

Studying the Psalms

Psalms 1

January 23, 2022

“Blessed Is The Man”

Psalms 1

Outline of Psalms 1:1-6

- The blessedness of the righteous man.
 - His character. 1:1-2
 - His Prosperity. 1:3
- The condition of the unrighteous.
 - Nothing like the righteous. 1:4
 - No good end. 1:5
- The final contrast between the two “ways.”
 - The righteous. 1:6
 - The unrighteous. 1:6

Choices

- Moses said, *“I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before thee life and death, the blessing and the curse: therefore choose life, that thou mayest live, thou and thy seed; to love Jehovah thy God, to obey his voice, and to cleave unto him; for he is thy life, and the length of thy days; that thou mayest dwell in the land which Jehovah sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”* (Deuteronomy 30:19-20; cf. Joshua 24:15; 1 Kings 18:21; Jeremiah 21:8-9).

Choices

- And Jesus said, *“Enter ye in by the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many are they that enter in thereby. For narrow is the gate, and straitened the way, that leadeth unto life, and few are they that find it.”* (Matthew 7:13-14; cf. Luke 13:24-27).

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the **blessed** man. 1:1-2

“It does not mean ‘fortunate’ or lucky’
(blessedness does not depend on fortune or luck
– medieval English ‘hap’ – but on God’s will:
Pss. 33:12; 65:4).”

(Evan and Marie Blackmore, *Psalms*, Truth Commentaries, pages 100-101)

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the **blessed** man. 1:1-2

“Nor does it mean ‘cheerful.’ It is describing the man’s condition, not his feelings. Jesus was ‘*a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief*’ (Isa. 53:3), and those who follow him faithfully will likewise have ‘great heaviness and continual sorrow in [their] heart,’ especially when they contemplate those who are still outside Christ (Rom. 9:2).”

(Evan and Marie Blackmore, *Psalms*, Truth Commentaries, pages 100-101)

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the **blessed** man. 1:1-2

“The man described here is blessed or ‘happy,’ not in the sense that he is lucky or that he is cheerful, **but in the sense that he is prospering** (‘whatsoever he doeth shall prosper,’ v. 3).”

(Evan and Marie Blackmore, *Psalms*, Truth Commentaries, pages 100-101)

- In other words, he is abundantly blessed. (cf. Mark 10:29-30)

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the **blessed** man. 1:1-2

- “Evildoers may be given various names (ungodly ... sinners ... scornful), and so may temptations to participate in evil (walking in their counsel ... standing in their way ... sitting in their seat) – but all forms of evil are traveling along one path, and all lead to one end (v. 6). All alike are to be avoided (1 Thessalonians 5:22).”

(Evan and Marie Blackmore, *Psalms*, Truth Commentaries, pages 100-101)

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the **blessed** man. 1:1-2

Negative: cf. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

- **“walketh not in the counsel of the wicked”**
 - Going along with the crowd. **“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but a companion of fools shall be destroyed”** (Proverbs 13:20).
 - No counsel against the Lord can succeed.
 - Proverbs 21:30, **“There is no wisdom nor understanding Nor counsel against Jehovah.”** (cf. Isaiah 8:10).

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the **blessed** man. 1:1-2

Negative: cf. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

- **“nor standeth in the way of sinners”**
 - Taking a stand with the crowd. **“If sinners entice thee ... walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path”** (Proverbs 1:10, 15; 4:14).
 - That way **“is as darkness.”**
 - Anyone who walks on it will **“stumble”** over what he cannot see (Proverbs 4:19; 2:13); he **“knoweth not whither he goeth, because the darkness hath blinded his eyes”** (1 John 2:11).

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the **blessed** man. 1:1-2

Negative: cf. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

- **“nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers”**
 - Sinning is not enough, mockery is added.
 - A scornful person is someone incapable of heeding wisdom (Proverbs 14:6), unwilling to listen to reproof (13:1; 15:12; 9:8), scoffing at the notions of sin (14:9) and justice (19:28).
 - Thus any scornful person is foolishly acting wickedly.

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the **blessed** man. 1:1-2

Negative: cf. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

- ***“nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers”***
 - Sinning is not enough, mockery is added.
 - It is better to sit or dwell ***“in the wilderness,”*** or ***“in a corner of the housetop,”*** than with such people (Proverbs 21:19, 9; 25:24).
 - Therefore the righteous man ***“will not sit with the wicked”*** (Psalms 26:4-5; 101:7); instead, he sits or dwells ***“in the house of the Lord all the days of my life”*** (27:4; 84:4), ***“in the secret place of the Most High”*** (91:1), ***“before God for ever”*** (61:7).

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the blessed man. 1:1-2

Positive:

“But his delight is in the law of Jehovah.”
cf. Psalms 119:16, 24, 35, 47, 70, 77, 92, 174;
Jeremiah 15:16-17; Psalms 19

“and on his law doth he meditate day and night.” (Moan, utter, speak – cf. Joshua 1:8)

NOTE: Habitually, sets aside time

Blessedness Of The Righteous

Character of the blessed man. 1:1-2

“Blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it” (Luke 11:28; John 13:17).

“Blessed are they that do his commandments (wash their robes), that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city” (KJV Revelation 22:14).

“But he that looketh into the perfect law, the (law) of liberty, and (so) continueth, being not a hearer that forgetteth but a doer that worketh, this man shall be blessed in his doing.” (James 1:25).