

On November 8, 1927, my 38th birthday, I prayed this prayer: "Lord, make me a man after Thine Own heart." Work faded out of sight; things that before seemed important disappeared; everything in which I was interested took second place, and my own inner life before God was all that mattered. As I paced back and forth in my room that day, I prayed in the Spirit: "Lord make me a man after Thine Own heart."

I saw as I never seen before that the big thing was not the work I was doing, the books I was writing, the sermons I was preaching, the crowds that gathered nor the success achieved; but rather the life I was living, the thoughts I was thinking; in a word; my transformation, by the Holy Spirit, into Christlikeness.

There came to me with a new and deeper meaning than ever before the words: "O, for a closer walk with God". My heart went out in a cry of anguish for such an experience. 'Enoch walked with God' Could not I? Am I not more precious to God than my work, my possessions? God wanted me, not merely my service,

After that HE led me out in prayer, a prayer that would make me a man after His own heart and these were the petitions:**[Lord here is my heart may it yearn for Yours, I give it to You, may it not ponder on the desires of this world Father God. Lord give me the supernatural ability to be one with You and Your Heart's desires.]** "Lord, here are my **hands**, I consecrate them to Thee. May they never touch anything that would dishonor Thee; here are my **feet**, I dedicate them to Thee. May they never go where Thou wouldst not be seen; Lord, here are my **eyes**. May they never look upon anything that would grieve the Holy Spirit. May my **ears** never listen to anything dishonoring to Thy name. May my **mouth** never be opened to speak a word that I would not want Thee to hear; May my mind never retain a thought nor an imagination that would dim the sense of Thy presence."

God, I saw, demanded my undivided attention. Everything else must take second place. Friends and loved ones, home, money, work, all-even though legitimate-must give way to Christ! Day and night my undivided attention must be my attitude toward Him. Only then would He be able to bless and use me.

And my relationship with God I saw that no other and nothing else must come between. That just as a husband comes first in the affections of his wife, and vice-versa, so God must come first in my heart. And just as no marriage can ever be a happy marriage where either husband or wife withhold their undivided attention from each other, so my fellowship with God could only be complete when He had my undivided attention.

What He asked of me that day He asks of all alike. Can it be that we would deny Him His right? Is there anything in this world worthy of that attention He claims? Why, then, do we withhold what He asks? Is true joy to be found outside of God? Can we be happy with "things"? Do "things" satisfy/ "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." (Luke 12:15).

God has made us for Himself! He longs for our fellowship and communication. To walk with Him moment by moment, right here in the midst of a wicked and perverse generation, in a world that has no use for a separated, Holy Ghost life, a world whose god is Satan. To live as pilgrims and strangers in a world that crucified our Lord that is His design and purpose for us.

So, then, to be a man after God's own heart means to put God first; to walk with Him every moment; to do nothing that would displease Him and to allow nothing that would grieve Him; to give Him our undivided attention, and to love Him supremely.

To Get His best we must give our best. To become men and women after His own heart, we must let Him have our undivided attention. To win, we must surrender. To live we must die. To receive, we must give.

Oh, the joy of such a life! There is nothing like it. All the success in the world cannot compensate for it. Friends can never mean so much. Even loved ones disappoint. Money brings its burdens, and fame its bitterness. But He, He satisfies! God is never a disappointment. To walk with Him is the sweetest thing on earth. To know that all is well, that there is nothing between, that no black cloud of sin hides His face- -ah! That is Heaven, indeed.

Then let us pray it, mean it, and live it: "Lord, make me a man after Thine Own heart."

Oswald J. Smith

Founder, The Peoples Church

Toronto, Canada

The [brackets I added and emphasized words in bold]

My thoughts:

To walk in His presence.

This confirms several issues: **First**, It always starts with our thinking; **Second**, what is our motive, to please God in Holy fear; **Third**, Surrender without a total commitment to God (we have not given Him our whole heart) and therefore we cannot be a man or women after His own heart. **Fourth**, we must give Him our undivided attention, God is first.

Let us walk with God, to be men/women after God's own heart, Surrendered in a relational lifestyle which puts God, always, first; to take control of our thoughts \$Zapping\$ negative fear based thoughts and meditating on positive faith based thoughts.

Let us walk, talk, meditate, read and listen to God's word, seeking a personal intimate relationship with God, to be well pleasing in His sight.

**11Pet 5:7** I cast my cares upon you Lord for you care for me.

**Ps 103:1-3** Bless the LORD O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His Holy name, Bless the LORD O my soul and forget not all His benefits, Who forgives all my iniquities, Who heals all my diseases, Who redeems my life from destruction, Who crowns me with loving kindness and tender mercies, thank you for your divine healing that I may walk in divine health and be renewed as the eagles.

**Habakkuk 3:2** Revive your work O LORD!

**Is 55:11** Your word will not return unto you void, but it shall accomplish that which you please, and prosper where you sent it.

LORD, may You, be Glorified and may the book "The Journey to the Renewing of the Mind" bring You Glory.

Rise up in me and live within me today and always, for I'm yours, **make me a man after Your Own Heart.**

## Finis Coronat Opus