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PENIEL
Dedicated to God seekers...

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Scripture is cited
from New King James Version

A personal relationship with God is of great importance in the life of a Christian. Yet not many believers comprehend the depth and meaning of this matter. The author of this present work casts light upon this crucial issue.

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Preface

I wrote this work mainly for those that have already received the revelation from the Lord about what a relationship with God is and how important it is, and have started spending time in the “secret room” on a daily basis. The Holy Spirit may also use this present work to leave an indelible trace in the lives of those that are still far from understanding this most important biblical truth. I would recommend such people to find a set of tapes of one of my seminars on that matter, and hear them. I believe that Jesus will change your life forever through them, and the things that are written below will see in a whole different light. There is no doubt that God may also touch you through a book or a sermon of any other minister, speaking about a personal relationship with God.

What is the purpose of this short book?

Peniel is prayer words that God has given to me personally and to His Body for the purpose of redefining our values, motives and priorities. Scripture says,

O Israel, return to the LORD your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity;
 Take words with you, and return to the LORD. Say to Him, "Take away all iniquity; receive us graciously, for we will offer the sacrifices of our lips.
 Assyria shall not save us, we will not ride on horses, nor will we say anymore to the work of our hands, 'You are our gods.' For in You the fatherless finds mercy."
 I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, for My anger has turned away from him (Hosea 14:1–4).
 Read these verses of Scripture carefully. God is saying that the Jews have forsaken Him and fallen away. Yet the Lord doesn't stop there only by diagnosing, but He goes beyond that, and in order to bring them back, He suggests a remedy, which lies in the words that His children are to address Him with. And right after that we find His promise: “I will heal their backsliding...”

I imagine when the Lord gave that prayer through Hosea, telling everyone to pray it, many people started questioning, saying, “Why do I have to pray another person's prayer, saying something that is not in my heart?” So, why did not God tell Jews to talk to Him about whatever they wanted? The point is that when values are confused in our heart, our prayers are confused too, for as it is well known that “out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks”. By giving this example, the Lord shows that there is a reverse connection between our heart and mouth, in other words, that which is in our heart, dictates our prayers, and our prayers mould our heart.

As I said, Peniel is prayers that the Holy Spirit had given both to me and to everyone, who longs to please Him, in order to straighten up our values, motives and priorities, in a word to straighten our hearts.

I believe this not only because God told me but also because there is enough fruit to prove that because hundreds of Christians of different protestant denominations have decided to try and start using the prayers mentioned below in their “secret rooms”. As a consequence, the personal relationship with God of many pastors, ministers and believers has changed. According to their testimonies, their relationship with God was brought up to a qualitative, new level thanks to using Peniel on a daily basis. There are many examples of pastors of churches ordering this practical manual for their churches or getting in touch with me and replicating it on their own, as they saw results in their own lives and the lives of their church members.

Peniel is not just dry lifeless bones. It is the expression of my heart and mind and I believe it is also the expression of the heart of God. As I was writing this book, quite often tears clouded my eyes and everything seethed in me. I would give anything so that everyone to start living according to that, which is written here.

And the last thing that I would like to mention in the preface is that Peniel is not a perfect work. First of all, I'm not a writer to put it mildly, and the text is not well-edited. Secondly, no matter how well it is done, there is always room for improvement. I rewrote it twice within a year. It is quite possible that I will repeatedly add to it and proofread it in the future. Thirdly, I do not count myself to have apprehended, and I know that the Holy Spirit keeps on working on my relationship with Him, changing me forever more. I'm also open to listen to other people's opinions as for this book. I'm especially interested in hearing the point of view of those that will start implementing that, which is written below, in their "secret rooms" just as I do it. Although there is no doubt that the core of Peniel, priorities, values, main thoughts and prayers will always remain the same, because it was not man, who originated them, but they are written in the Word of God and inspired by His Spirit. You may also use the blank spots of the book (margins, blank spots between parts etc.) to put down your own prayers and verses of Scripture that God will give to you.

Testimony

It all started in August, 1999. I was coming back from the office of our church, when the Holy Spirit spoke to me. He said, "Sergey, I want you to start spending time every day to have fellowship with Me. Start doing that even today. I'm tired of sharing your attention with the road, shop and ministry! I want you to have an appointed, special time every day that you dedicate to Me only! I want to have fellowship with you!" It is interesting that I thought I had no problem with my prayer life. If you asked me at that time about my prayer life, I would answer without a shade of doubt, "I pray all the time!"

And I did pray inside no matter where I was and what I did. I prayed, while talking to people, hearing a sermon, ministering and certainly I prayed, when I was crossing a road or standing in line. I knew what prayer without ceasing meant. But... Unfortunately, I didn't know what a "secret room" (time dedicated to God only, when you put off all your work and do nothing, but spend time fellowshiping with the Holy Spirit through prayer and the Bible) is.

Whether you like it or not, it is impossible to concentrate all your attention on God, as you do some kind of work (including ministering) and pray at the same time! You won't pay attention as you cross a road, you have to look around, as you stand in line, you hear gossips, as you talk to people, you have to follow the conversation. I had had a first-hand experience of that, and I know that in reality, he, who says that he is praying all the time, doesn't pray at all. That was the thing that the Lord spoke to me about.

It was almost five years ago. I still continued to fellowship with God without ceasing, and I think it is essential to do that as much as possible. However, now I understand that prayer in motion is like a dessert or a supplement, it is an addition (though a crucial one) to the most important and special time that is dedicated to God only. My life abruptly turned 180 degrees since that August day. I had always considered myself to be an "owl", because I went to bed late and used to sleep until noon. However it turns out that God can make a "lark" out of an "owl"! I started getting up at 4:45 a.m. to spend time with God from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m.! It was a miracle!

Also it is a wonder that on the very day, when God told me to do that, He revealed to me some biblical principles as for how not only to keep prayer in the "secret room", but also how to grow in it.

A month later I noticed some abrupt changes in me and in my life, and two months later other people started coming to me to ask about how I managed to change so quickly. My family life started changing, I experienced a new level in my ministry and saw many other wonderful fruits. I started spending more and more time in my "secret room", and changes kept on increasing. Presently I spend no less than five hours with God every day. I pray at night more often now. Several times I spent twenty-four hours or more in prayer.

As many pastors saw the things God was doing in my life, they started inviting me to teach in Bible schools, to hold conferences, meetings and seminars on having a personal relationship with God. Presently people buy audiotapes of the seminars and give them as birthday presents to one another and send them to their relatives in other cities and even abroad. Some people buy tapes and give them to their friends for free for them to make copies and give as a present to somebody else. Others bless without attaching any conditions. As far as I know, tapes of my seminars have been delivered to the United States, Germany, Russia, Ukraine and Latvia. I will not be surprised to find out that there are many more destinations that this message from God has gone to. I used to travel with that revelation throughout Belarus, but now the Lord has opened the doors for me to minister outside of it. More and more testimonies come from

different places from people that have heard the revelation of the preciousness of a personal relationship with God and have found out how to establish it in practice, started spending time in their “secret room” on a daily basis, and then the Lord initiated many different changes in every possible areas of life!

God is worthy of all the glory! Nobody is able to change himself by his own strength, and God is the only One that is able to do that! I understand that completely, and so that I repeat that God is worthy of all the glory! He is the Only One worthy to receive all praise and honor!

I pray for everyone who will read this testimony and the prayers stated below that are based on biblical values and listed by priorities. These are the prayers that the Holy Spirit has been giving to me since that August day. I wrote them down, because quite often people ask me about for what I pray for so long and why do I study the Bible all the time. Now you may find it out too, if you wish...

A very important introduction

Peniel is a Hebrew word that is translated as “face of God”. That is what Jacob called the place, where he wrestled with Him,

And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved" (Genesis 32:30).

The word “face” shows that God is Personality, because neither animals, nor material things have a face. Therefore Peniel can be translated as “The Personality of God” or “God as a Personality”. Each of these translations are correct.

Peniel is what I have titled this short work, because God as a Personality is in the center of all the things described in it. Why? It is because the most precious thing in the nature of the Maker (central topic of the Bible) is that He is a Personality. The rest of His characteristics (Loving, Omnipresent, Almighty...) follow it. Who does possess all those characteristics? God does, for He is Personality.

As you read the Bible, what are the things that draw your attention and what kind of questions do you ask yourself? As people read the Bible, some people see nothing, but the Word of God, principles of God, His doctrines and the works of God. However, other people see God and His Personality behind it. There is a difference between God and the things of God and that which belongs to Him. We must understand that the verses of Scripture that speak about healing tell us not only about the healing itself, doctrine of healing and works of God, but, first of all, they tell us about the Healer. The verses of Scripture that speak about material prosperity tell us about Him that initiates our prosperity. The verses of Scripture that speak about reformation of nations tell us about the Reformer. The verses of Scripture that speak about blessings tell us about the One that blesses. And the verses with the promises of God tell us about Him, Who promises. Every single truth, principle, word and name shows the different characteristics of God. That is the most precious truth about the Bible.

You have to learn to ask God the right questions, as you read the Word. May your first question be “Who are You?” or “What is Your name?” In fact, those questions are almost identical, for there is always a personality behind a name. That, which is has no personality, may have an appellation or a nickname, but not a name. The second question is “What are You like?” By that question we understand His characteristics and nature. The following questions are “What do You have?”, “What have You prepared for me?” or “What will you do to me?” Those questions do not concern Him, but rather they concern His abilities and His blessings. And finally another very important question is “What will You command me to do?” It is a response to experiencing God. (for instance, see Exodus 3, 4; Acts 9:4–6).

Notice that it is impossible to experience God without establishing a personal relationship with Him. The principle states: the supernatural miracle of experiencing God is built upon the natural platform of time spent with Him and is the fruit of it. (However there are exceptions, for instance, when Moses talked to the burning bush. Here everything started with a miracle, which is real meeting with God, and then came the natural platform of the relationship. However I repeat once again that it is an exception, because, as a rule, fire comes down only upon an altar that is set up (like it happened to Elijah), and experiencing God comes upon a relationship with Him).

Somebody may consider it to be boring, and I assume that there will be some people saying, “Why do we need all this?” – yet I plead you not to hasten to a conclusion. Our relationship with God is the foundation for everything else, and should we fail to put it in order, our Christian life will turn into chaos. Instead of seeking a personal relationship with God as Personality, we start chasing His blessings and serve Him as hard as we can, failing to understand that by doing so, we “put a cart before a horse”, trading our “birthright for stew of lentils” and God for the things of God.

Certainly, nobody would object that we need the gifts of God and should we not serve Him, we would never find fulfilment in this life. Nevertheless, we have to know that there are thousands of different values in this world and trying to pay equal attention to all of them will simply tear you apart! Human wisdom states that if one chases two hares, he will catch none of them. And Jesus said, "No one can serve two masters." It is much wiser to find one thing that serves as a foundation for everything else, and dedicate all your life to it, because when one finds it, he finds everything.

I don't know about other people, but I have made my choice – I need nothing but God Himself as a Personality and a personal relationship with Him in my "secret room". The fruits of this are simply tremendous in my life! I have experienced more and more personal changes, and my family has changed rapidly too. In ministry I put in minimum efforts and get maximum results! And that happens despite the fact that I seek nothing but having more and more time with God on a more regular basis, as I understand that nothing is more important to Him than that! It doesn't mean that all I do is pray all day long. I still work hard, but I have noticed that now it takes much less time to do the work that used to take so much time, and many things happen automatically, "for your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him."

Quite often people ask me why I spend so much time with God. Now you know why. I give a more comprehensive explanation of that matter in the part titled "Why do I spend time with God every day?" I recommend you to arm yourself with patience and read it through many times, for it will make you understand better that what we are talking about here will allow the Holy Spirit to change your values. And the best thing is to learn it by heart that He may speak to you about it at any moment He wishes...

Why do I spend time with God every day?

1. Because I want to know God personally.

I will know His character, thoughts and feelings. I will know His nature. I will know what He is doing at this or that particular moment and why He is doing that. I will be able to know Him as well as I would know a close friend. I will be able to know Him as well as only a son may know a Father. I will also have deep, personal, intimate and romantic relationship with Him. However, the most important thing is that I will be able to know Him as a Personality. All that will come into my life through the time I spend with Him. It is well observed in natural fellowship between people: when you continually spend much time with somebody, you come to know that person more, and the more time you spend with him or her and the more regular this time is, the faster and deeper you will know him or her.

The knowledge of God as the fruit of my relationship with Him is my main motivation and my primary objective. I breathe for the sake of it. I eat for the sake of it. I go to bed and wake up every morning again for the sake of it. I understand that when God was creating me His main motivation was His longing for me to know Him. That is what He has made me for.

Have you ever meditated on why God doesn't sleep? He doesn't sleep because zeal for fellowship with me has eaten Him up. His passion towards me gives Him no rest, and dispels the slumber away. Who are they that don't sleep in this world? Actually they are different people, and they are those that are in love and they that hunger. God is One of them, for He is in love with me and hungry to have fellowship with me, that I may come to know Him and draw nearer to Him. Therefore He doesn't sleep. For some time in the past I didn't sleep for that very reason. I love Him and I'm hungry to have fellowship with Him.

2. I seek God every day, because I want to find the fruit of the Spirit (see Galatians 5:22,23).

There is a difference between gifts and fruits. Gifts of the Spirit may be given to a person, while the fruits of the Spirit is something that happens inside of a person, in other words it is the transformation of his personality. The most valuable thing that I may have from experiencing God is that it changes in me.

None of the characters in the Bible that had met God remained the same. What we behold we become. As husband and wife live together for some time, they become alike, and as we hear a person for quite a long time, we start imitating his style of speech. Jesus said that He did only what He had seen His Father doing, because He could not become any different from the Father, as He had fellowship with Him. He "got infected" by Him. If I decide to spend time with Him every single day, then it will be impossible for me not to become a different man.

Certainly, all things are possible for him that believes, including remaining the same in the presence of God, but one has to try hard for that to happen! For instance, Judas Iscariot is one such person. He was alongside Jesus for three years

and not only had he failed to become better, but he became resentful. That is a warning to everyone, for nobody is secure against something like that happening.

However, as a rule, everyone who starts having fellowship with God on a daily basis will notice personal changes in a short time, and in a week everyone else will notice the transformations that have been made in his or her character. I have had firsthand experience of how it works. When I started praying, I was motivated mainly by understanding that I could have His anointing, His wisdom, life and the rest of the gifts through this. Of course, there is nothing bad about this for it is written that we have to desire spiritual gifts, nevertheless the Giver is much more precious and important than all the gifts. I developed an understanding of that matter only after about a year of spending time with Him. I won't pretend that I didn't know that before, and in fact that revelation was not new to me. There is however a difference between knowing and understanding. When God had put this truth into my heart by His great mercy, I started to plead for Him to manifest Himself to me.

It happened more than once that I walked in my room to and fro for several hours, repeating unceasingly over and over again as an obsessed person, "Oh, Lord, let me experience You! Let me come to know You! Let me come to know You! I want nothing of what You have, but I want You! Please, I plead manifest Yourself to me, manifest Yourself to me, manifest Yourself to me! I heard so much about You, but I don't know You at all!"

I started longing for real meetings with God and a deep intimacy with Him. I found out that all the biblical heroes didn't just read about somebody's experience with God, but they experienced Him themselves. However, I was satisfied with much less until that very time. Since that time and until now, experiencing God is the main topic of all my prayers and studying the Scripture. My heart changes more and more in every respect, and these changes are increasing day by day.

Another one of my testimonies is that about a month after I started spending time in my "secret room" on a regular basis, people started coming to me and asking about the secret of my spiritual growth. And now, five years later, I can't recognize myself, and I have lost count of the changes in my character and all other areas of life. For instance, I can't stop falling in love with people. When I see terrible sinners that have got even their family members turning their back on them, there arises a great sympathy towards them and a tremendous desire to become their friend overfills my heart. It is new and unusual for me, for I know my flesh better than anyone else. It was always ready to hurt another person and I find joy unspeakable in this.

Yet now it is has changed without me putting in any effort. All I do is faithfully and regularly spend time "on the mount" every day, and the Holy Spirit takes care of the rest. I just "behold the glory of the Lord with unveiling face" and He Himself transforms me into His "image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of God" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Is it something that I deserved? Certainly, not! I just regularly spend time fellowshiping with the Holy Spirit, regardless of my mood, circumstances or anything else. All the rest is the result of our relationship with Him, and I would like you to notice that it is natural result.

3. If I spend time with God regularly, He will make me like Jesus.

The "Secret room" has so many wonderful fruits, and one would lack time and strength to describe all of them. However all those results can be summarized in a few words: I will become like Jesus!

I will come to know God as Jesus knew Him. I will adopt the same character, way of thinking, behavior, etc. I will be able to love the Father and people as much as He did, being as meek and humble, strong and obedient, as He was. Not to list all the characteristics, I would say that I will be able to become like Jesus in all things, except the following three:

1. I will never be able to become God (I am His image and likeness).
2. I will never have the same identity as Jesus had, for every single person is unique.
3. I will never be able to reaccomplish the mission and the purpose of Jesus, for God has a unique destiny in store for me.

However there is an area, where I may surpass Jesus. It is fruits. Jesus said that whoever believes in Him would do the works as He did and even greater works than these he would do!

Therefore, if I spend time with God, I will become more like Jesus, and it means I will get more

- knowledge of God,
- gifts of the Holy Spirit,
- fruits of the Spirit,
- anointing,
- financial prosperity,

- miracles and signs,
- success in family life,
- success in personal life,
- success in ministry,
- holiness
- and many other things!

What is Peniel and how this work is to be used

I have repeatedly mentioned on the previous pages words “personal relationship with God”. Let me explain briefly what I meant. Every time I say “personal relationship with God”, I don’t imply intercession. Intercession is a ministry and not a personal relationship with God. One may serve God and people in many different ways: by preaching, by doing good works or by praying for people. I dedicate a certain amount of time every day for intercession after the personal meeting with God to intercede for my family, revival, friends and needs. A personal relationship with God includes three fields of discussion. They are Him, me and our relationship. It is when we seek His Face and not His Hand, in other words, we seek not something that He has or something that He can give us, and not even something that He can do both for us and through us, but we seek Him.

God is mostly interested not in something that we have (our family, our job, our ministry etc.) and not something that we can do for Him or with Him, but He is interested in our personality. Honestly speaking, when God revealed all that to me, I was sad I had to admit that even most of the times I was alone with Him, it was not a personal relationship with Him, but only my ministry. As I prayed or studied the Word, I was not seeking Him but only for a revelation or for a message or anointing for a service, or I was praying for my pastor, church, family and nation. When I saw that picture, I realized that I was hanging by a thread, because sooner or later the lack of a personal relationship with God results in one of the two following disasters: religion or backsliding. And it is not clear which one of these is worse.

So, what is the book Peniel?

Peniel is the contents of the “secret room”. As you read these prayers, you will see personal relationship with God in a totally different light.

Peniel contains prayers that are inspired by the Holy Spirit and, as I have mentioned above, I pray them every single day. At first, all of them would fit just one page. However time was going by and every day I started my conversation with God by reading them. Usually, I read them one after another, stopping for developing the outline thought that I just read with my own words. Then one page turned into several pages, because I saw the way I could do it better and more practically. And so, some time later those prayers compiled this book.

Peniel is a track that each of your prayers follows. It is a core and a channel that my words flow through. It enables me not to take my focus away from that, which is the most important, and adjusts it back, when something takes it aside. A short pencil is better than a long memory. It is clear.

Peniel is that which helps me to start fellowshiping with God and pass through the “outer court” quicker. Sometimes as I wake up in the morning, for some moments I cannot realize where I am, not to mention what to pray about. Peniel feeds and fuels my prayers all the time. I have tried it and I can tell you from my own experience that it is very practical and it works.

I also want you to know that Peniel is not all the prayers. Everyone has something that he or she can tell only to God, and something that is impossible to share, even if you desperately want to, unless you do it in tongues, because neither Russian, nor any other language has words able to reproduce it.

Peniel was written not by man, but by God. Once I was typing on my computer and with my spiritual eyes I saw a huge hand that was resting upon my head. It was the hand of God. The index finger was touching the screen, and He was writing every single letter with care. The Holy Spirit reminded me of the verse of Scripture that says about the same hand writing on the wall in times of Daniel. I’m convinced that every single word of it is anointed. Apart from the vision, I’m also convinced that this work is written by God, because its content is based on the Word of God. You may check it.

Peniel cannot replace your personal relationship with God, but it may help to add to it and expand it. Do not be afraid; it is not some kind of an orthodox religious prayer book, but it is rather a landing strip built of the Word of God that will be leading you to heaven. “In the beginning was the Word” – apostle Paul understood that principle and therefore he had never been sitting in wait for the Spirit to move him in a special way. He went and did that was already written in

the Word, and when the Holy Spirit made corrections in Paul's way, he was always sensitive to Him and changed his plans (see Acts 16:6–10). You shouldn't wait for God to give you special prayers, but pray in accordance with the Word of God and prayers, that are based on it, and if the Spirit leads you another way, you should follow Him. It happened many times in my life that I started my fellowship with God, praying in accordance with the Word, and finished still praying in accordance with it. It is absolutely normal.

Peniel consists of three parts. There is a brief plan, comprehensive plan and prayers. I recommend you to start praying on a daily basis according to those verses of Scripture and the words that the Lord has put in my spirit. You will see radical changes in your life. Do not pay attention to the fact that some phrases or whole parts may not touch your heart yet, but you should rather continue fellowshiping with God through them, and then you will see what will happen! We know that when the Holy Spirit changes a person's heart, his prayers change too, but it is also true that when our prayers change, our hearts change too! When you read Peniel over and over again, there will be a time, when you will not have to read it all the way through from the very beginning, but it will be enough for you to look through the comprehensive plan or even the brief one to see the whole picture of it before your eyes.

Peniel is my personal assistant not only in my prayer life, but also in studying the Word. The matter is that Peniel summarizes the main biblical priorities and values that are to be implemented in all areas of life (in prayer, when working with the Word, in sermons, teachings, when meditating, in "secret room", unceasing fellowship with God or when talking with people). That is why I have mentioned somewhere above that Peniel is my mentality. No matter where I am invited to preach or teach, first of all and most of all I speak about God as Personality and personal relationship with Him. That is actually what I try to meditate most of my time on, read about, etc. I'm absolutely convinced that it is the will of God for us, because it is the main topic of His Word, for it runs all through it!

Peniel is like the Psalms of David. What are Psalms? In reality, they are prayers of some people that had been inspired by the Holy Spirit and written in form of songs for the purpose of making some kind of a "track" or a "landing strip" that would serve as a model for both the authors and other people. For instance,

I call to remembrance my song in the night; I meditate within my heart... (Psalm 77:6).

To the Chief Musician. Set to Shushan Eduth. A Michtam of David. For teaching... (Psalm 60:1).

Do you see? David prayed to God in his situations, wrote those prayers down, and then not only that, he turned to them (called them to remembrance) again and again, but also he gave them to the Chief Musician to guide both him and other people in their relationship with the Father. Moreover, he recommended those prayer songs both for singing and praying, and for teaching (see Psalm 60:1). That very principle was laid in the foundation of Peniel. It contains prayers and a song that the Holy Spirit had given to me and I managed to write down for myself. They are very helpful in my relationship with God, and I use them for quite a long time already. God gave Peniel for you to take these prayers and the Word and sing them, read them, pray them and study them. Take a try. Think about it. Do not be hasty to criticize. It is not something new. It is from God.

Peniel is that what I propose to you, just as Jesus proposed the Lord's Prayer to His disciples. When the apostles asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, He didn't start explaining, saying, "See, you have to put it in your own words! Make it hard to understand! Every time you are to come up with new words, my Children!" No! He gave a specific answer to the specific question, "In this manner, therefore, pray: our Father in heaven..." So many people asked me, "Sergey, how should we pray?" I answer, saying, "In this manner, therefore, pray..." Certainly, it is always possible to fall into extremes, and, look, many Christians have learned the Lord's Prayer by heart and repeat it over and over like parrots, being ignorant of the fact that Christ had given it as a prayer backbone that was purposed to help their relationship with God, and not to replace it. Please don't make any sort of dogmas out of my prayers! You should not just automatically repeat them, but rather have fellowship with God through them! It is not a replacement, but just a helpful material for my and your personal relationship with the Lord!

Now, let us discuss how one can get the most out of Peniel:

1. Dedicate some time to having fellowship with the Holy Spirit in the "secret room" every day.
2. I recommend you to hear my audiotapes of a seminar on a personal relationship with God, because though Peniel is helpful itself, yet it is still an addition to the seminar.
3. Read the whole work through.
4. Observe the points two and three, and practice them as soon as possible, for God wants you to soak in this Word, and not just feed your mind with some of it. And most of all, you should be persistent in spending time alone with God on a daily basis.
5. Let Peniel become your everyday way to the Holy of Holies. Walk it every day again and again, stepping aside only if God tells you so.

By the way, it is not necessary to pray all the verses and prayers that are attached to them. If you are still unable to have fellowship with God for a long time, then you may use one verse of Scripture and one prayer at a time. Try to pick them out of each of the main parts, including the subpoints of the third part (about fruits). It is important for having a sound balance. However it is not a law. Quite often I stop at God as a Personality for quite a long time, and there is no time left for the rest of the points. That is normal, because there is nothing and no one more important than God Himself, so that it is normal to have fellowship with Him only about Himself and acknowledgement of Him, and not about what He can give to me or make for me or through me.

6. For the first six months, you should better use the prayers only, and when you know them by heart like the Lord's Prayer, then the comprehensive plan may even be enough for you. Some time later, as you memorize all the verses of the Scripture and prayers attached to them, looking through the brief plan may even be enough for you (be sensitive to God!) I recommend using the book Peniel in prayer and studying the Word every day for at least a year. Yet even after that you should turn to it again, because people tend to straggle and lose even the dearest things. We need to get continuously renewed and reminded. Despite the fact that God gave me Peniel more than four years ago, I still open it quite often and prayerfully look through the prayers, reminding myself of the right direction.

7. The best way for you to use Peniel is as follows:

- a. prayerfully read the verse of Scripture and a pray according to it;
- b. if the Holy Spirit reveals a word or a phrase in your heart, as you read it, then you should not hasten to move on, but rather put the book aside and pray about it in your own words (or in tongues). When the wind blows no longer, go back to prayerful reading;
- c. if you read a verse and feel nothing special, as it happens to me as well, then you should put the book aside after each point and pray about it in your own words;
- d. be careful of turning Peniel to be a law or religious prayer book, but rather remember that prayer and studying the Word are not the object, but the means of building a relationship with God, and Peniel is to help you with that. No book, no prayers and/or verses of the Bible must replace the Living God and a living relationship with Him, regardless of how right they may be!

8. I have included two new parts into the book. They are Characteristics and Nature of God and The Names of God. They will help you in having fellowship with God Himself. You may use them when you pray according to the first part "God as Personality". How can you use them in practice? For instance, you may read one of the names of characteristics of God, and then put Peniel aside and start worshipping Him and glorifying Him for Who He is, proclaiming His names and characteristics before Him one after another, and asking Him to manifest Himself to you. As you do so, you have to keep in mind that each name and characteristic is the expression of His Personality. When you do it on a regular basis, then some time later you will find out that all those words are no longer mere words to you. They will turn into revelations of Who God is. You will start experiencing Him more and more. For instance, the more you experience God as Jehovah Jireh, the more you will see Him meeting your needs. The more you experience God as Jehovah Nissi, the more you will see victory coming into each and every single area of your life, etc. However the most essential thing is that you will understand His nature and become very close friends with Him.

That, which has brought forth fruit in my life, will bring forth fruit in yours. You will see. All it takes is time. Use Peniel at your discretion and join the army of God seekers! Certainly, I give all the glory for Peniel to God. Believe me, it was not me, But God, who gave it. I don't consider myself to be worthy of being used by God. In my opinion, there are many people that would fit better into this role. And the very fact that He has picked me shows once again that our God is a merciful God. May all the honor be to Him!

Warning

As people, we tend to fall into different extremes, therefore I would like to warn you against one thing. God made us to have a relationship with Him, and not mere relationship, but a living and personal one. Although we may use the Bible, Peniel, the prayer of "tabernacle" of Yonghi Cho, Psalms of David or something else to have fellowship with our dear Lord, nothing of that may and must replace our personal walking with God. Various plans, systems and structures are good, but nothing of that must possess us! On the contrary, we have to possess all things and turn them to serve us.

Life is much bigger and more diverse than any scheme, even if it is biblical. Life cannot be expressed with words or described on paper. Life can only be lived. But our God is not afar. He is near. He is closer to you than your breath. Come to the Lord every day and have fellowship with Him from the depth of your heart in your own words. You should also learn to discern His voice and be guided by His Spirit. Our God is the Living God, and so that He is desperate for having life and not a religious relationship with you. God granted me favor and ability to have a very close relationship with Him, experiencing Him deeply, hearing and even seeing Him. Therefore I would like to recommend you to seek the Lord, experiment, use Peniel or something else, ask, knock, break through, cry out to Him for mercy, in a word, as I said, seek Him, and He will answer you without fail. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Part I

PENIEL

Peniel

Brief plan (in order of priority)

1. God as Personality
2. Personal relationship with God (“secret room”)
3. Fruits of personal relationship with God (in order of priority):
 - a. Experiencing God as Personality
 - b. Close relationship with God
 - c. Fruit of the Spirit
 - d. Other fruits of the “secret room”

A comprehensive plan (in order of priority)

1. God as a Personality

You shall have no other gods before Me (Deuteronomy 5:7).

There are many who say, “Who will show us any good?” LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us (Psalm 4:6).

Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as small dust on the scales; look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing... All nations before Him are as nothing, and they are counted by Him as less than nothing and worthless (Isaiah 40:15,17).

2. A personal relationship with God (“the secret room”)

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made... (1 Timothy 2:1).

Continue earnestly in prayer... (Colossians 4:2).

...“Rabbi” (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), “where are You staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day... (John 1:38,39).

One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple... (Psalm 27:4).

As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? (Psalm 42:1,2).

...Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me... (Mark 8:34).

...Therefore I have called her Rahab-Hem-Shebeth... For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength." But you would not, and you said, "No, for we will flee on horses" – therefore you shall flee! And, "We will ride on swift horses" – therefore those who pursue you shall be swift! (Isaiah 30:7,15,16).

3. Fruits of a personal relationship with God (in order of priority)

a. Experiencing God as a personality

...in the tabernacle of meeting where I will meet with you... (Exodus 30:36).

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him... that I may know Him... (Philippians 3:7–10).

Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day... But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"... "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there (Genesis 32:24,26,29).

Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD... For I desire... the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings (Hosea 6:3,6).

b. A close relationship with God

Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice (1 Kings 19:11,12).

I remembered God, and was troubled; I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak (Psalm 77:3,4).

...I am lovesick!.. My beloved is mine, and I am his... He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. "O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely" (Song of Solomon 5:8; 2:16; 2:4,14).

c. Fruit of the Spirit

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law (Galatians 5:22,23).

...Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God... (Genesis 32:28).

...And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live (Deuteronomy 30:6).

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting (Psalm 139:23,24).

Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will... be turned into another man (1 Samuel 10:6).

d. Other fruits of the "secret room"

And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus..." So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" (Acts 9:5,6).

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy (1 Corinthians 14:1).

And I will send My Angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanite... Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in your midst... Then he said to Him, "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here" (Exodus 33:2,3,15).

There are many who say, "Who will show us any good?" LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us (Psalm 4:6).

Part II

PRAYERS

Prayers

Biblical values in the "secret room" (in order of priority)
Dedicated to God seekers

1. God as Personality
2. A personal relationship with God ("secret room")
3. Fruits of a personal relationship with God (in order of priority):
 - a. Experiencing God as Personality
 - b. Close relationship with God
 - c. Fruits of the Spirit
 - d. Other fruits of the "secret room"

Biblical values in the "secret room" (in order of priority)

1. God as a personality

You shall have no other gods before Me (Deuteronomy 5:7).

PRAYER: "Oh, God, You are the most precious One in the Universe! You are the only God!

And therefore let me value You only! There is no one more important than You! Your name is "I AM" – You are self-sufficient! You are the Source of all things, and everything lives, moves and has its being in You! There would be nothing without You. If there were nothing, You would still be! To value something more than You means to be ignorant of the truth, for You have said, "I am the Lord, and there is no other!"

Also, Father, You have commanded that I shall have no other gods not just before You, but before Your Face! You are not just a power, some kind of a cloud or an absolute, but You are a personality, You have a face, and You are not a faceless God! That is the most precious thing about Your nature. Your ultimate characteristic is that You are a personality! Please help me Lord, to see clearer the difference between You as a personality and all that is Yours! I don't want to be an idolater and worship the things that are Yours (Your Presence, Your Love, Your Anointing, Your revival, Your Ministry or anything else), instead of worshipping You! You are Love, but Love is not You! You are Omnipotent, but I don't worship Your Omnipotence, I worship You! "When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek" (Psalm 27:8, italicized by author).

There are many who say, "Who will show us any good?" LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us (Psalm 4:6).

PRAYER SONG

There are many who say, "Who will show us any good?"
There are many who say, "Who will show us any life?"
There are many who say, "There is nothing more precious than revival!"
There are many who say, "Show us Your works, oh, Lord!"
Lift up the light of Your countenance upon me!!!
Some people seek ministry, and some people seek Your gifts,
Some people seek guidance, some people seek Your fruits,
Some people seek prosperity, some people seek anointing,
Some people seek healing, some people seek deliverance.
Lift up the light of Your countenance upon me!!!
Put me in the cleft of the rock
And let Your glory pass by me.
Reveal Your way to me that I may come to know You,
My every heartbeat cries out to You,
Lift up the light of Your countenance upon me!!!
As a deer I seek you every day -
I'm so desperate to know You more!
As an owl I sleep no longer at night -
I seek you the Lord of Glory every day!
Lift up the light of Your countenance upon me!!!
My dear, beloved Lord!
I long to be with You all the more!
I meet you every dawn on my knees -
I need You so much, I cry out to You,
Lift up the light of Your countenance upon me!!!

Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You (Psalm 73:25).

Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales; look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing... All nations before Him are as nothing, and they are counted by Him as less than nothing and worthless (Isaiah 40:15,17).

PRAYER: "Oh, God, You are the most precious One in the Universe! If someone could put all Your creation and all Your blessings on one scale (in other words, all that is not You, including all the people that have ever lived on the planet or still to be born throughout the entire history of mankind!), and put You as a personality on the other scale, then... You would tip the scales as a giant mountain would tip a tiny drop, a speck of dust, emptiness or ash! Moreover, Your Word says that in reality all Your creation (including all the nations!) before You are not nothing, but less than nothing and worthless, because You are the most precious and important One! No, You are the only precious and important One! And if somebody (or something) has any worth at all, then it is only because You have all the worth and share it at Your discretion!"

2. A personal relationship with God ("the secret room")

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made... (1 Timothy 2:1).

PRAYER: "Father, first of all I want to thank You for the word "exhort" mentioned in this verse. It is a great privilege for me to have You asking me to have fellowship with You! You are so desperate to have fellowship with me that You even sacrificed Your Son for that sake!

Secondly, You exhort that prayers be made. Your Word states that fellowship with You is possible through two equipollent instruments these are prayer and the Bible (when I pray, I speak to You, and when I study Your Word, You speak to me. It is a dialogue). Besides that, Your Word divides the fellowship into separate fellowship with You ("the secret room") and continual fellowship (in motion), clearly stating that the separate one is of a higher priority than the continual one.

Thirdly, You exhort that prayers to be made "first of all". "First of all" means that "secret room" is the most important place to be. It is more important than salvation (it is the door and the way, but not the goal. Our goal is God and fellowship with Him). It is more important than ministry (relationship is the foundation of it) etc. The most important

(and to some extent the only important) thing in this life is my personal relationship with You, for You are the most and the only Precious One in the Universe.”

Continue earnestly in prayer... (Colossians 4:2).

PRAYER: “Holy Spirit, You ask me to make my fellowship with You my highest priority, and therefore continue in it. Now I know that in order for my relationship with you not to grow amorphous as a jellyfish, it must have a backbone (minimum, goal, place, time, accountability). God, You are not the author of confusion, but of peace (order). Therefore, put this backbone, framework of the “secret room” in better order, make it more rigid and firmer. Oh, Lord, may neither circumstances, nor demons, nor people, nor idleness of my flesh, nor instability of emotions ever break it! Jesus, quality of relationship with You (power of Your Presence, revelation, supernatural experience, intimacy with You etc.) is the result of its amount and continuance. Therefore I ask You to help me to be with You more and on a more regular basis, that I may create a natural platform for the supernatural and miracles and for a close, personal and intimate relationship!”

One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple... (Psalm 27:4).

PRAYER: “The only thing that I seek is to know You. The only thing that I desire is Your Face. The only thing that I cannot stop thinking about all day long (for it is the most important thing for me) is the “secret room”. I dream of having more and more time alone with You on a more regular basis, and then as a result I will feel that You are near all day long. Thank You for the revelation that I was made to have fellowship with You! Now I know that I wake up every morning, breathe, eat and sleep, that I may have special time with You. Very early in the morning I light up the fire of the Spirit, and then keep this fire burning throughout the day, not ceasing in our fellowship even for a second. Now I know that it is incomparably greater than anything else. And my personal, family and social life is an addition to it. Jesus, You said we worry about many things, while there is only one thing needed, which is to sit at Your feet, speaking to You in prayer, and hearing Your voice through the Bible.”

...Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me... (Mark 8:34).

PRAYER: “Jesus, speaking about the cross, first of all You speak about the price we have to pay for a personal relationship with You. The “secret room” is not only a walk in the Garden of Eden, but it is also my cross and dying to myself. Apostle Paul knew that too and said, “I die daily...” (1 Corinthians 15:31), “everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things... I discipline my body and bring it into subjection” (1 Corinthians 9:25,27), “therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice... and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased” (Hebrews 13:15,16), “Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example... (1 Peter 2:21). To pay the price is to subdue the opposition of flesh, soul, demons, people and circumstances. It means to swim against the current. Jesus, You said, “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it” (Matthew 7:13,14). God, I know that I cannot do anything without You! I cannot do also without other people’s help! But... there is also my part, which is the price I have to pay. Many people make great sacrifices for the sake of getting material welfare; that is worthless. Instead I will make an effort to gain the One of Whom the world is not worthy. I will!!! God, I’m willing to pay any price to be with You every day more and more! Grant Your grace unto me! Minister to me through people! And help me to pay a higher price to be more like Jesus and Your great men and women! “And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24).

...Therefore I have called her Rahab-Hem-Shebeth... For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength.” But you would not, and you said, “No, for we will flee on horses” – therefore you shall flee! And, “We will ride on swift horses” – therefore those who pursue you shall be swift! (Isaiah 30:7,15,16).

PRAYER: “Oh, Lord, You said that I will have great success not when I work much, but when I keep connected to the Vine, in other words, when I have fellowship with You (see John 15:5). My strength is not in hyper activity, but rather in “hyper” quietness. You promise to supply all my needs, if I give up seeking all the needs and just start seeking You. That is the way of experiencing You, Your blessings and salvation from problems and demons. On the other hand, should I spend no time in the “secret room” and try to labor for You or solve problems by my own strength, I will get the opposite result, and they that will pursue me will be swift. But I will have fellowship with You!!!”

3. Fruits of personal relationship with God (in order of priority):

a. Experiencing God as a personality

...in the tabernacle of meeting where I will meet with you... (Exodus 30:36).

PRAYER: “Oh, Lord, as a Personality You are the most precious in the universe, and therefore there is nothing more important than my personal relationship with You! And although, I don’t want anything, but You and to have a relationship with You, Your Word says that the time I spend in my “secret room” (or “tabernacle”) causes countless number of fruits to be brought forth. And the most precious of them is experiencing You. I don’t want prayer for the sake of prayer itself, and I don’t want the Word for the sake of the Word itself, but I want to have fellowship with You through prayer and the Word, because You are the One I long for!”

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him... that I may know Him... (Philippians 3:7–10).

PRAYER: “God, I want to know You! Who are You? What are Your characteristics? I count all things loss and seek nothing, but experiencing You! I don’t want anything else. I count everything else as rubbish. I pray, Lord, You make these words of the apostle Paul to become flesh in me, my mentality and my heart! I’m so tired of getting scattered, as I chase the mirages of Your blessings! That’s it, enough. I don’t know about other people, but I don’t need them any more! I give them up! Now all I need is YOU! I know that all other things will be added unto me, but it doesn’t matter at all, for all I need is You! And should even the whole world go the other way, I will never go, because all I seek is to experience You!” “...From there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him” (Deuteronomy 4:29).

Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day... But he said, “I will not let You go unless You bless me!”... “Tell me Your name, I pray.” And He said, “Why is it that you ask about My name?” And He blessed him there (Genesis 32:24,26,29).

PRAYER: “God, when Jacob was wrestling with You, He was interested in the only blessing, which was to know your Name. He wanted to know who You were, and what Your characteristics were, for Name always reveals Personality, essence and expressed contents. Please, Lord, reveal each of Your Names to me, that I may know You, Your heart, character, ways, nature, essence, Your dreams, desires or in a word Your inner self! Your Names reveal You. I will “wrestle” with You every day from the early in the morning and will not let You go, until You bless me by revealing Your Name to me!”

Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD... For I desire... the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings (Hosea 6:3,6).

PRAYER: “Holy Spirit, I pray that You reveal the Father, Jesus and Yourself to me! I know You, Lord... Certainly, I know that You are Love, but how much do I know that? I know that You are Great, but to what extent do I know that? And I may know You just as well as Jesus did, because it is written that He came down to show me the way to follow. Holy Spirit, make me to be like Jesus in all things! May there be nothing left of my flesh, thoughts and desires... may they be exchanged for Yours just as it was in life of Jesus. I experience and will continue to experience the Lord. The knowledge of God is what I want more than anything else. I want to pray mostly for knowing You more. I want to study the Word to know You more. I want to serve You for the sake of knowing You more. Wherever I go and whatever I do, I want to experience You. “In all your ways acknowledge Him...” (Proverbs 3:6).

Father, please let me know You just as well as Jesus did (see Philippians 3:12,14)! Let me know You a billion times deeper than all Your great men and women together (see Hebrews 13:7)!

b. A close relationship with God

Then He said, “Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice (1 Kings 19:11,12).

PRAYER: “Holy Spirit, lead me into Your depths! I ask you to give me a quality of fellowship with You as a result of continuance and quantity! Help me to pass the “outer courts” quicker, as I strive after my goal, which is the Holy of Holies! Humble my flesh soon! Show my soul its place soon! Set Your holy silence within me! My part is breakthrough. My part is to pay the price. My part is to speak as many words and put as much efforts as I can. But I just build the altar, setting up a natural platform for the supernatural miracle. The main thing for me is to do my best, which is to bring five breads and two fishes. Your part is to take the least I have and make something beautiful, exalted and wonderful. You are the only One to take me and draw me close to You. You are the only One to bring down the fire upon the altar. You are the only One to set silence within me. Help me to accomplish my part a hundred percent, and then not to hinder You from doing Yours!”

I remembered God, and was troubled; I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak (Psalm 77:3,4).

PRAYER: “Lord, I’m not chasing emotions, nor seeking some kind of special spiritual feeling or vision and manifestation. I seek You. But if You decide to let me experience something like that according to Your sovereign will, I will receive it with no resistance, for You are my Lord, and I am Your servant. My choice is to have fellowship with You all the time, regardless of whether I feel something or not, whether I want it or not, whether I’m in a good mood or bad, whether I’m successful or experience problems in my life. I seek You and not that, which is Yours, though I know that You love me, and if I really need something, You will give me all things that pertain to life and godliness in abundance, even before I ask for it and despite the fact that I was not seeking it. “And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do... For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.... Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:7,8,31–33).

To seek the Kingdom of God means to seek first Him, Who is the Most Important One in this Kingdom, the King of all kings. And what about the rest? It will be added...

...I am lovesick!.. My beloved is mine, and I am his... He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. “O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely” (Song of Solomon 5:8; 2:16; 2:4,14).

PRAYER: “Lord, now I know that You were saying the words of love to Moses, when You set him in the cleft of the rock (see Exodus 33)! Jesus, You are the Bridegroom of my soul, and I am Your bride. You have brought me to the banqueting house, set me in the cleft of the rock, that is in the “secret room”! I am lovesick! You want to see my face and hear my voice, because my voice is so sweet to You, and my face is lovely! The very fact that You want to see my face shows me that You love not something that I can give You or something that I can do for You, but You love me as a personality! Beloved Jesus, please make my relationship with You grow deeper every day! Make it more personal, intimate and romantic!!! I don’t want just to pray or read the book, but I’m desperate for a live and real relationship of love through prayer and the Word!!! I thank You, my God, for adoring me, for being hungry for having fellowship with me and for Your unselfish love! Let me see Your Face and let me hear Your sweet voice, my Beloved!”

c. Fruit of the Spirit

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law (Galatians 5:22,23).

PRAYER: “Lord, the most precious fruit of the “secret room” is to acknowledge You as Personality. The second important fruit of fellowship with You is a close relationship, and the third one is the fruit of the Spirit, in other words, it is new character, new heart, deep personal changes in me (fruit of the Spirit is the fruit of experiencing God and closeness with Him, because what we behold, we become!) God, I pray that You change me every day! Change both my innermost and my outward appearance. Change my will, emotions, thoughts, motives, desires and dreams inside. Change my words, actions and my whole personal life on the outside. Father I ask that You take my cold heart of stone that loves neither You, nor people, and give me a new heart, Your heart, a heart of flesh. “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh” (Ezekiel 36:26).

...Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God... (Genesis 32:28).

PRAYER: “Jesus, there is always a personality, essence and nature behind a name. Meeting You changed Jacob inside, and therefore You gave Him a new name. You called him Israel (“God’s hero”). Oh, Lord, change my name too! Make me a new man! I will not let You go until You bless me! I am a personality, I am what I am as a personality. Change me, and then that, which is mine, will also be changed. One may be surrounded with good things, and still be a bad person. Lord, may it never be so with me! All I want is to have more time with You on a more regular basis that I may experience You and stop seeing myself!!!”

...And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live (Deuteronomy 30:6).

PRAYER: “Holy Spirit, circumcise my heart more and more every day! Let all the things that are not from You be taken out of it, and let the ones that are of You be planted in it! Let my relationship with You bring forth a great fruit of Love for You! What we behold, we become, and I spend time with You and I am willing to “get infected” with all that is Yours! Make me a brand new man, who loves You, loves people, is humble, full of mercy, patient, sober and faithful.

Give me Your character! Express Your heart through me! But most of all, I ask You again and again to overflow me with Your love, first, for You and second, for people!”

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting (Psalm 139:23,24).

PRAYER: “Father, so many people leave you. So many powerful ministers fall. Nobody is secure against temptations. Nobody is secure against sin. And the fact that I am faithful to You until this very day shows the abundance of Your mercy and goodness, and not my own strength. Lord, search me! Do not let me fall away from You! Know my heart! Know my thoughts! See if I’m on a slippery path! Rebuke me! Inspire me! Save me from the love of silver, sex and fame! And develop the opposite things (generosity, self-control and humbleness) in me! Sanctify me! Change my motivations! Save me from extremes and help me to keep a balance in all things! And especially I pray that I never stop seeking Your Face in my “secret room” from the dawn, for everything else is no more than a result of it!”

Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will... be turned into another man (1 Samuel 10:6).

PRAYER: “Oh, Holy Spirit, come upon me and make me another man! Change me into Your son! Change me as the husband of my wife! Change me as the father of my children! Change me as the son of my parents! Change me as Your minister! And, finally, change me just as friend, brother and acquaintance! Mould out of me a man after Your heart! Let me increase in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men as Jesus did! But most of all I ask You again and again that I appreciate my relationship with You in the “secret room” more and more, because all other things are just a result of it...”

d. Other fruits of the “secret room”

And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” And the Lord said, “I am Jesus...” So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” (Acts 9:5,6).

PRAYER: “Lord, apostle Paul’s first question was “Who are You?” and his second one was “What do You want me to do?” My first and main question that I want to ask You more and more every day of my whole life is “Who are You?” But... I pray that my relationship with You would result not only in my acknowledging You and intimacy with You, but also in a ministry to You! Though the question “What do You want me to do?” is insignificant comparing to a personal relationship with You, it is much more important than everything else! Here are my hands! Here are my feet! Here is my mouth! Use me, oh, Sovereign God! I don’t want to be selfish. And after having fellowship with You, I want to come down from the mountain to people like Moses did to serve them bless them, lift them up, comfort, instruct and simply live with them! Anoint me for that, minister in the gifts of the Holy Spirit through me, healing bodies and souls, setting captives free and casting out demons! I want to see sinners saved and coming into fellowship with You! I will do my utmost for revival to come!!!”

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

PRAYER: “You are all I want Lord, but Your will is more important than the prosperity of my soul (personal relationship with You), You want me to have all the rest of Your blessings. I humble myself under Your mighty hand, and may it happen to me according to Your will! Bless me with every good thing! Let me prosper and be successful in ministry! Make me fruitful and effective! Minister to me and through me! I pray that I may prosper in all things and be in health!”

Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy (1 Corinthians 14:1).

PRAYER: Lord, I ask You to bless me with all Your gifts according to Your will! Fellowship with You is what I long for, but let the gifts of the Spirit (word of wisdom, word of knowledge, prophecy, discerning of spirits, gifts of healing, working of miracles, gift of faith, different kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues) be added unto it. Let all these spiritual blessings rush through my ministry into the world as a mighty stream! Yet people need You, the Giver, more than Your gifts! Gifts are the means of accomplishing the purpose, which is to know You through a personal relationship in the “secret room”. Help me stay focused on that purpose and not to minister just for the sake of the ministry itself. “In all your ways acknowledge Him...” (Proverbs 3:6). Lord, please help me to acknowledge You in everything I do myself (have fellowship, minister, live a family life, work, etc.), and minister to other people, helping them achieving that object and making Your greatest dream to come true: “None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them” (Hebrews 8:11).

And I will send My Angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanite... Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in your midst... Then he said to Him, “If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here” (Exodus 33:2,3,15).

PRAYER: "Beloved God, lead me to the promised land, flowing with milk and honey, where Your promises come true, where there is tremendous success, victory and Your glory in all things! Drive out all things that hinder me from taking possession over it, whether it is demons or strongholds in my life, etc.! I want to enter the promised land, because it is Your will for all of us! But... Not by any means!!! God, I don't need any milk or honey, if I don't have You and a relationship with You!!! I want You!!!"

There are many who say, "Who will show us any good?" LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us!!! (Psalm 4:6).

The characteristics and nature of God

1. Personality

You shall have no other gods before Me (Deuteronomy 5:7).

2. Everlasting

...and there called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God (Genesis 21:33).

3. Infinite

But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built! (1 Kings 8:27).

4. Immortal

...Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see... (1 Timothy 6:15,16).

5. Invisible

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible (Hebrews 11:27).

6. Omniscient

Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; his understanding is infinite (Psalm 147:5).

7. Omnipresent

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell behold, You are there (Psalm 139:7,8).

8. Almighty

...I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless... (Genesis 17:1).

9. Spirit

God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth (John 4:24).

10. Merciful

...The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth... (Exodus 34:6).

11. Glorious

Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? (Exodus 15:11).

12. Perfect

Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect (Matthew 5:48).

13. Righteous

The LORD is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works (Psalm 145:17).

14. Incomparable

To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him? (Isaiah 40:18).

15. Unchanging

For I am the LORD, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob (Malachi 3:6).

16. Good

So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God (Mark 10:18).

17. Unsearchable

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable (Psalm 145:3).

18. Unlimited

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! (Romans 11:33).

19. Wise

With Him are wisdom and strength, he has counsel and understanding (Job 12:13).

20. Upright

...a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He (Deuteronomy 32:4).

21. True

...Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men... (Matthew 22:16).

22. The only God

...And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent (John 17:3).

...For I am God, and there is no other (Isaiah 45:22).

23. Triune

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen (2 Corinthians 13:14).

24. Maker

Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You... (Jeremiah 32:17).

25. Keeper

The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand (Psalm 121:5).

26. Faithful

He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it (1 Thessalonians 5:24).

27. Jealous

For you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God (Exodus 34:14).

28. Slow to anger

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy (Psalm 103:8).

29. He who hates evil

You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness... (Habakkuk 1:13).

...For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness... (Psalm 5:4).

30. Fire

...For our God is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:29).

31. Love

And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him (1 John 4:16).

32. Light

...God is light and in Him is no darkness at all (1 John 1:5).

33. Eternal

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen (1 Timothy 1:17).

34. He who desires

...For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:3,4).

35. Holy

For I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I am holy... (Leviticus 11:44).

According to the Holy Scripture, God is a personality and He has:

a. Features similar to physical:

Countenance of God

the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace (Numbers 6:26).

Ears of God

...let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open... (Nehemiah 1:6).

Eyes of God

...the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth... (2 Chronicles 16:9).

Mouth of God

...devouring fire from His mouth... (2 Samuel 22:9).

Voice of God

Out of heaven He lets you hear His voice... (Deuteronomy 4:36).

Hands of God

...according to the good hand of his God upon him... (Ezra 7:9).

Fingers of God

...tablets of stone written with the finger of God... (Deuteronomy 9:10).

Arms of God

...by the greatness of Your arm they will be as still as a stone... (Exodus 15:16).

Shoulders of God

...he shall dwell between His shoulders (Deuteronomy 33:12).

Back of God

...you shall see My back... (Exodus 33:23).

Feet of God

...darkness under His feet (Psalm 18:9).

b. Actions similar to physical:

God sits

...I saw the Lord sitting on a throne... (Isaiah 6:1).

God stands

...the LORD stood above it... (Genesis 28:13).

God walks

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden... (Genesis 3:8).

God comes down

But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower... (Genesis 11:5).

God goes up

Then He finished talking with him, and God went up from Abraham (Genesis 17:22).

God rides

Sing... to Him who rides on the heaven of heavens... (Psalm 68:32,33).

God flies

...He rode upon a cherub, and flew; and He was seen upon the wings of the wind... (2 Samuel 22:11).

God sends arrows

He sent out His arrows and scattered the foe... (Psalm 18:14).

God rests

...and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done... (Genesis 2:2).

c. Emotional characteristics:

God is gracious

...The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious... (Exodus 34:6).

God is compassionate

...the Lord is very compassionate and merciful (James 5:11).

God is longsuffering

The Lord is not slack... but is longsuffering toward us... (2 Peter 3:9).

God laughs

He who sits in the heavens shall laugh... (Psalm 2:4).

God is angry

...the LORD was angry enough with you... (Deuteronomy 9:8).

God is provoked

Remember Do not forget how you provoked the LORD... (Deuteronomy 9:7).

God is grieved

And the LORD... was grieved in His heart (Genesis 6:6).

God is sorry

And the LORD was sorry that He had made man... (Genesis 6:6).

God is jealous

...for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God (Exodus 34:14).

God hates

...Oh, do not do this abominable thing that I hate! (Jeremiah 44:4).

Names of God

Major names:

1. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) – I am, Self-existing, He who has life in Himself

And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM [Jehovah]." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you'" (Exodus 3:14).

For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself... (John 5:26).

2. JEHOVAH JIREH – The Lord will provide (equip, supply a need)

And Abraham called the name of the place, THE-LORD-WILL-PROVIDE; as it is said to this day, “In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided” (Genesis 22:14).

And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).

3. JEHOVAH RAPHAH – The Lord is our Healer

...For I am the LORD who heals you (Exodus 15:26).

...by whose stripes you were healed (1 Peter 2:24).

4. JEHOVAH NISSI – The Lord is my banner

And Moses built an altar and called its name, THE-LORD-IS-MY-BANNER (Exodus 17:15).

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:57).

5. JEHOVAH KADOSH – The Lord sanctifies, purifies

...I am the LORD who sanctifies you (Exodus 31:13).

By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:10).

6. JEHOVAH SHALOM – The Lord (our/sends) peace

So Gideon built an altar there to the LORD, and called it The Lord-Is-Peace [Jehovah Shalom]... (Judges 6:24).

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid (John 14:27).

7. JEHOVAH TSIDKENU – The Lord is our righteousness

In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS (Jeremiah 33:16).

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21).

8. JEHOVAH ROHI – The Lord my shepherd

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want... (Psalm 23:1).

I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own... (John 10:14).

9. JEHOVAH SHAMMAH – The Lord is there

...and the name of the city from that day shall be: THE LORD IS THERE (Ezekiel 48:35).

...and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen (Matthew 28:20).

10. JEHOVAH TSEBAH – The Lord of Sabaoth/the Lord of hosts

Therefore the Lord says, the LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel... (Isaiah 1:24).

Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth (James 5:4).

11. JEHOVAH HEMULAH – The Lord repays

...for the LORD is the God of recompense, he will surely repay (Jeremiah 51:56).

Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord (Romans 12:19).

12. ADONAI – The Lord

The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD [Adonai], at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth (Psalm 97:5).

If David then calls Him "Lord [Adonai]," how is He his Son? (Matthew 22:45).

13. ELOHIM – God Creator

In the beginning God [hebr. Elohim] created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1).

...For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him... (Colossians 1:16).

14. EL ELYON – God Most High

Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High [El Elyon] (Genesis 4:18).

...seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church... (Ephesians 1:20,22).

15. EL ROI – All-seeing God

Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You (Psalm 138:12).

Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you" (John 1:48).

16. EL SHADDAI – God of abundance/literally: The One with many breasts

The LORD has blessed my master greatly, and he has become great; and He has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female servants, and camels and donkeys (Genesis 24:35).

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him (Romans 10:12).

Other names (list is incomplete):

1. The Lord

This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens (Genesis 2:4).

2. Lord God

But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me?" (Genesis 15:2).

3. Almighty God

I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless... (Genesis 17:1).

4. The Lord, the Everlasting God

...there called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God (Genesis 21:33).

5. God of Bethel

I am the God of Bethel... (Genesis 31:13).

6. God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

...I am the God of your father – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob... (Exodus 3:6).

7. The Lord God of the Hebrews

...The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go... (Exodus 3:18).

8. Jealous God

...for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God (Exodus 34:14).

9. God of Israel

Then Eli answered and said, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him" (1 Samuel 1:17).

10. God our shield

O God, behold our shield, and look upon the face of Your anointed... (Psalm 84:9).

11. The Lord God of heaven

...Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah (Ezra 1:2).

12. The Mighty One, God the Lord

The Mighty One, God the LORD, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down (Psalm 50:1).

13. God King

I will extol You, my God, O King; and I will bless Your name forever and ever (Psalm 145:1).

14. The Lord, the Holy One of Israel

...They have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away backward (Isaiah 1:4).

15. The Lord of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel

Therefore the Lord says, the LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, "Ah, I will rid Myself of My adversaries, and take vengeance on My enemies (Isaiah 1:24).

16. He who ought to be feared

...bring presents to Him who ought to be feared (Psalm 76:11).

17. Immanuel

...and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us" (Matthew 1:23).

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