

Positioning Yourself Against the Godless for Godly Blessing

Cornerstone Community Church – Pastor Jerry Ernst

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Scripture: Psalm 1, Matthew 3:12

Psalm 1 - Godly individuals who refuse to follow evil people and a wicked culture.

Psalm 2 - Nations and powerful rulers which stand against Jesus Christ and the predicted Messiah's ultimate victory!

Under Which Influence: Godly or Godless?

People choose between:

- God or Satan (Gen. 3:1-7 – Adam & Eve)
- Killing or not killing (Genesis 4 - Cain & Able)
- Unbelief or faith (Abram to Abraham - Genesis 12-16)
- Righteous living or sexual immorality (Genesis 18-19 - Sodom & Gomorrah)
- Obedience or easiness (Daniel 6 – Lion's Den)
- Bow down to false gods (idolatry/culture) or stay true to God – (Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego; Daniel 3 – 90-foot god/fiery furnace)

If a person follows and supports the wickedness of today, listens to the culture, walks in the path of the ungodly, then they will have completed Jesus' warning in Matthew 7:13-14. If you read God's Word and obey it, this will be the opposite stance of the world! If you want to be able to meet God and stand before him on the Judgment Day – pay attention to Psalm 1.

Positioning Yourself Against the Godless for Godly Blessing (Psalm 1)

1) THE BLESSED POSITION OF THE RIGHTEOUS (Psalm 1:1-2)

Psalm 1:1-2 - *“(1) Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, (2) but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.”*

Blessed: (Heb. *ashre*): **“Happy, joyous”**

A) THE RIGHTEOUS - THEIR CHARACTER: (Vs. 1) *“(1) Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,”*

What “The Blessed” choose not to do? Negatively described.

- **They do not try to “fit in and walk” with the wicked = Path** (Matthew 7:13-14)

WICKED: (Heb. *rasha*): **“ungodly.”**

- **They do not “stand” in the same place on issues = Position** (Proverbs 4:14-15)

“...or stand in the way that sinners take” - Not station or place yourself.

- **They do not “sit” with those who mock God = Placement**

“... or sit in the company of mockers,”

Mocker: (Heb. *Luts*): **“ambassador, interpreter, have in derision, make a mock, scoffer, heart of pride, above God.”**

What “The Blessed” choose to do? Positively described.

- **He delights in God's Law** – *“(2) but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,”*

DELIGHT: (Heb. *cheplets*): **“delight, pleasure.”**

LAW: (Heb. *torah*): **“direction, instruction, law.”**

- ***He meditates day & night*** - “(2) ...and who **meditates** on his law day and night.”

MEDITATE: (Heb. *hagah*): **“to moan, growl, utter, speak, muse.”** *Ponder

B) THE RIGHTEOUS - THEIR PROSPERITY: (Vs. 3)

(3) *That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which **yields** its fruit **in season** and whose leaf does **not wither**—whatever they do prospers.”*

- ***Like a tree planted by streams of water***

YEILDS: (Heb. *Nathan*): **“to give, put, set.”**

IN SEASON: (Heb. *eth*): **“appointed season, interval, set time.”**

WITHER: (Heb. *nebel*): **“to sink or drop down, languish, fade.”**

- ***Whatever he does prospers & grows*** (Joshua 1:7-8)

2) THE CURSED POSITION OF THE WICKED (Psalm 1:4-5; Matthew 3:12)

“(4) Not so **the wicked!** They are like **chaff** that the wind blows away. (5) Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.”

- ***The unrighteous – their destiny (Vs. 4)***

CHAFF: (Heb. *mots*): **“chaff.”** **Usage:** pressed out, threshed loose, winnowed/sorted, examined.

Matthew 3:12 – “(12) His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up **the chaff** with unquenchable fire.”

- ***A wicked persons final end (Vs. 5)*** “(5) Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.”

- **2nd Corinthians 5:10** - “Judgment Seat of Christ” (Rev. 20:12-13; 22:12-15)

3) THE CONTRAST AND DESTINY BETWEEN THE TWO (Psalm 1:6) “(6) For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction (*perish*).”

- The Righteous avoid eternal death – Their end is heaven.
- The Wicked receive destruction – their end is hell (John 3:36; Proverbs 14:12)

A “blessed” person is walking with the Lord

- 1) They are not living for impure, worldly things of today’s culture.
- 2) They are focused on Jesus and His plan for their lives.
- 3) They are not following wicked people and the stances they take but rely on God’s Word (Law).
- 4) They will not stand or place themselves in evil positions and morals.