

PSALM 1 – THE BLESSED MAN

Introduction

- 1) **Psalm 1** – the first psalm in the Book of Psalms begins with a beatitude – “Blessed is...”
- 2) It describes a person that seeks God first and His blessings – a God-centered life
 - a) Our greatest goal is fellowship with our God as Creator, Ruler, and Redeemer
- 3) A person who diligently pursues such a life will be “**blessed**” – inner joy based on God
 - a) Blessedness not limited to the educated, rich, popular, or powerful, but available to everyone

I) **WHAT THE BLESSED MAN AVOIDS (v. 1)**

A) *Not walk in the counsel of the ungodly*

- 1) Not look first to the world and its wisdom for counsel concerning religion, marriage, money, grief, etc. (Prov. 14:12)
- 2) First seek counsel and wisdom from the word of God and the godly (Psa. 119:24)
 - a) All counsel must be tested by the inspired word of God (1 Thess. 5:21)

B) *Not stand in the path of sinners*

- 1) Not stand in the direction of sin – no good end to this pathway (Prov. 4:14-15; Matt. 7:13)
- 2) Opposite of the way of truth; we need to follow God (Prov. 2:10-12; 3:5-6; Psa. 16:11)

C) *Not sit in the seat of the scornful*

- 1) Not sit in scorn of who and what is right – danger of foolish pride
- 2) These are things the godly person will **not** do – important and courageous choices

D) Sin is **regressive** – if we walk in evil’s counsel, we will find ourselves in the path of sinners, and eventually sitting in scorn of what is right and good (2 Tim. 3:13)

- 1) Turning to evil’s counsel can lead to a total apostasy from the truth

II) **WHAT THE BLESSED MAN ENJOYS (vv. 2-3)**

A) The blessed man enjoys the wonderful blessings of God’s fellowship

- 1) **Joyfulness** – delights in the law of the Lord (Psa. 119:18, 162, 174; Psa. 40:8)
- 2) **Knowledge** – meditates day and night (Psa. 119:97, 130)
- 3) **Stability** – tree planted by the water (Jer. 17:7-8)
- 4) **Productiveness** – brings forth fruit (Jn. 15:5; Rom. 7:4)
- 5) **Strength** – leaf not wither (Eph. 3:16; Phil. 4:13)
- 6) **Successfulness** – shall prosper (Lk. 12:21; 1 Tim. 6:6)

III) **THE STATUS OF THE UNGODLY (vv. 4-5)**

A) *Are not so*

- 1) Are not in fellowship with God and a partaker of His blessings – condemned in sin

B) *Chaff driven away by the wind*

- 1) Earthly success is temporary and paltry compared to godliness (Job 21:17-18; 1 Tim. 4:6-8)

C) *Unable to stand in the judgment*

- 1) Unqualified to stand in the congregation of the righteous (Col. 1:12)

Conclusion

“For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish” (Psa. 1:6)

There should be no mystery as to what God desires in His people, and the consequences of ignoring it. The blessed man of God enjoys the wonderful fellowship of God while opposing all that would threaten that relationship. There are only two ways to go. Let us be people that are pleasing to God so that we will be more joyful and successful in our lives and in His work, laying hold of the promise of eternal life.