

# Do not worry about evildoers

Psalms 37

1 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. 3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. 4 Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. 5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. 6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday. 7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. 9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

## INFORMATION

Chapter 37 of Psalms is concerned with how Christians behave in the presence of evil men and women. Wicked people are often found in situations where, from the outside, they appear to be quite prosperous and something to be envied and sometimes feared. This chapter warns against worry that is based out of envy and worry based on fear. We should not be envious of these people because, as the second verse tells us, they are soon cut down like grass. Whatever they may have of material value will not benefit them when they are dead. We should also not fear these people. God is still in control, and he will defend his people. We will inherit the earth, while evil people will not.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

When we are faced with stressful and scary circumstances, we should turn our attention to God and not on the thing that is stressful and scary. We will find peace in God, not in worry. Worrying only deprives us of joy and denies God an important place in our lives. God wants us to bring our burdens to him, he wants us to pray and seek his wisdom. He is pleased when we do this and rewards us for our faithfulness to him. So, every day, take a break, and think on this. Let us think about the things that are causing us stress and take those to God. Also, stop and read the entire 37<sup>th</sup> chapter of Psalms. This chapter contains some wonderful promises; both to us and to wicked people. To the wicked, God promises judgment, and to his people, he promises peace and blessing.

## Relevant Passages

### Genesis 26:24

And the Lord appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: **fear not**, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.

### Psalm 10:15-18

Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness till thou find none. 16 The Lord is King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of his land. 17 Lord, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear: 18 To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress.

### Job 21:7-20

Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? 8 Their seed is established in their sight with them, and their offspring before their eyes. 9 Their houses are safe from fear, neither is the rod of God upon them. 10 Their bull gendereth, and faileth not; their cow calveth, and casteth not her calf. 11 They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. 12 They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ. 13 They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. 14 Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. 15 What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him? 16 Lo, their good is not in their hand: the counsel of the wicked is far from me. 17 How oft is the candle of the wicked put out! and how oft cometh their destruction upon them! God distributeth sorrows in his anger. 18 They are as stubble before the wind, and as chaff that the storm carrieth away. 19 God layeth up his iniquity for his children: he rewardeth him, and he shall know it. 20 His eyes shall see his destruction, and he shall drink of the wrath of the Almighty.

### Proverbs 24:19-20

Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the wicked: 20 For there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out.