

A Bent Toward God

Good Morning!

Rev. Leon H. Sullivan (1922-2001) had this uncanny ability to thwart-off criticism. He'd hear it; sometimes he'd even acknowledge it. But what I don't believe he ever did was to allow it to get the best of him. And I fervently believe that's because he'd developed far more of an "inclination" toward seeking God's view of things, rather than public or private opinion.

Psalm 119:36-68 (MSG)

³⁶Give me a bent for your words of wisdom, and not for piling up loot. ³⁷Divert my eyes from toys and trinkets, invigorate me on the pilgrim way. ³⁸Affirm your promises to me - promises made to all who fear you. ³⁹Deflect the harsh words of my critics - but what you say is always so good. ⁴⁰See how hungry I am for your counsel; preserve my life through your righteous ways! ⁴¹Let your love, God, shape my life with salvation, exactly as you promised; ⁴²Then I'll be able to stand up to mockery because I trusted your Word. ⁴³Don't ever deprive me of truth, not ever - your commandments are what I depend on. ⁴⁴Oh, I'll guard with my life what you've revealed to me, guard it now, guard it ever; ⁴⁵And I'll stride freely through wide open spaces as I look for your truth and your wisdom; ⁴⁶Then I'll tell the world what I find, speak out boldly in public, unembarrassed. ⁴⁷I cherish your commandments - oh, how I love them! - ⁴⁸relishing every fragment of your counsel. ⁴⁹Remember what you said to me, your servant - I hang on to these words for dear life! ⁵⁰These words hold me up in bad times; yes, your promises rejuvenate me. ⁵¹The insolent ridicule me without mercy, but I don't budge from your revelation. ⁵²I watch for your ancient landmark words, and know I'm on the right track. ⁵³But when I see the wicked ignore your directions, I'm beside myself with anger. ⁵⁴I set your instructions to music and sing them as I walk this pilgrim way. ⁵⁵I meditate on your name all night, God, treasuring your revelation, O God. ⁵⁶Still, I walk through a rain of derision because I live by your Word and counsel. ⁵⁷Because you have satisfied me, God, I promise to do everything you say. ⁵⁸I beg you from the bottom of my heart: smile, be gracious to me just as you promised. ⁵⁹When I took a long, careful look at your ways, I got my feet back on the trail you blazed. ⁶⁰I was up at once, didn't drag my feet, was quick to follow your orders. ⁶¹The wicked hemmed me in - there was no way out - but not for a minute did I forget your plan for me. ⁶²I get up in the middle of the night to thank you; your decisions are so right, so true - I can't wait till morning! ⁶³I'm a friend and companion of all who fear you, of those committed to living by your rules. ⁶⁴Your love, God, fills the earth! Train me to live by your counsel. ⁶⁵Be good to your servant, God; be as good as your Word. ⁶⁶Train me in good common sense; I'm thoroughly committed to living your way. ⁶⁷Before I learned to answer you, I wandered all over the place, but now I'm in step with your Word. ⁶⁸You are good, and the source of good; train me in your goodness.

Rev. Sullivan always put God first. Therefore he had access to everything he needed to carry-out his anointing, and he also had every need fulfilled, and if I'm not mistaken, his wants that aligned with God's will were taken care of too.

If that isn't life at its best, and if that isn't inspiring, then I just don't know what would be.

I hope you have an amazing day!!

- Jack