

Friday 22 January 2021

Hos.3,5: *“Afterwards the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last day.”*

Phil.2,13: *“It is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfil his good purpose.”*

It is impossible, on the deep motivational level, to induce yourself to want what you don't want. The greater and stronger your performance is by which you seek to prove that you can, the clearer you demonstrate that in terms of the wants of your heart nothing has changed (if it had you couldn't rate your performance!).

For Israel to change its way and seek the LORD their God and David their king and come trembling (not performing!) to the LORD and to his blessings would take a miracle – a change from not wanting to wanting. But what's in view here is faith, real faith. And so we must look to this promise, acknowledging that faith requires not my performance but a miracle, and to its fulfilment – God's doing whereby alone the heart is changed: and that is Jesus Christ in his atoning sacrifice for our sins and his resurrection for our justification.

*Lord, strengthen our faith and let us hold fast the one thing that is needed – to come to you and give you the burden of our sins and listen to you. Amen*