

Enemies of Seeking God

I found myself not seeking God so much as seeking the sense of His presence . . . or at least seeking the sense that I was desiring or longing for Him.

Then I found myself trying to follow my own directions with little success.

At length I returned to simply seeking Him, longing for Him, desiring Him both in words and in silent worship, praise, and thanksgiving. When I did, the tears rolled and the joy flowed. But, had they not, I would have needed . . . Oh, so much would I have needed just to continue before God looking to Him as best He might enable.

As pants the hart for cooling streams,
When heated in the chase,
So longs my soul, O God, for Thee,
And thy refreshing grace.

-Nahum Tate

And continue we must, come what may.

Another of the many enemies of seeking God is hurry . . . the demand to get things done . . . an urgency inside that presses us with the "have to's" of life. It drags our minds and hearts from God to other things, things, if only we would know it, that are generally far less important than seeking God. If we give in to this necessity to do, it will ultimately terminate our search for God and lead to terrible spiritual failure and disappointment with the Christian life.

God forbid!

We will always be in danger of this ultimate failure when we don't have open-ended time alone with God. But what to do? For many to ever have open-ended time with God may seem entirely impossible. We simply must find times when it is not impossible: mornings early before anyone is up, Saturday mornings especially, Sunday afternoons, evenings when others are watching TV. If seeking God is our priority, we will find times. If it isn't, we won't.

Life is one long disappointment. But in God there is no disappointment, no matter that sometimes we really believe there is.

So let us find time and ways to come to Him. Only in Him is there satisfaction, liberty, joy, rest, and peace.

Now, none but Christ can satisfy.
None other name for me.
There's love, and life, and lasting joy Lord Jesus found in thee.

