c) They seek falsehood
3. The Godly described
 - a) They practise righteousness
 - b) They seek to be godly
 - c) They pray and God hears their prayers

STRUGGLES OF THE GODLY

⁴ Be angry, and do not sin.

Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still.

⁵ Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,

And put your trust in the LORD.

⁶ There are many who say,

"Who will show us any good?"

LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us.

Psalms 4:4-6

1. Inner Struggles may occur

"Be angry, and do not sin" Psalm 4:4

- a) Struggles with Anger
- b) Unbridled anger can lead to sin

2. External influences that can create Doubts

There are many who say,

"Who will show us any good?" Psalm 4:6

- a) Many naysayers
- b) They sow seeds of hopelessness

EXERCISING TRUST IN GOD

⁶ LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us.

*⁷ You have put gladness in my heart,
More than in the season that their grain and wine increased.*

*⁸ I will both lie down in peace, and sleep;
For You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.*

Psalms 4:6b-8

1. Prayer to God to lift up His countenance favourably
2. Encouragement drawn
 - a) Gladness of heart given by God
 - b) Great gladness
 - c) Peace of heart and mind
 - d) Safety from the Lord

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To appreciate afresh the Holiness of God
2. To make appropriate responses
 - a) By seeking to practise holiness
 - b) By exercising trust
 - c) By being conscious that we are His holy people