

PSALM 73
THE SANCTUARY OF GOD



PSALM 73

- 1 Truly God is good to Israel, To such as are pure in heart.**
- 2 But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; My steps had nearly slipped.**
- 3 For I was envious of the boastful, When I saw the prosperity of the wicked...**

- 17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; Then I understood their end.**
- 18 Surely You set them in slippery places; You cast them down to destruction.**
- 19 Oh, how they are brought to desolation, as in a moment! They are utterly consumed with terrors.**
- 20 As a dream when one awakes, So, Lord, when You awake, You shall despise their image.**

PSALM 73

21 Thus my heart was grieved, And I was vexed in my mind.

22 I was so foolish and ignorant; I was like a beast before You.

23 Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand.

24 You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory.

25 Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You.

26 My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

27 For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry.

28 But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, That I may declare all Your works.

THE PRACTICE

17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; Then I understood their end.

I WENT INTO THE SANCTUARY OF GOD

- Sanctuary: that which belongs to the sphere of the sacred.
- Thus it is distinct from the common or profane
= SEPARATION =

**KEY: Choosing to be separated from all
in the presence of Holy God**



THE PRODUCT

17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; Then I understood their end

THEN I UNDERSTOOD

- **UNDERSTANDING:** refers to knowledge which is superior to the mere gathering of data,
- It is to know how to use the knowledge one possesses

KEY: In the context **UNDERSTANDING** is what we call **Wisdom: the right use of knowledge**

THE LEARNING CYCLE



Knowledge = INFORMATION

Learning begins with knowledge

THE LEARNING CYCLE



Understanding = CORRELATION

Learning begins with knowledge, leading to understanding

THE LEARNING CYCLE



Wisdom = APPLICATION

Learning begins with knowledge, leading to understanding, understanding used correctly is wisdom which changes life

THE PRODUCT

MEN ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM IS FROM GOD.

*Behold, You (God) desire truth in the inward parts,
And in the hidden part You will make me to know
wisdom. (Psm. 51:6)*

*For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come
knowledge and understanding; (Prov. 2:6)*

THE PURPOSE

THAT I MAY DECLARE ALL YOUR WORKS

- When the 'pure in heart' (by God's grace, vs. 1) understand 'the end' of the unrighteous (unsaved mankind, vs. 3-9)
- then they are moved to fulfill God's purpose: *But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, That I may declare all Your works. (v. 28)*

KEY: Remaining close to God builds trust in God and motivates sharing God's truth

THE PURPOSE

So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. (Ro 1:15)

And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, (Rom. 15:20)

For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, (1Cor. 1:17)

they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men, (2Cor. 9:13)

KEY: Remaining close to God builds trust in God and motivates sharing God's truth

PRIVILEGE # 1

23 Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand.

YOU HOLD ME BY MY RIGHT HAND.

This is the privilege of SECURITY

"As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day." (Eze. 34:12)

PRIVILEGE #2

24 You will guide me with Your counsel,

YOU WILL GUIDE ME

This is the privilege of GUIDANCE

**The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way.
(Psm. 25:9)**

**I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you
with My eye. (Psm. 32:8)**

**For this is God, Our God forever and ever; He will be our guide Even to
death. (Psm. 48:14)**

PRIVILEGE #3

24b And afterward receive me to glory.

(YOU WILL) RECEIVE ME TO GLORY

This is the privilege of HOPE

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. (Ps 16:9)

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. (Psm. 16:9)

Christian HOPE is not ‘wishful thinking’ (I hope I have enough...!”

It is the certainty of possession (It is already in the bank!)

PRIVILEGE #4

25 And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You.

I DESIRE NONE BESIDES YOU.

This is the privilege of CONTENTMENT

Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: (Php. 4:11)

And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. (1Ti. 6:8)

Now godliness with contentment is great gain. (1Ti. 6:6)

PRIVILEGE #5

26 God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

(YOU ARE) THE STRENGTH OF MY HEART

This is the privilege of STRENGTH

I will love You, O LORD, my strength. (Psm. 18:1)

Be exalted, O LORD, in Your own strength! We will sing and praise Your power. (Psm. 21:13)

The LORD is my strength and my shield; (Psm. 28:7)

For You are the God of my strength; (Psm. 43:2)

PRIVILEGE #6

28 But it is good for me to draw near to God;

IT IS GOOD FOR ME TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD

GOOD here means THE GOOD, THE CHIEF GOOD

**This is the privilege of finding the VERY BEST
in present life and the future life.**

You are my Lord, My goodness <02896> is nothing apart from You.“

(Psm. 16:2)

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good <02896> (Psm. 34:8)

Your lovingkindness is better <02896> than life, My lips shall praise You.

(Psm. 63:3)

**The LORD will give grace and glory; No good <02896> thing will He
withhold From those who walk uprightly. (Psm. 84:11)**

PRIVILEGE #7

28 I have put my trust in the Lord GOD,

MY TRUST (IS) IN THE LORD GOD

**(Trust/Trusted 70x in Psalms, with 4 Hebrew Words
מחסה - makh-seh' = Refuge, Shelter 12x in Psalms)**

TRUST (מחס) here means REFUGE, SHELTER

**This is the privilege of finding an ever
present REFUGE in any circumstances**

THE PRIVILEGE

Ps 14:6 You shame ... the poor, But the LORD is his refuge <04268>.

Ps 46:1 God is our refuge <04268> and strength,

Ps 61:3 For You have been a shelter <04268> for me,

Ps 62:7 In God is my salvation... And my refuge <04268>, is in God.

Ps 62:8 Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge <04268> for us.

Ps 71:7 But You (God) are my strong refuge <04268>.

Ps 73:28 I have put my trust <04268> in the Lord GOD, That I may declare all Your works.

Ps 91:2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge <04268>

Ps 91:9 Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge <04268>,

Ps 94:22 But the LORD has been ... the rock of my refuge <04268>.

Ps 104:18 The cliffs are a refuge <04268> for the rock badgers.

Ps 142:5 I cried out to You, O LORD: I said, "You are my refuge <04268>,"

THE PRIVILEGE

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION:

Have you ever been envious of the prosperity and apparent success of the unsaved?

PSALM 73: ASAPH'S CONCLUSION: *God is good to His people. For although the prosperity of the wicked, and the afflictions of the righteous, tempted the Psalmist to misgivings of God's government, yet the sudden and fearful ruin of the ungodly, seen in the light of God's revelation, reassures his heart; and, chiding himself for his folly, he is led to confide renewedly in God, and celebrate His goodness and love.*

PSALM 73
THE SANCTUARY OF GOD

