

The Pursuit Of Happiness

Psalm 1

Beatitudes

- Twenty-six beatitudes in Psalms
- Ps.1 begins with blessing
- Ps.2 concludes with blessing

Structure of Psalm 1

A The way of blessedness, 1

B Endurance in Lord's law, 2

C Enduring fruit tree, 3

C' Excluded chaff, 4

B' Not standing in judgment, 5

A' The way of perishing, 6

Concerns

1. Who has our ear?
2. What do we like?
3. How do we spend our time?
4. How do we want to end?
5. What does God want us to do?

I. The Righteous Man, 1-3 (6)

1: Exclaims – *Blessed!*

- Why is he blessed? He does NOT . . .

Walk	Stand	Sit	} conduct
Counsel	Path	Seat	} choices
Wicked	Sinners	Scornful	} company

1: Exclaims – *Blessed!*

- He excludes (does NOT . . .)

Walk

Stand

Sit

} conduct

He avoids . . .

- Walking (council of wicked): practical atheist; rejects advice...
 - Do not listen to them
- Standing: a way of life; choices. 1 Pt.4:3-4.
 - Do not live like them
- Sitting: fellowship. 1 Co.15:33; Gn.19:14
 - Do not linger with them

1: Exclaims – *Blessed!*

- He excludes . . .

Walk	Stand	Sit	} conduct
Counsel	Path	Seat	} choices

- **Counsel:** thinking, advice, purpose (Ps.33:10)
- **Path:** way of life, behavior (Prov.1:15)
- **Seat:** influence, assembly (Ps.26:5)

1: Exclaims – *Blessed!*

- He excludes . . .

Walk	Stand	Sit	} conduct
Counsel	Path	Seat	} choices
Wicked	Sinners	Scornful	} company

- Wicked: there is a standard
- Sinners: attitude and actions matter
- Scornful: scoff at God, truth, holy things...

Exclaims – *blessed*

2: Expects – *strength*

- Studying Scripture brings strength...

V.1, he does NOT; v.2, BUT he does . . .

Delight in God's law

Not just study, but
obedience.

Mt.19.

Ps.42:1-4.

Meditate

Growl, mutter...
speak in low tones.

'The man' (v.1)

Day - Night

Analyze

Memorize

Personalize

Exclaims – *blessed*
Expects – *strength*

3: Excels – *like a tree*

- ‘By rivers’ – ([irrigation] channels).
 - 1 K.18:5. Ps.52:8. Ps.92:12-14. Ga.5.

A brook is to a tree what Word
is to one who meditates on it.

- Root ... Fruit ... Leaf: not wither
 - Planted (nutrients)
 - Water (means)
 - Ep.3:17.

Law – meditation
Consistent, steady life

Exclaims – *blessed*

Expects – *strength*

3: Excels – *like a tree*

- Prospers (thrives): not by skin of his teeth
- Tale of two ships

Solomon

1 K.9:...26-28

Grew rich; left God

Jehoshaphat

1 K.22:48

Shipwreck; blessing

I. The Righteous Man, 1-3 (6)

II. The Ungodly Man,
4-6

The comparison, 4

Life chaff blowing in wind.

- Moves a lot – one sin to another

Chaff

- No worth; wasted life (Lk.15).
- No root, no fruit... (Ro.6:21; Jd.12)
- No comfort (only attached to wheat).
Gn.6; 19...
- End: (v.4). Mt.3:12.

The comparison, 4
The Condemnation, 5

- Hb.10:27
- ‘Ungodly’ (wicked) will not stand in judgment
- Those who shun company of righteous on earth are justly separated from them in eternity (Num.16)

The comparison, 4

The condemnation, 5

The contrast, 6

- Lord knows (approves, watches over) way of righteous
- Way of ungodly will perish
 - ‘Our way’ determines our destiny
- One way leads to life (Jn.14:6)

The comparison, 4
The condemnation, 5
The contrast, 6



Our destiny is determined by
our response to different . . .

1. **Associations.** Chaff thrown to wind.
2. **Views of the Law.** Love it or loathe it.
3. **Lives.** Either in world or of world.
4. **Relationship to God.** 1, blessed; 6, perish.

Concerns

1. Who has our ear?
2. What do we like?
3. How do we spend our time?
4. How do we want to end?
5. What does God want us to do?

Mt.7:23

“I never knew you...”

Mt.25:12

Close does not count