

# Fellowship 7 of 8

## *Precious, Honorable, and Loved*

#0269

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—August 14, 1970

Oh, Thou who rained the manna down upon the wilderness,  
There's a hunger, a hunger in my soul.  
Look now into this heart of mine;  
Of Thee I must be blest.  
There's a hunger, a hunger in my soul.

There's a hunger in my soul like Jacob's cry of old.  
A hunger down deep within my soul.  
Except Thou bless me now, I will not let Thee go;  
For there's a hunger, Lord, a hunger in my soul.

Oh, Thou who fed the multitudes beside the Galilee,  
There's a hunger, a hunger in my soul.  
Look now into this heart of mine;  
And feed, oh, feed Thou me.  
There's a hunger, a hunger in my soul.

There's a hunger in my soul like Jacob's cry of old.  
A hunger down deep within my soul.  
Except Thou bless me now, I will not let Thee go;  
For there's a hunger, Lord, a hunger in my soul.

"I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon  
the dry ground" Isaiah 44:3.

Suppose I were to give one of you here tonight a dollar bill. Suppose I were to give it to Linda, over here—a dollar bill. But as she begins to look at it and turns it over, lo and behold, it's a \$10.00 bill. Then suppose as she turns it over again, it's a \$100.00 bill. And then she turns it over again, and it's a \$1,000 bill. What do you suppose she might do? What would you do?

Well, dear friends, that's what I've been doing. I've been turning this thing over since I saw you that I studied with you when I was here last—this matter of fellowship with God, what we mean to God personally, the place we fill in His heart. And I declare, every time I turn it over it gets to be worth more. I see more in it. So I'd like to study it with you again tonight. But I'm going to study it with you from some different texts that you haven't heard me use before, because I find, the more I study

the scriptures in the light of these great facts, that it just grows and glows.

Turn to Isaiah 43:4, and here is one of the most wonderful verses in all the Bible. Now, there are three words in this text that I want you to notice—three words. And I'm only going to read the first three lines:

“Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honorable, and I have loved thee...” Isaiah 43:4.

The first word is precious, the second word is honorable, and the third word is loved. And it is God, the Creator of the universe that is saying these three things about you. He says you're precious. He says you're honorable. And He says you're loved. And the longer I chew on this, the sweeter it tastes. It's just wonderful. I like to be precious to somebody. What about you? Well, God says you're precious to Him.

Now, what does precious mean? Well, it means dear and valuable. You don't get precious things at the dime store. You might find some of them at Tiffany's, precious stones. But here's something infinitely more precious than all the diamonds and rubies and emeralds and gold and silver in this world. It's you.

How much are you worth? Well, at Calvary, Jesus tells us that you are worth so much. He will give His life just for you. And as I have pointed out in earlier studies, this isn't just that He is sorry for you and that He would give His life just out of His pity for you and sympathy. No.

If you have a keen sense for the love of God for people in general, if you have even ordinary humanity, if somebody was drowning in the lake up here, and you knew how to swim, you'd plunge in and, if necessary, risk your own life to pull them out, wouldn't you? And that's about as far as some people have thought through this thing of the sacrifice of Christ. But it was not as a passerby, seeing somebody in danger and springing to the rescue that Christ came to Calvary. He paid the redemption price for you and me because you and I were of great value to Him.

He could not be reconciled to life unless you could share it with Him. For Christ, life meant having you. He must have you. He would go to any length. “You are precious in My sight,” He says. You are valuable, dear beyond any material object in this universe. He'll go off and leave the angels, those bright beings that always do what He says, and He'll come after you and me, disobedient, rebellious, unthinking, uncaring though we have been. He sees us as we were in His original plan, as we will be in His eternal plan, and as we are now covered with rubbish. But still, He sees us as something of infinite value. “You are precious,” He says.

Now, I want to ask you something, friends. If God says I am precious and valuable, who am I to say, “Oh, well, I don't amount to much?” Shall I insult Him by saying that He has created nothing of value? Shall I insult Him further by acting as though the sacrifice of Calvary was something thrown away on a bad penny? Shall I

insult Him that way? Oh, no. I can't do that. If He says I'm valuable, I say I'm valuable, friends. If He says I'm worth something, I say I'm worth something.

You know I hear people talk about complexes—inferiority complex and superiority complex and other complexes. What I'm studying with you would just solve most of them. That's right.

The most puffed-up egotist in the world hasn't yet begun to realize how valuable he really is. That's right. His problem, of course, is that he's thinking of himself as he sees himself. He may be quite inflated in regard to himself on some points. But as to his value, I want to tell you something, friends, he's worth a million times more than he ever thought he was in his brightest dreams.

And the poor fellow that is suffering from inferiority feelings, oh my, if he could only lift up his eyes and look at the King of the universe evaluating him and setting down how precious he is on the books of Heaven, he'd lose that inferiority complex fast. Wouldn't he?

"You are precious to Me," Jesus says. Let's believe Him. What do you say? Are you precious? Are you valuable? He desires us to value ourselves according to the price He has paid for us.

Now, let's go a little further. He says you're not only precious, you are what? You're honorable. The other day up in Michigan I saw a sign describing some event, and it presented the Honorable such and such man, mayor of such a city. If the governor of this state were coming to this area, he would doubtless be billed as the Honorable so and so, governor of Georgia. And I'm sure if you were to see the president of the United States, he would be introduced as the Honorable Richard Nixon.

Now, put your name in there.

"Oh," you say, "No, no."

Well, now wait a minute. Who is this that is talking? It's God talking. How does it sound, the Honorable Jeff Needle, of New York City? More than that; of the New Jerusalem. His Father is the King of the universe. And He says, Jeff is what? Honorable. That's what He says. Another translation gives it honored. That's the thought—worthy of honor, worthy of recognition. Talk about status.

Why, people are throwing money away like water trying to get status and to have status symbols. They buy all kinds of expensive things—furniture, houses, boats, automobiles, this, that, and the other. What for? Well, to have status. So that neighbors look at them and say, "Well, they're really coming up, aren't they?"

Bless your heart, friends, you already have a status, if you accept it, that's higher than all the millionaires on Wall Street. You are precious and honorable, and

God says so. Why not accept that? What do you say?

“Oh,” you say, “But I make so many mistakes.”

Well, God knows about that. He has made provision for that. And day by day as we come to Him and accept the blood of the cross:

“If we confess our sins, he is...”

What?

“...faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” 1 John 1:9.

You know, if I had to stand before you tonight on my record, you wouldn't see me coming in that door. I'd stay hidden somewhere. I'd run away. But friends, do you know what happened to me? I got covered. I got covered with the precious mantle of Jesus' righteousness. And the Father looks at me, tonight—praise His wonderful name—as if I had always done just as well as His Son has done, as if I had been just as obedient as Jesus, just as loving as Jesus, just as kind.

“Well,” somebody says, “He must look at you through rose-colored glasses.”

Yes, He does, friends. That's exactly it—rose-colored glasses. Oh, if it were not for that, I wouldn't dare venture. But because of that, I know that I am accepted in the Beloved. I am precious to God, and I'm honorable. And it's for you. Remember, it's for you just as if you were the only one.

Since I saw you, I got a little illustration of this. And maybe I can help somebody with this tonight because it's very hard for some people to get the idea that they are valuable as if they were the only one when there are a million, million others. But I think I can illustrate it for you.

I wonder if there are any children, any boys, and girls here that have any pets. May I see your hands? All you children that have pets hold up your hands. All right. Thank you. Now, I want to know how many of you have a dog. May I see your hands? All right, put them down. How many of you have a cat? May I see your hands? All right. Now, one more question. Is there any boy or girl here tonight that has a dog and a cat both? May I see your hands? Yes, there is one. All right, there is another one, fine.

Now my question boys and girls. Suppose you dearly love dogs, but you also love kitties. How many dogs would you have to have before you would be satisfied not to have any cat at all? Suppose you have a dog, but you're just longing for a kitty, and I say to you, “Oh well, never mind, here's another dog. Take that.”

You might say, “Well, thank you, but I still want a,” what? “I still want a kitty.”

Suppose I say, "Well, I'll give you two more puppies." What would you say? "I still want," what? "I still want a kitty." Or it might be a canary bird or a raccoon. I saw a pet raccoon the other day since I saw you last—a cute little fellow. They make wonderful pets.

I want to tell you something, friends: The God who made children to love variety is Himself an infinite lover of infinite variety. And no matter how many other pets He has, He needs you. Just don't forget it. Just don't think that a hundred or a thousand or a million other people that aren't like you—don't think that one of them or all of them together—is in any way going to take your place. That's what makes you precious. That's what makes you valuable. That's what makes you dear. That's what puts the value on you. You are precious. You are valuable. You are dear. You are honorable.

And so He says, "I have loved you." Oh friends, it's wonderful to be valuable, but the greatest thing in the universe is to be loved. What do you say? And the God of Heaven and earth says, "I love you." Wouldn't it be a shame to disappoint Him?

It's interesting to me how God seems to take delight in indicating His interest in us in the tiniest, little ways as well as in a big way.

A couple of days before I left here, I was down at the sanitarium in the evening and had several errands. When I got ready to go home, I reached in my pocket for my keys to start the car, and lo and behold, they weren't in my pocket. So I reached in the other pocket. No, they weren't there. Then I looked in my back pocket and my back pocket over here. I looked all around. Then I began to look around the car. And I thought, "Where in the world have I left those keys?"

I thought, "Well, I'd been down to the treatment rooms. Maybe they are down there." So I went down there and looked all around. They weren't there; over to the diet kitchen. No. Over to Evangelid. No. Up to Dad and Mom's. No. Over at sister Adams. No. That was all the places I had been during the hour or more I had been down.

Then carefully I went over that whole route again. And I was talking to my Friend, asking Him to help me find them. But I didn't find them.

So finally Brother Mattie took me home in his car. I knew my wife had a duplicate set of keys. I got the keys from Helen and came on back and prepared to go up the hill.

Well, I thought, "My, I wish I could find those keys. They're not very far away because I drove in here a little over an hour ago with them. So I got down there on the blacktop by the car and I prayed, and I told the Lord, "Now, Lord, I'm not making a test of this as to whether You love me or not. I know You love me whether I find the keys or not. But I sure would like to find them."

Now you are preparing to hear that I found the keys, but I didn't. I had to get in the car with my wife's keys and go on up.

But you know as I was driving along, of course, I was thinking about it and wished I could have found them. I went up through the tubes under the interstate highway and came up over the hill there. And those of you who know the road up to the hollow know that the blacktop gives out there just a little piece beyond the tubes. As I came over the hill and started down the other side, I heard something clink out on the blacktop. And the dear Lord impressed me, "Maybe those are your keys. You had better back up and see." And sure enough, there in the evening light was this set of keys. I was driving the car with the duplicate set, and this was the set I lost.

Well you say, where in the world were they all that time? I don't know. I have an idea, and I have an idea of how they got where they were, but I can't prove any of it. I just know I found the keys.

But friends, this is the point I want to share with you. As I rode along with the duplicate keys in the car, running the thing, and this wonderful set of keys that God let me find in my pocket, this is what the Master was impressing my heart with: "Yes, I hear you. I always hear you. And I always answer. But I reserve to Myself when I answer, and what method I use."

Now, isn't that precious, friends? God thought enough of me, enough to do that little thing, why a million, million times more. But He comes close to us in these little things sometimes because we're little folks with little minds, and we can get hold of that.

"I hear you. I always hear you. And I always answer. But I reserve to Myself when I answer and what method I use."

Do you think anybody else could have figured out that method of answering my prayer. I don't suppose that'll ever happen to me again, do you? I don't think so. No.

As far as I remember, that was the first time I ever lost my keys like that. I hope it's the last time. But, oh friends, it was so precious to me that God would answer in that particular way.

Now, if I may use these words, it would have been easier for Him to have shown me where the keys were down there when I prayed about it. They must have been on the car somewhere to have fallen off up there. I consider it quite a piece of helpfulness to have kept those keys on that bouncing car all the way from here, up into the next state and out again. Yes. And to have them (Don't miss this detail!) bounce off right at a place where I would hear them clink. If it had been on the dirt road, I probably never would have heard them. No detail is too small for Him to notice.

Well, I had another interesting experience. A few days later, I was up there in Michigan. I was using my felt cut-out of the sanctuary with the different little pieces of it on a flannel board. But I was speaking in two different churches on alternate nights, and my equipment wasn't in the same place all the time, so I was having to put up things and take them down.

In one of the closing nights, as I looked at my felt outline there, I saw the little laver was missing. And I thought, "My that's too bad." And then I looked and the little lamb that I had by the altar with the man kneeling by it, that was gone too. I thought, "Isn't this too bad." But I went ahead and had my meeting, and I didn't say anything about it. I wanted their minds to be on the subject, not on some little missing piece.

But the next day, I walked over the route that I had walked carrying some of those things, from the house where I was staying to the church, about a half-mile away. And I walked and I looked along the road, and I looked in the weeds, and I couldn't find anything. And I thought, "Well, dear Lord, I wondered where they are." I prayed about it, but I couldn't find them—couldn't find them anywhere. I went there to the meeting. They weren't there.

But the last night, I went there and lo and behold, when I came up to the pulpit, there on the flannel board was the laver. And I said to the pastor something about that, that had been missing. "Well," he said, "I think it had fallen down somewhere, and I picked it up there." So he had put it on. The little lamb was there too, but the kneeling man was gone. And I thought, "This is interesting. I wonder where that is."

Believe it or not, when I took the sanctuary off the flannel board, there on the back of it, stuck in between the felt and the flannel, was that tiny, little kneeling man.

I don't know how it happened. I don't mean there was anything mysterious about it. I just mean I can't tell you where those things were all the while. I just know that the Lord was again, just as He had with the keys, reminding me that He was looking after things, but that He chose to reserve to Himself when He answers and how He answers.

Now, those things can either be to us frustrating worries or sweet bonds of fellowship between our souls and God.

"Ah, but," somebody says, "Yes, Brother Frazee. Those little stories are all interesting, but something happened to me 10 years ago, and I still don't see any sense to it or meaning."

Well, I give you a promise, John 13: 7:

"...What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shall know

hereafter” John 13:7.

“In the future life, the mysteries that here have annoyed and disappointed us will be made plain. We shall see that our seemingly unanswered prayers and disappointed hopes have been among our greatest blessings”  
*Ministry of Healing*, page 474.

Now, when I read that plain statement that we’re going to understand a lot of these things in the future life, I know two things, friends. The first thing I know is, we’re not going to understand them all in this life. We do not always find the keys. We do not always find something else we’ve lost. The second thing I know is this, we’re going to be just as satisfied when God clears all the mysteries up in the world to come as I was the other night when I picked up those keys on the blacktop.

“All that has perplexed us in the providences of God will in the world to come be made plain”  
*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 9*, page 286.

That’s quite an order, but God can fill it. That’s quite a promise, but God can fulfill it. And He will.

Now back to our text. You’re precious in my sight. You’re honorable. And I have loved you. Now, what is it all for. Isaiah 43:21. What does it say?

"This people have I..."

What?

"...formed for myself; they shall show forth my praise"  
Isaiah 43:21.

Who are you for? You’re for God. Who made you? He made you. What did He make you for? For Himself. There was a longing in His heart. Our sister sang for us at the beginning of this study, “There’s a Hunger in My Soul.” God has put in our hearts a hunger for Him. But listen. Long before you ever hungered for Him, He hungered for you. Are you feeding the hungry?

Is there a thirst in your heart for His presence? He put that thirst in your soul. But long before you ever thirsted for Him, He thirsted for you. Are you giving Him to drink of the love, the recognition, the acknowledgment of your heart? Ah friend, let’s not keep Him waiting. What do you say?

How many of us would like to send Him the word tonight that we accept His evaluation of us as precious and honorable and loved, and that we’re going to make Him happy by letting Him make of us what He sees in us? May I see your hands? That is fine.



[Closing song and appeal, then, a testimony service follows.]

Copyright 2021. All rights reserved.

W. D. Frazee Sermons  
435 Lifestyle Lane, Wildwood, GA 30757  
1-800-WDF-1840 / 706-820-9755  
[www.WDFsermons.org](http://www.WDFsermons.org)  
[support@WDFsermons.org](mailto:support@WDFsermons.org)