

“Search Me!”
Psalm 26:1-12

Introduction:

1. This Morning We Come To Celebrate The Lord’s Supper!
 - Given To Us By Our Lord Jesus Christ & Taught To Us Especially In 1 Corinthians 11:23-34!
 - The Lord’s Supper Is A Time For:
 - Remembrance!
 - Fellowship!
 - Joy!
 - Also Examination - 11:28 - “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup!”
 - Several Questions Come To Mind:
 - Why? How? For What?
 - Before We Come To The Lord’s Table, Let’s Learn What It Means & What It Takes To Examine Ourselves!
2. Psalm 26 Helps Answer These Questions!
 - King David Came To The Lord, In This Psalm, To Ask For His Examination!
 - We See:

1. *The Appeal For Examination!*

- When We Are Called To Examine Ourselves, We Must Realize:
 - Our Tendency To Understate Or Overstate Things!
 - Our Need For Help!
 - Throughout This Psalm, David Explains His Point Of View – He Had A Clear Conscience – So Then, Why Would He Ask The Lord To Judge, Examine, Prove & Try Him?
 - He Knew His Own Potential & Tendency To Deceive Himself!
 - He Knew That His Opinion About Himself Really Didn’t Matter – Only The Lord’s Opinion Mattered!
 - So, When We Are Called To Examine Ourselves:
 - We Must Turn To The Lord For Help & For His Objective Assessment!
 - For Him To:
- Judge!
 - To Decide Upon Our Integrity!
 - Are We Living Up To Our Own Opinion About Ourselves?
 - Am I Being A Hypocrite? Sincere?
- Examine!
 - To Scrutinize! Search Out!
 - Psalm 139:23 - “Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”
- Prove!
 - To Put To The Test! To Assay – To Determine If Genuine Or Authentic!
 - Assay: “To Determine & Assure That All Coins Produced At The Mint Have The Correct Content Or Purity Of Each Metal Specified!”
- Try!
 - To Refine! A Further Test To See If It Will Remain Under Pressure!
 - Here, It Is What Is Inside That Counts!
 - Reins - Affections!
 - Heart - Soul!

2. *The Areas Of Examination!*

- What Needs To Be Examined?
 - A Thorough **Spiritual** Physical!
 - According To David’s Perspective, He Was Clear & Clean In These Areas!
 - Can We Even Say This?

- Some Things Are So Obvious That We Need To Take Care Of Before The Lord – Before We Ever Seek Him To Point Out Things That Aren't So Obvious!
- David Wants To Make Sure He Is Approved By God!
 - In His:
 - In Character!
 - 26:3 - "I Have Walked In Thy Truth!"
 - Is This How We Live Our Lives?
 - In Company!
 - 26:4 - "I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers!"
 - A Resolve To Avoid Sin At All Costs!
 - Proverbs 4:14-15 - "Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away!"
 - In Conduct!
 - 26:5 - "I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked!"
 - A Real Hatred Toward Sin & Those Who Promote It!
 - In Conscience!
 - 26:6-7 - "I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD: 7 That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works!"
 - David Knew The Importance Of Purity:
 - In Worship Toward God!
 - In Witness Toward Others!
 - Acts 24:16 - "And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men!" (Paul)
 - He Felt His Conscience Was Clear!
 - But What Did God Think?
 - Is There A Deeper Stain?
 - Need The Lord's Examination! "For he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap!" (Malachi 3:2)
- In Communion!
 - 26:8 - "LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth!"
 - With God & With His People – The Church!

3. *The Answer After Examination!*

- Look To The Lord! For What You Need After The Examination!
- Reliance Upon The Lord!
 - On His Examination! He Knows Me!
 - 26:1 - "I have trusted in the Lord!"
 - On His Love!
 - 26:3 - "For Thy lovingkindness is before mine eyes!"
 - Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end!" (After Announcing Babylonian Captivity & Return)
- Relief From The Lord!
 - 26:9-10 - "Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men: In whose hands is mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes!"
- Redemption By The Lord!
 - 26:11 - "Redeem Me!"
 - What You Think About Me Matters Most!
- Remission From The Lord!
 - 26:11 - "And be merciful unto me!"
 - Forgiveness!

Conclusion:

1. Not Only Will The Lord Help You With This Examination, He Will Also Help You Deal With The Difficult Results Of This Examination!
 - 26:12 - "My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I bless the LORD!"
 - 26:1 - "I shall not slide!" - Return To The Lord!

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