

Studying the Psalms

God Does Not Forsake His Saints

Psalms 37:1-9

November 13, 2022

Introduction

“The wicked may prosper in their wickedness (v. 7, 35) and seek to overthrow the righteous (vv. 12, 14, 32), but we are not to become angry or envious because of this (vv. 1, 7-8), because in the end they will be cut off (vv. 2, 9-10, 17, 20-22, 28, 34, 36, 38), and their weapons will hurt only themselves (v. 15). Those who depart from evil and do good will be delivered from the wicked, and will inherit the earth forever (vv. 3-7, 11, 18-19, 22-31, 33-34, 37, 39-40).”

Evan and Marie Blackmore, *Psalms (I)*, Truth Commentaries, Page 411

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Introduction

- Asked many times, “Why do the wicked prosper?”
 - Jeremiah 12:1-2, “Why does the way of the wicked prosper?”
 - Job 21:7-15, “What is the Almighty, that we should serve him?”
 - Psalms 73:3-14, “For I was envious of the arrogant ...”
- But their prosperity does not last forever (see Verse 20)
 - Proverbs 3:31-35, “The Lord’s curse is on the house of the wicked”
 - Proverbs 24:19-20, “... the evil man has no future”

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Introduction

- This is an acrostic psalm
 - All 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet are used as the first character in each section
 - In verses 1-9 the sections are:
 - Aleph – Verses 1-2, “Fret not ...”
 - Beth – Verses 3-4, “Trust ... Delight ...”
 - Gimel – Verses 5-6, “Commit ...”
 - Daleth – Verse 7, “Be still ... wait patiently ...”
 - He – Verses 8-9, “Refrain from anger ...”

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Introduction

- The nine acrostic psalms:
 - 9, 10, 25, 34, 37, 111, 112, 119, 145
- There are acrostics also in:
 - Proverbs 31:10-31
 - Lamentations
 - Nahum 1:2-8
- Why acrostics?
 - Perhaps a sense of completeness (i.e. – A to Z)
 - Perhaps to assist in memorization

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