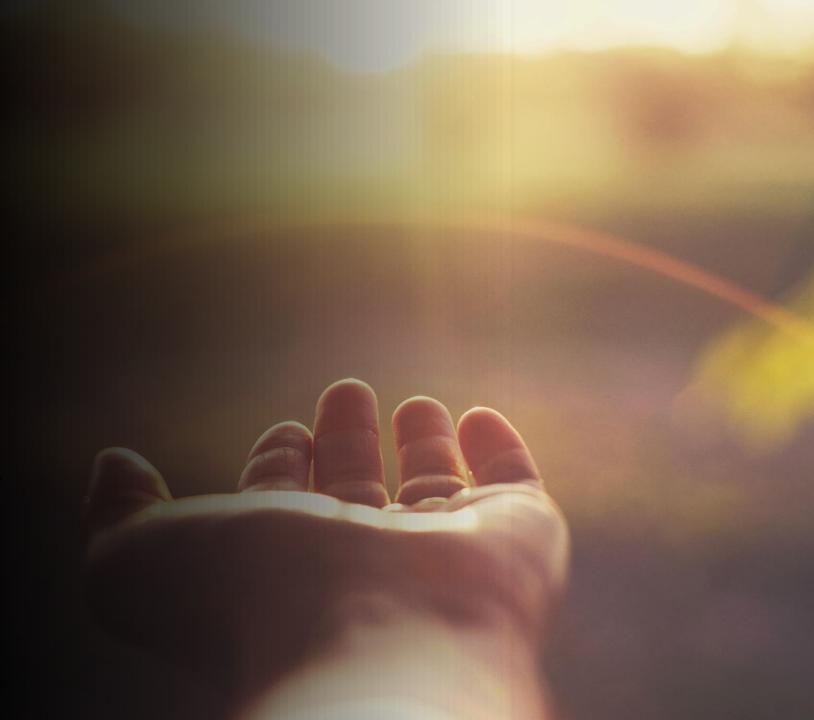
Seeking God's Kingdom Brings Peace:

Transformation for the Hypocrite and the Gentile



HIDING

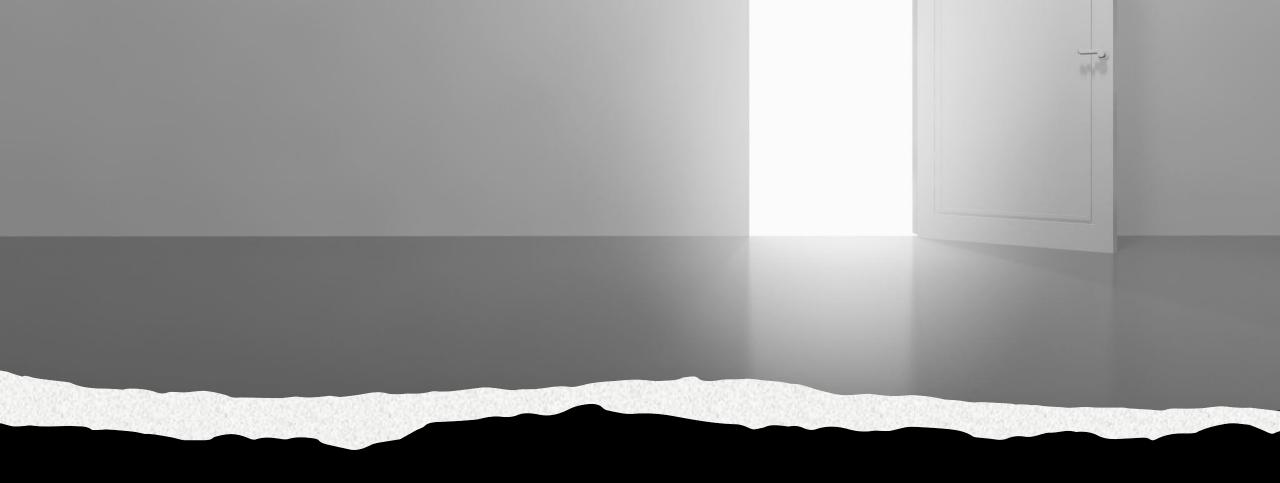
HIDING

God identifies our hiding places so that God can be there with us and make for us a hiding place in God, a place of peace where we can face up to what we are hiding from in the presence of love.



Psalm 27:5

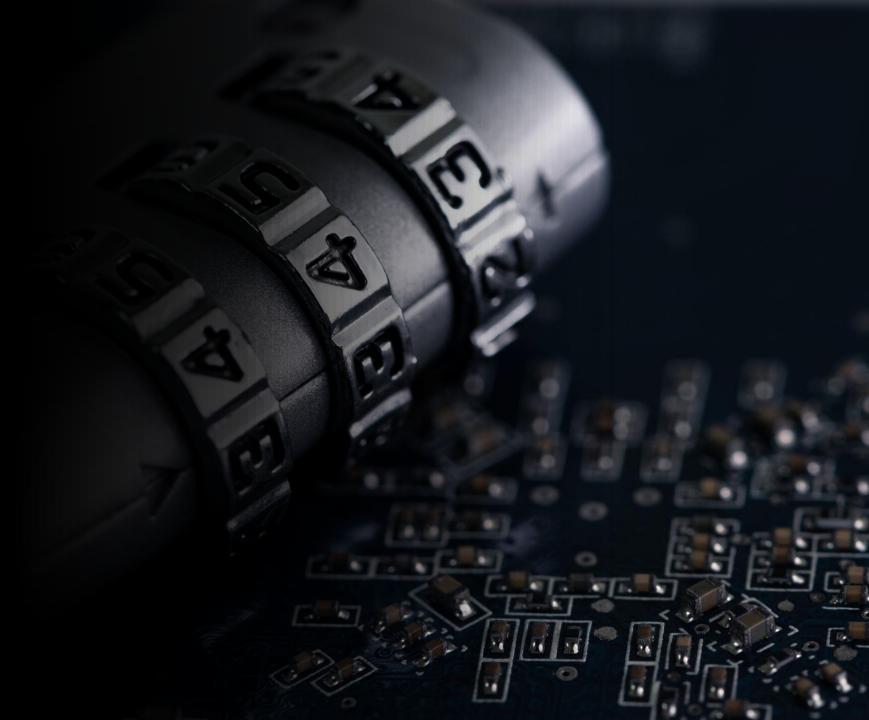
For [God] will hide me in [God's] shelter in the day of trouble."



SECRET

SECRET

- "...pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."
- Secret = *krupto*
- Krupto = crypt, encryption



"When you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is hidden; and your Father who sees you in that hidden place will reward you."

Matthew 6:6, paraphrase

The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and hid [not mixed, as some translations have it, but hid] in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.



Seeking God's kingdom in the secret or hidden place of prayer is our way of letting God...

- work inner transformation in us...
- open ourselves to the will of God to be done in us...
- Let go of our false selves...

...so that we are that much more equipped to join God's transforming work as the kingdom comes on earth as in heaven.



The Hypocrite and the Gentile



- Wants to be seen
- Stage Actor
- Pretender
- Acts out what they preach (but is inauthentic)



- Enneagram Type 3 –
 Achiever/Performer
 - Sees love as something to be earned
 - Values only what others define as success



"Unhealthy threes find failure unacceptable, which renders them unable to admit mistakes and causes them to behave as though they are superior to others. Desperate for attention, these Threes may turn the deadly sin of self-deceit into the sin of intentional deceit, telling others fabricated stories about themselves and their accomplishments in order to maintain their image."

- Finding the Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery, p. 131.



Don't worry about how you are being seen by others. Don't seek the kingdom of perfect reputation and the hallowing of your own name. Go hide in God and hallow God's name and see yourself as God sees you, as beloved. In being seen by God, you will begin to find transformation, peace within.

Wants to be heard

 Uses excessive and elaborate speech



- Enneagram Type 4: The Individualist or Romantic
 - Need to find their special significance.
 - Creative
 - Dramatic



When unhealthy:

- Struggle with selfpity
- Think they need a "rescuer"
- Manipulates others



There is no need to manipulate God or others to get what you need. Your empty phrases won't help. Go hide in God who wills your good. There you will find you already have what you need. In being heard by God, you will begin to find transformation, peace within.



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