



2018

Happy New Year

“Be holy, for I am holy”

Leviticus 11:45 / 21:8



An open scroll of the Book of Psalms, showing Hebrew text on both sides. The scroll is unrolled, revealing the text. The background is dark, and the scroll is illuminated from the left, creating a strong contrast. The text is in Hebrew, and the scroll is bound in a dark, possibly leather, cover. The scroll is positioned diagonally across the frame.

The Book of Psalms

Psalm 37:1-18

Introduction

of David

Psalm 37

- The voice of experience
- Encouragement for the last leg of the journey
- Contrasts the saved & the perishing

The Saved & The Perishing

18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that **perish** foolishness; but unto us which are **saved** it is the power of God.

1 Cor 1:18

- Just two types of people
- Those who are perishing
- Those who are saved

¹ Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

Psalm 37:1-2

- Accept the reality – it's a fallen world

¹ Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

Psalm 37:1-2

- Accept the reality – it's a fallen world
- Don't desire to be a part of it

Neither be thou envious

Queen Elizabeth envied the milk maid when she was in prison; but if she had known what a glorious reign she should have had afterwards for 44 years, she would not have envied her. And as little needeth a godly man, though in misery, to envy a wicked man in the ruff of all his prosperity and jollity, considering what he hath in hand, much more what he hath in hope.

– John Trapp

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.

Psalm 37:1-2

- Both commands in v1 are justified
- We are on the home run
- Consider Joseph in his plight...
- His trust was in God
- He could see the bigger picture

⁸ For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

⁹ And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Galatians 6:8-9

- **Sowing to the flesh includes**
 - **Calculating in the natural realm,**
 - **Considering the circumstances**
 - **‘being sensible’ (earthly wisdom)**
 - **‘being practical’ (trusting the flesh)**

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.

Psalm 37:1-2

- The harvest is coming!

24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

Matthew 13:24-30

28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:24-30

The Coming Harvest

- There are tares & wheat in the field
- It is not our job to uproot the tares
- In the time of the harvest the tares will be gathered into bundles (first)
- Then the wheat will be gathered in His barn

³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell
in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psalm 37:3-6

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

⁶ In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

¹⁵ *Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him ...*

Job 13:15

³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell
in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psalm 37:3-6

68 Thou art good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes.

Psalm 119:68

10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Romans 3:10-12

³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell
in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psalm 37:3-6

20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

Romans 15:13-14

- 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh
with the affections and lusts.
25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-25

³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell
in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psalm 37:3-6

Abraham's Famine

Genesis 12

- Famine in the Promised Land
- Rather than trust or seek God, Abraham goes down into Egypt
- Sarah is taken into the harem
- When Abraham leaves, Sarah takes her handmaid with her

5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Hebrews 13:5

¹⁹ Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!

Psalm 31:19

- The Promises of God
- Do we really believe them?

The Promises of God

The tap root, out of which sprouts all the weeds of sin, is the tap root of unbelief in the promises of God.

When you trust, or believe in a promise of God, you glorify God.

In fact, trusting somebody's promise is the most fundamental honour you can do that person

The Promises of God

The reverse is also true:

The greatest contempt that you can bring down upon a person, is to say to them, 'I can't trust you'

So, when we don't trust a promise of God, we bring contempt upon Him, ... we give Him a vote of 'no confidence'

- John Piper

³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell
in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psalm 37:3-6

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.

Psalm 37:3-6

⁹ The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Jeremiah 17:9

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.

Psalm 37:3-6

“The desires of your heart, will be the ones that God gives you”

24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?

Proverbs 20:24

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.

Psalm 37:3-6

Don't map it out & then ask God to bless it!

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.

Psalm 37:3-6

- The sunrise is a process you cannot stop

The Path to Righteousness

- Psalm 37:3-6
 - Exodus 29 / Leviticus 8,14
 - Deuteronomy 4:1
 - Matthew 6:9-11
-
- Trust in the LORD
 - Delight yourself in the LORD
 - Commit your way to the LORD

The Path to Righteousness

- Psalm 37:3-6
- Exodus 29 / Leviticus 8,14
- Deuteronomy 4:1
- Matthew 6:9-11

22 And he brought the other ram, the ram of consecration: and Aaron and his sons laid their hands upon the head of the ram.

23 And he slew it; and Moses took of the blood of it, and put it upon the tip of Aaron's right ear, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot.

24 And he brought Aaron's sons, and Moses put of the blood upon the tip of their right ear, and upon the thumbs of their right hands, and upon the great toes of their right feet: and Moses sprinkled the blood upon the altar round about.

14 And the priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and the priest shall put it upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot:

Leviticus 14:14

- Hearing – ‘our thought life’
Trust in the LORD
- Work – ‘set our hands to’
Delight yourself...
- Walk – ‘the path we tread’
Commit your way...

The Path to Righteousness

- Psalm 37:3-6
- Exodus 29 / Leviticus 8,14
- Deuteronomy 4:1
- Matthew 6:9-11

¹ Now therefore **hearken**, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for **to do** them, **that ye may live**, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.

Deuteronomy 4:1

- ‘Hearken’ – Hearing with intent to obey
Trust in the LORD
- ‘to do’ – action on our part
Delight yourself...
- ‘that ye may live’ – the path we tread
Commit your way...

The Path to Righteousness

- Psalm 37:3-6
- Exodus 29 / Leviticus 8,14
- Deuteronomy 4:1
- Matthew 6:9-11

9 After this manner therefore pray ye:

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Matthew 6:9-11

- No1 Father/Heaven
Trust in the LORD
- No2 The things of God
Delight yourself...
- No3 Our needs
Commit your way...

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.

Psalm 37:3-6

- The sunrise is a process you cannot stop

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.

Psalm 37:7-8

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:31-33

- A beautiful summary of a life resting in the LORD

19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

If God is the God we know Him to be when we are closest to Him, what an impertinence worry is!

- Oswald Chambers

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.

Psalm 37:7-8

- *“What shall we do about [_____]...”*
- Acts 19:21-41 – Paul’s response

21 After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.

22 So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timotheus and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season.

23 And the same time there arose no small stir about that way.

Acts 19:21-27

24 For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen;

25 Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we have our wealth.

26 Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands:

Acts 19:21-27

27 So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth.

Acts 19:21-27

35 And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said...

37 For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.

Acts 19:35-37

Paul's Response

- He didn't panic because pagan idols were being sold
- He didn't arrange prayer walks around Ephesus to 'bring down the stronghold of 'Diana of the Ephesians'
- He didn't start binding 'territorial spirits'
- He just preached the gospel!

Our Response

- Don't Fret because of evil-doers
- Carry on preaching in season..
- Understand that these things must be
- Understand the nature of the spiritual battle we are in
- Learn to use the armour we have been given – Eph 6

³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

⁵ Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

7 Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

Matthew 18:7

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

2 Timothy 3:1-4

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.

Psalm 37:7-8

31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Ephesians 4:31-32

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.

Psalm 37:7-8

*“Worry is assuming responsibility for
something God never intended us to have
responsibility for”*

– Bill Galatin

The Folly of Fretting

- Verse 1: Fretting leads to covetousness
- Verse 7: Fretting leads to anger
- Verse 8: Fretting leads to evil

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

Psalm 37:9-10



calvary
chapel
portsmouth

www.calvaryportsmouth.co.uk