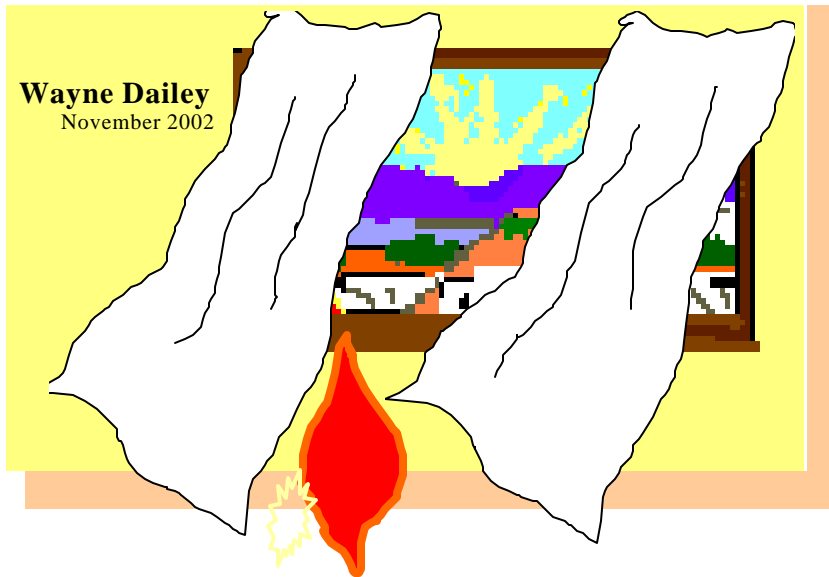


# Going After God



Acts 2:1

And when the day of Pentecost  
was fully come,  
they were all with one accord  
in one place.

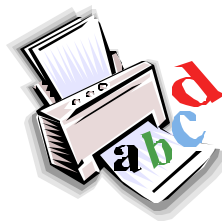
These people took to heart the words Jesus gave them: do not leave Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.

Here we find them in the process of obeying the Lord. They did what He said to do . . . and when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

**That factor, in one accord and in one place:**

To me, this is like the setting for going to church. We should be coming together for one purpose. When we come together to worship the Lord it's wonderful when everyone is in one accord.

This is a place you and I should want to walk in our coming to church, generally being in one place - but are we in one accord?



[Click here  
to print  
this sermon](#)

That goes with it. Being in one place isn't sufficient. We need to be in one accord as well.

To be in one accord could be something that God's people need to do a little work on, a little polishing up, so that when they come to church, they all come for one thing.

The Lord should be the one major reason for our going to church . . . . .

our love for the Him

our desire to worship Him

our desire to draw closer

and nearer to Him.

It's important for us, then, to be in one mind. It's not each individual mind going its own way, but everyone's mind being in harmony.

Understand this: you and I want a lot of things from God. We're always asking God for something.

Isn't it wonderful when you take the time to pray and seek God and you get what you ask for?

How wonderful it is to receive things from the Lord that He wants you to have. He puts these things in your heart, many times, and you find yourself praying and asking Him for those very things.

I want to open your eyes a little more to realize what a blessing it would be if everyone came to church in one mind and one accord to worship the Lord - putting our whole heart into it.

It's not just the fact that we go to church.

We may not be there for every service, but there is someone who is never absent. The Lord is there in each and every service.

Does that matter to us? We are in the presence of the Lord when we attend church.

Does the Lord get anything out of our coming to church to worship and praise Him? Know that it's a pleasant thing to the Lord.

Now, we want to look at some of those things that really touch the heart of God.

Jeremiah 2:1, 2

Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the Lord;

I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

The Lord is sending Jeremiah out with a message. We can grasp God's feelings in this message, His feelings about taking pleasure in His people gathering together in His presence.

We gather to worship and magnify the Lord - and also to take courage from His Word.

He remembers you, and the kindness of your youth and the love of your espousals, **when you went after Him.**

God was being blessed by this. He was speaking about it to make the issue that it was pleasant to Him, something He enjoyed.

What I'm wanting to say to us is that this is a picture to us. When we come to the house of God, God wants to take pleasure in us.

After the service is over, do you think God found pleasure in our being there? *or were we 'just there'?*

He wants us to stick to His Word, to preach and teach His Word, to know His Word.

He doesn't want us to just have knowledge. He wants us to know Him, and to know His Word, and to know His ways. He wants us to learn of Him more and more, that we'll know Him and enjoy Him.

God would want to do this in any church, in any gathering of His people - where people come with a real purpose of heart to praise and magnify the Lord, coming to be with Him.

Now, as God's people, we want to be in one mind and one accord when we gather together. We want to meet with the Lord.

There are a lot of things I believe the Lord would love to have manifest. I believe He is pleased when we praise Him.

But I don't believe that's the only thing He's pleased with.

I believe we should take worship seriously, worshipping and giving ourselves to Him - because we love Him.

God is pleased when He can remember those services where His people were in one mind and one accord.

We're prone to remember the good things of God, often remembering some good thing which He has done for us.

Realize how much you remember it, and know that it must be in His memory, as well.

He wants to see these things take place, where we're taking great pleasure in Him - and He is taking pleasure in us.

Do you want another time in your life when, as Israel did in the wilderness, you go after the Lord? and the thing that you were doing was just like this?

You wanted to be with the Lord, and you went to church to be with Him in the realm of pleasing Him.

In this Scripture, God shows that there were things which were of interest to Him: *when thou wentest after Me in the wilderness.*

[That greatly pleased Him.](#)

There had been such a long streak of murmuring and complaining, such a long time of drudgery - from the night they packed up their kneading troughs, and headed out of Egypt.

Wouldn't all that murmuring and complaining get on your nerves after a while? Wouldn't you get tired of hearing that, day in and day out?

It would make you want to just get away from it all.

Well, realize how it must have been for God to hear all of that going on.

Yet here in Jeremiah we see that what He remembers is the time they went after Him in the wilderness with hearts of love.

## God is pleased when we go after Him

(whether it's in the wilderness, or in church, or at home, or when we go for a walk) when we reach out because we want to go after Him, we want a refreshing, we want Him to do a new thing in us, a new work in the church, to do a greater work in each and every life and bless greatly in drawing close.

We want to be in the place where our meeting together to worship the Lord would always be a time when He is pleased with us because we're doing the right thing, showing our love by our obedience.

John 14:15

**If ye love Me, keep My commandments.**

I don't believe it would have been hard at all for God to pour out His Spirit upon those people in the upper room, because they were going after God.

Let's get that in our mind. Let's go after God.

Take note, now, who went after who? Was it God who went after the children of Israel in the wilderness, or was it the people who went after God?

So, it's us going after God, it's our reaching out to God.

## Is this where we want to be?

Out there in the midst of that barren wilderness, in the midst of that drudgery . . . I wonder how hot it was!

But there's where revival came, an outpouring came when they went after God. There was something about going after God in that wilderness that pleased God.

## In one mind and one accord

I think we ought to be in one mind and one accord if we're going to have direction.



Let's go after God with all our hearts to do those things that are pleasing to Him.

Let's not just go after those things that please man, those things that please one another.

If we want the Lord to be pleased with us and what we are doing, we'll find His great blessings because we're doing what He would want us to do.

He would want us to go after Him, to go after Him again. We found Him and went after Him before, and we found great blessings in doing so. Let's go after Him again.

And I want you to know - this is what would be pertinent in this hour we're living in. Right now it's time that somebody go after God, that somebody seeks after God - and it might as well be you.

How about the people at your house?

How about the members of your family? you want them to go after God, too, don't you?

All of us can go farther and deeper and richer than we've ever gone before.

I don't know of any commandment that tells you not to go after God. Listen, God is longing and looking for His people to go after Him.

**What should we do in order to go after God?**

He's saying here there are certain things. Sometimes certain words will enable us to know what He wants:

*I remember the love of your espousals when you went after Me in the wilderness.*

The key word here is love.

If there's any one thing that we can do in going after God, it is to take our love and go after Him with that.

Let's love God like we should love Him.

First of all, in loving God, let's honor Him. If the things that we do don't honor God, we're out of order. If the thing we're doing doesn't honor God, then we shouldn't be doing it.

In loving God and honoring God and respecting God - this is what will touch Him.

Now, as far as love goes, God's love never wavers. Do you think God loves today, and tomorrow He's cast down in some deep valley?

Or do you believe He's the same yesterday, today, and for ever?

If it's a problem of love, the problem is on our part - where we fail to manifest it. He said He loved us with an everlasting love. His love has never been lifted from us, then.

Listen, love comes from God; and God brings His love to us.

I John 4:7, 8

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

He that loveth not knoweth not God;

for God is love.

Let's love God with all of our heart. It's got to turn in this realm to where we're going after God.

**Take the offensive** - When the army has taken a beating, they double up and get on the offensive. You can't just let somebody keep pounding you down. You get on the offensive, rising up to go after your enemy.

Well, God is certainly not our enemy, but we need to take a little offensive in the realm of going after God with all we've got. Rise up to go after Him. Let Him see that we truly love Him, that our love is more than just empty words.

And when we say, *God, I love You*, He'll know that we mean what we say.

So, when these people turned to love the Lord what a great thing it meant to God. And that's what I want you to see: what a great thing it really is to go after God with all your heart.

God wants our love. It's one of the things He misses when it's no longer there.

When we go to church, He's there in the Spirit, and we're there in the flesh. We don't see Him - but He plainly sees us.

He sees us when we're praising the Lord, and He sees us when we're dragging and can't wait till the service is over.

**Something's wrong when someone can't wait till the service is over.**

Loving God isn't like that.

**First of all, tell Him you love Him.** It's a good thing to express your love with words unto God. But then, it goes farther than that. There's the realm where you can show God your love by your obedience: *if you love Me keep My commandments.*

When God sees us keeping His commandments, He also sees that we love Him.

It wasn't the people of Israel who came up with this. Moses didn't bring it up. Where did love and God's desire for love start from?

Romans 5:5

**And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.**

Love comes from God.

Oh, there's love we as humans know - even the cat has a love for her kittens. But, loving God is the love of God shed abroad in our hearts.

Now, with the love of God coming into your heart it will enable you to love God more, and to also love one another more.

I John 4:10, 11

**Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.**

It's God's love manifested through us.

**But there's always a need to have a deeper relationship between God and His people.**

We want the love of God to flourish in our hearts. Then we'll love one another a whole lot more. And we'll also love God a whole lot more.

**Do we really love Him?** Couldn't we love Him a whole lot more? What's it going to take?

You know what it's going to take? a group of people, even a handful of people, who decide that they are going after God with their whole heart.

This is where we can bring revival down upon our own heads, and upon the entire church. All we need do is start pressing our way, going after God with our whole heart.

Too often we're just waiting for God to get hold of us - how about getting hold of God?  
*Oh, God, get hold of me, Lord.*

What do you want Him to do when He gets hold of you? Shake you?

How about you, through prayer, through honoring God, through loving Him - how about you getting hold of God?

Let's go after God in the wilderness where we live. Let's honor Him. We don't want to do one thing to dishonor Him. We want to do things that will bring Him honor.

There's so many ways to honor the Lord. There's so many great things He does for us to bring honor to His name.

Disobedience brings no honor to the Lord.

**Go after God with your whole heart. Honor Him with your love and obedience - and see what will happen.**

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found,  
call ye upon Him while He is near

Isaiah 55:6

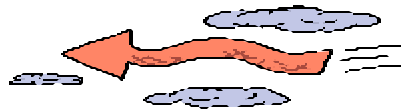


## Seek the Lord

Seek the Lord and His way,  
Draw near to Him and pray,  
Love Him with all your soul,  
Letting Him have complete control.

Yield yourself each day  
To His will and to His way.

Great peace will come,  
Not only to you , but to everyone  
Who will seek the Lord  
and His wonderful way.



[Click here for other text sermons](#)

Patricia Dailey  
December 22, 2001