



Series: Seasons in the Psalms, Reflections on God and the Significance of the Soul

Passage: Psalm 73

Title: Why do the Wicked Prosper?

Speaker: Pastor David Menard 11/9/2025

Discussion Starter –The bible describes a blessed person in Psalm 1, or in Matthew 5 as something different than material wealth. In this psalm Asaph conflates material wealth with God’s blessing and it almost causes him to stumble. How does God use material wealth in your life to guide, test, and cause you to grow into His image? Does it work in the same way for everyone?

Read Psalm 73:1-3- (the summary)

1. What foundational truth does Asaph confess as an introduction to this Psalm in verse 1?
2. What exactly does Asaph mean when he says his feet almost stumbled? What causes this near stumbling?
3. Why does Asaph care if the wicked prosper? Do you?
 - a. What is the connection between material wealth and God’s blessing? Is material comfort a reliable indicator of God’s blessing?
4. In God’s grand design the ungodly sometime enjoy the benefits of wealth and positions of power. Why do you think that is?

Read Psalm 73:4-14- (the problem)

5. What are the character traits that are identified with the wicked in these verses?
 - b. Why does Asaph say that he has cleansed his heart in vain, (verse 13)? Have you ever felt that your commitment to Christ is not worth the effort?
 - c. Asaph confesses that this is a point of crisis, near slipping. Read Matthew 11:28-30, What effort does Jesus require of His followers?

Read Psalm 73:15-17- (the pivot)

6. Where does Asaph go that changes his entire outlook on this matter? Where can we find this different point of view?
 - d. How does a shift in paradigm, (to God’s eternal and Holy perspective) change our understanding of the daily circumstances we face?

Read Psalm 73:18-28- (the revelation)

7. How will God ultimately respond to the ungodly? How will it differ from what is described in verses 4-14?
8. Why can the psalmist say in verse 21-24 that he is vexed, (almost stumbled) yet remains secure in God’s right hand?
9. Is there a point in life that we can expect to be immune from this testing?
 - e. How can we build our faith and increase our confidence in God’s care for us?