

Psalm 37 - New American Standard Bible

Security of Those Who Trust in the Lord, and Insecurity of the Wicked.

Do not fret because of evildoers, Be not envious toward wrongdoers. ² For they will wither quickly like the grass And fade like the green herb. ³ Trust in the Lord and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. ⁴ Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart. ⁵ Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

⁶ He will bring forth your righteousness as the light And your judgment as the noonday. ⁷ Rest in

the Lord and wait ^[c]patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes. ⁸ Cease from anger and forsake wrath; Do not fret; *it leads* only to evildoing. ⁹ For evildoers will be cut off, But those who wait for the Lord, they will inherit the land.

¹⁰ Yet a little while and the wicked man will be no more; And you will look carefully for his place and he will not be *there*. ¹¹ But the humble will inherit the land And will delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

¹² The wicked plots against the righteous And gnashes at him with his teeth. ¹³ The Lord laughs at him,

For He sees his day is coming. ¹⁴ The wicked have drawn the sword and bent their bow To cast down the afflicted and the needy, To slay those who are upright in conduct. ¹⁵ Their sword will enter their own heart, And their bows will be broken.

¹⁶ Better is the little of the righteous Than the abundance of many wicked. ¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked will be broken, But the Lord sustains the righteous. ¹⁸ The Lord knows the days of the blameless,

And their inheritance will be forever. ¹⁹ They will not be ashamed in the time of evil, And in the days of famine they will have abundance.

²⁰ But the wicked will perish; And the enemies of the Lord will be like the ^[e]glory of the pastures, They vanish—like smoke they vanish away. ²¹ The wicked borrows and does not pay back, But the righteous is gracious and gives. ²² For those blessed by Him will inherit the land, But those cursed by Him will be cut off. ²³ The steps of a man are established by the Lord, And He delights in his way.

²⁴ When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, Because the Lord is the One who holds his hand.

²⁵ I have been young and now I am old, Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken Or his descendants begging bread. ²⁶ All day long he is gracious and lends, And his descendants are a blessing. ²⁷ Depart from evil and do good, So you will abide forever.

²⁸ For the Lord loves justice And does not forsake His godly ones; They are preserved forever,

But the descendants of the wicked will be cut off. ²⁹ The righteous will inherit the land And dwell in it forever. ³⁰ The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, And his tongue speaks justice. ³¹ The law of his God is in his heart; His steps do not slip. ³² The wicked spies upon the righteous And seeks to kill him.

³³ The Lord will not leave him in his hand Or let him be condemned when he is judged.

³⁴ Wait for the Lord and keep His way, And He will exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you will see it. ³⁵ I have seen a wicked, violent man Spreading himself like a luxuriant tree in its native soil.

³⁶ Then he passed away, and lo, he was no more; I sought for him, but he could not be found.

³⁷ Mark the blameless man, and behold the upright; For the man of peace will have a posterity. ³⁸ But transgressors will be altogether destroyed; The posterity of the wicked will be cut off. ³⁹ But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in time of trouble. ⁴⁰ The Lord helps them and delivers them;

He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, Because they take refuge in Him.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

Paul's questions and insights

1. David gives his testimony of his life trusting in God.
2. Don't be impressed by workers of evil and their apparent success, it will all end in tears.
3. Be a good person with your time on earth, cultivate faithfulness by trusting in God.
4. A most commonly quoted verse 'delight yourself in the Lord' it means to make God's ways, which are good, your ways.
5. And then He promises to give you the desires of your heart.
6. If you take a look at what is in your heart, you will discover a desire to do right.
7. What makes God glad makes you glad and what makes you sad makes God sad.
8. 'What ever you commit to God' means trust everything to God.
9. David says 'He will do it', can't you just see David's conviction of encouraging the reader that God will be there for them.
10. To rest in God is to be still, wait without anxiety and fear.
11. Don't continue to be angry or annoyed with people.
12. When we fret we do the wrong thing.
13. All who look to the Lord will benefit, but those who look to themselves will not.
14. The wicked will not be found but they will be lost, you will not even be able to find them.
15. Humility is the hallmark of righteousness.
16. Why do the wicked hate the righteous so much?
17. The wicked plan for the righteous to fall, but it is the wicked who will fall.
18. Little in the hands of the righteous will be more of a blessing than the abundance of the wicked.
19. The wicked will lose their strength, but the righteous continue to become strong.
20. Blessed are the righteous even in difficult times, but the wicked will be cursed.
21. Generosity is the fruit grown with the righteous.

22. David says God's blessing falls on the righteous. Is God blessing your life or do you feel cursed?
23. God delights to walk in the way of righteousness.
24. Even when the righteous fall God will hold them.
25. David declares I have been young but now I'm old.
26. Do you associate with David's contemplations?
27. The righteous God will not abandon the doers of good, they will not fall into poverty.
28. God's grace is on the righteous every day.
29. The opportunity for the wicked to repent can be seen even in this psalm, but they have to turn towards God.
30. Justice is God's idea, He will not abandon it but fulfil justice to all.
31. To be cut off is when the wicked will be judged by the righteous justice of God.
32. Wisdom leads to a solution in all situations, but only the righteous are willing to learn.
33. God's ways can be found in the spirit of the ones who love God and hold fast to His ways, even in times of trouble.
34. God will not let the wicked reign over the righteous forever.
35. The wise wait for God to bring them justice.
36. For a season the wicked reign, but in the end they will fall.
37. A man of peace will know God's blessing in all he does.
38. 'Vanity of vanities' is the confession of the wicked.

God will bring salvation to the righteous ones, those who look to Him to be their refuge.