

Desired (H7529) שָׁאַל (sha'al)
-to ask or inquire; to interrogate – also, to beg

Synonyms: ask, beg,
require, demand, seek
intently, inquire earnestly

Gen 32:29 - Then Jacob **asked**, saying,
“Tell me Your name, I pray.” And He said,
“Why is it that you **ask** about My name?” And He blessed him there.

Deut 10:12 - And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God **require** of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul? (NKJV)

Prov 20:4 - The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will **beg** during harvest and have nothing. (NKJV)

Zech 10:1 - **Ask** the LORD for rain, in the time of the latter rain*. The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, grass in the field for everyone. (NKJV) *(or spring rain)

Jer 6:16 - This is what the LORD says: “Stand at the crossroads and look; **ask** for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls...

Beauty (H5278) נְאוֹם (no'am)
-pleasant, comely, fair

The root is similar to, yet distinct from
the word in Song of Songs chap. 1 - “I am dark but **lovely**..” (na'veh) (H5000)

Psalms 90:17 - And let the **beauty*** of the LORD our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands. (NKJV) *many transl. = ‘favor’ or ‘grace’

Prov 3:17 - Her ways are **pleasant** ways, and all her paths are peace.

Psalms 16:6 - The boundary lines have fallen for me in **pleasant** places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

*One idea in the mind of a Jewish writer using this word
“beautiful” or “pleasant” is the pleasantness of the broad,
spacious ‘promised land’ of Israel. cf. Gen 49:15, Ex 3:8

Sng of Sngs 5:9,10,16 - How is your beloved better than others,
most beautiful of women?...My beloved is radiant and ruddy,
outstanding among ten thousand...He is altogether **lovely**.

From the Matthew Henry Commentary

Observe - 1. What it is he desires—to dwell in the house of the Lord. In the courts of God’s house the priests had their lodgings, and David wished he had been one of them. Disdainfully as some look upon God’s ministers, one of the greatest and best of kings that ever was would gladly have taken his lot, have taken his lodging, among them.

He longed to see an end of the wars in which he was now engaged, not that he might live at ease in his own palace, but that he might have leisure and liberty for a constant attendance in God’s courts. Thus Hezekiah, a genuine son of David, wished for the recovery of his health, not that he might go up to the thrones of judgment, *but that he might go up to the house of the Lord.*

Note, All God’s children desire to dwell in God’s house; where should they dwell else? *Not to sojourn there as a wayfaring man, that turns aside to tarry but for a night, nor to dwell there for a time only, as the servant that abides not in the house for ever, but to dwell there all the days of their life; for there the Son abides ever.*

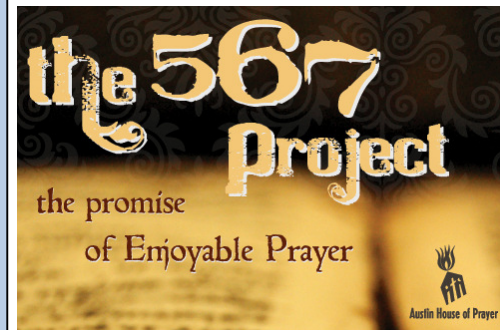
Do we hope that praising God will be the blessedness of our eternity? Surely then we ought to make it the business of our time.

2. How earnestly he covets this: “This is the one thing I have desired of the Lord and which I will seek after.” If he were to ask but one thing of God, this should be it; for this he had at heart more than any thing...And, having fixed his desire upon this as the one thing needful, he sought after it; he continued to pray for it, and contrived his affairs so as that he might have this liberty and opportunity.

Note, Those that truly desire communion with God will set themselves with all diligence to seek after it.

Word Study-Psalm 27:4

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. (NKJV)



H1239 baquar - investigate, look for (perhaps a primitive sense of ‘to break open’ ie: intending to look inside)

H1245 baquash - seek, exact, request (from a sense of going so far as to pick up, touch and analyze)

H7592 sha'al - beg, inquire earnestly

These three words used in the psalm for “desire / ask”, “seek” and “inquire”.

Luke 10:42 - And Jesus answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But (*only*) one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.” (NKJV emph. mine)