

# **The Blessed Man**

## **Blessed and Successful**

- **Psalm 1**
- **1 *Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;***
- **2 *But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.***
- **3 *He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.***

- *4 The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.*
- *5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.*
- *6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish. (NKJV)*

## **The Happy & Contented Man**

### **1. The Negative Side of his character**

- **a) He made a choice NOT to walk in the Counsel of the Ungodly**
- Recent Biblical Worldview Seminar...
- Huge differences between Christian & non-Christian world views...
- A Christian Psychologist: "Psychology without Christ is nonsense."
- The best source of counsel: The Bible read prayerfully = opened up by the Holy Spirit!

- **b) He made a choice NOT to Stand in the Way of Sinners**
- **Mt.7:13 *"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate & broad is the road that leads to destruction, & many enter through it."***
- **Ungodly? Those who have not discovered the Way to God! (Read Jn.14:6)**
- **Sinners? Those who choose to stand against God & His Word & His requirements...**
- **To walk in the counsel of the ungodly or to stand in the way of sinners = eternal loss...**

- **c) He made a choice NOT to Sit in the Seat of the Scornful**
- **This is the chief seat of Satan!**
- **Walking with ungodly, standing with sinners could end one up sitting with Satan...**
- **When the cock crowed & Jesus looked at him, Peter suddenly realised where he was...**
- **He was sitting with our Lord's accusers, denying that he even knew Jesus...**
- **So easy if we take unwise advice & associate with ungodly or sinful people - to find ourselves sitting in the seat next to Satan!**
- **2Pe 3:3 *"knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts..."* (NKJV)**

## 2. The Positive Side of His Character

- a) He made a choice to be Joyful
- v.2 *"his delight is in the law of the LORD"*
- Christianity is not just giving up things...
- It is entering in to the better life!
- The Prodigal demanded his inheritance NOW!
- It landed him in a pigsty
- Regardless of money, this world has become a pigsty...
- Lk.15:20 *So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. (NIV)*

- b) He made a choice to Meditate on the Word.
- v.2 *"... in His law he meditates day & night."*
- Beware of "transcendental meditation"
- In the spirit world there are only two forces!
- 1Ti 4:1 *"The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits & things taught by demons."*
- 2Co.6:14 *"Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?"*

- Eph 6:12 *“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”*
- There are no benign, neutral spiritual forces – meditate on God & His Word
- **c) He made a choice that resulted in Fruitfulness.**
- 3 *He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.*

- What a difference between trees planted near a river and those in a desert (Okavango)
- *“brings forth its fruit in its season”*
- The blessed man of God is likened to a fruit bearing tree planted in the right environment with the right food & water...
- Being in right relationship & fellowship with believers, being correctly nourished...
- *“... And whatever he does shall prosper.”*
- In this materialistic world it is difficult to think of prosperity without focusing on financial prosperity!

- **Php 4:12** *"I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."*
- **CH Spurgeon:** "Rest assured, it is harder to know how to be full than it is to know how to be hungry – so desperate is the tendency of human nature to pride & forgetfulness of God. Take care that you ask in your prayers that God would teach you how to be full."

**Thanksgiving!**

## **The Unhappy & Confused Man**

- **4** *The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.*
- **5** *Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.*
- **6** *For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.*
- "They are a law unto themselves, and the fruits of their own character and deeds shall be reaped by them." (Rev. James Smith)



- We cannot judge who is righteous...
- Jesus: *"Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds (tares) and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn."* (Mt 13:30)
- John (baptist) *"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. 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."* (Mt.3:11,12)

- Jesus teaching His disciples:
- *"Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away."* (Mt.13:47-48)
- Every day we have choices to make.
- We can never rely on yesterday's commitment
- Yesterday's service for Christ...
- Yesterday's giving ...
- Every day we need to make the kind of choices this "Blessed Man" made...

- ***1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;***
- ***2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.***
- ***3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.***