

Two Ways, Two Paths, Two Destinies

Psalm 1:1-6

“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.” (Psalm 1:1 – NKJV)

- How often do we hear the counsel of the ungodly? How often does our family hear the counsel of the ungodly? How often do we walk in the counsel of the ungodly?
- How often do we or our family members stand in the way of sinners? Why do we do this? How are we affected? How do our choices affect others?
- How often do we sit in the seat of the scornful: Are we complainers or encouragers? How does such negativity affect us?
- From the book of Genesis through the book of Revelation God clearly shows us the results of hearing the ungodly and associating with the ungodly. One problem is that Satan uses “good” people to carry the messages of darkness. These “good” people can include teachers, professors, politicians, movie stars, religious leaders, and the media, etc.

“But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.” (Psalm 1:2 – NKJV)

- All of Psalm 119 declares the need for the truth of God’s Word. My favorite verses are Psalm 119:97-105.
- Some other encouraging places in Scripture are Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Proverbs 14:12; Psalm 19:7-14.

“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 whatsoever he does shall prosper” (Psalm 1:3)

- This is a promise from God, but does it guarantee health, wealth, and earthly riches? God sometimes gives these blessings, but He also warns of riches and temporal things. Consider many wealthy people in the world: movie stars, rock musicians, people of power and position (i.e., politicians, businessmen, etc.). Many become their own gods, living as they please, doing harm to themselves and others. Consider these kinds of people in the Bible and in history, from then to now. See the disasters as they destroy their own lives and the lives of others. See John 15:18-20; Revelation 20:11-15.
- This promise of God, found in Psalm 1:3, does mean that our lives should focus on God's numerous blessings. We can make a positive difference in the world. God will give us joy in what we do. Jesus said, *"...In me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."* (John 16:33 – NKJV). See I Thessalonians 5:14-18; Joshua 1:9; Romans 8:28,31-32, 35-39; Revelation 21:3-7.

"The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish."
(Psalm 1:4-6)

- Eternity is forever and ever. Eternity, for those who do not know our Lord Jesus, is so horrible that we cannot imagine it: forever separated from the Lord, living in darkness, suffering, and terror. See Psalm 73; Matthew 7:21-27; 25:46; Luke 16:23-31.
- **The all-important question: Do you know Jesus as Savior and Lord?**
God is always reaching out to every person. Jesus Christ has paid the debt / the price for our sins. All have sinned. We need to ask forgiveness. We need to ask Jesus Christ to be our Savior and Lord. It is the most important decision for each person to ever make. It is a decision that will affect people for the rest of their life and for all eternity. See John 14:6; 3:1-36; 5:22-29; Romans 3:19-24; 10:9-13.