

Psalm 1

1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. 4 The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

INFORMATION

This is the opening chapter for the entire book of the Psalms. The very first verse sets the tone for a life well lived by providing the key to being blessed. Notice the transition from walking, to standing, and, then, to sitting. We can learn a valuable lesson here. When we walk among the world and "dabble" in things we should not, we often slow down and spend time there; we stand around. Before long, we are sitting amid the world, and we appear no different from those that aren't God's children. The Word does not end there; it tells us the characteristics of a man who is blessed from God. He takes delight when the law of the Lord is executed; he meditates on the Word, and he is going to stand in judgment among the righteous.

WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

We must never be complacent living in sin and wickedness. Even walking through a sinful situation can be dangerous when we take our eyes off of God. For our own personal growth, we may need to go through difficult life challenges. But, whenever possible, we should avoid bad influences and situations. This means we must be careful about the people we associate with. If we know that someone is involved in sinful or wrong activities, we should avoid that person. Television, movies and other forms of entertainment should not take us to places in our minds where sin is waiting. There is more. We should recognize that we are living like a tree planted by a river. Today, when compared to the people who have lived on this earth throughout time, we have a standard of living that very few before us ever enjoyed. Nevertheless, we should work diligently with a mind towards pleasing God. Notice that there is a promise here; a person who lives as this chapter describes will find that his or her efforts will prosper.

Relevant Passages

Joshua 24:15

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Psalms 26:1-6

Judge me, O Lord; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the Lord; therefore I shall not slide. 2 Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart. 3 For thy lovingkindness is before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth. 4 I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers. 5 I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked. 6 I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O Lord:

Proverbs 13:20

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

1 Corinthians 15:33

Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

Galatians 5:16

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

James 4:17

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

1 John 3:4

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.