

Thanksgiving Message – God is good to His people.
AM Service Psalm 73 November 20, 2016

Introduction

Do the Wicked Prosper?

The Questions

1. Do godly people suffer?
2. Do ungodly people prosper?

Asaph –

Who was he?

1. A Levite, son of Berechiah, of the family of Gershom...
2. He was eminent as a musician...
3. He was one of the men appointed..
4. His family was chosen for musical service.
5. After the captivity, 128 singers from his family returned...
6. In later times, Asaph was celebrated as a prophet and seer.
7. Twelve of the Psalms bear his name. (50, 73-83)

Psalm 73

Conclusion

*1 Truly God is good to Israel,
To such as are pure in heart.*

The steps leading to the conclusion

1. Asaph goes astray as he looks around.
2. The description of the wicked
 - a. They have a high position in life.
 - b. They are healthy and strong.
 - c. They are free from the common burdens of man.
 - d. They are arrogant.
 - e. They don't care about others.
 - f. They mock God.
 - g. They increase in wealth and ease.

3. Asaph falls into depression.
Lesson – Taking the short view on a long problem leads to depression.
4. Asaph goes to the Lord for understanding.
5. Asaph regains his footing.
6. Asaph confesses his sin.
7. Asaph rests in the steadfast goodness of God.

Conclusion

“The wicked often do prosper, at least for the moment; but the righteous shall endure forever. And the righteous will always experience the goodness of God.”

How about you?

- 1. Are you one of the righteous?**
- 2. Do you tend to look around rather than look ahead?**
- 3. What should a righteous person with the right perspective do?**

Psalm 107

*1 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!
For His mercy endures forever.
2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so...*

- a. Thank
- b. Testify
- c. Exalt
- d. Praise
- e. Rejoice
- f. Observe

~ Pastor Mark D. Montgomery