

Psalms Chapter 001 Commentary

Ps 1:1 ¶ "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful."

Blessed means **happiness** and comes from a root word that means **to be straight, especially to be level, or right, to go forward, be honest.** "**Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly,**" Wherefore, we learn: a person who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly is a happy person, which means they have the joy of the Lord in their hearts and minds. Although, we only see it in part now, this blessedness is an eternal gift of God, with joy that is eternal, not fleeting as the joys of the flesh.

The unsaved are living their lives in accordance with the inherited sin nature, with which all people are born. They are content to have the temporary joy of fulfilling the desires of the flesh. They reject "**thus saith the Lord.**" They accept the "**counsel of the ungodly**" which leads to "**standing in the way of sinners.**"

The Saved demonstrate they have been redeemed, by Jesus Christ, by living a blessed life by the new nature of Christ in them. Their counsel is "**thus saith the Lord.**" They understand the blessings of God are eternal. They are willing to accept, and desire to learn, the ways of God. They reject the "**counsel of the ungodly.**"

"**nor standeth in the way of sinners,**" Blessed is the person who is not standing in the way of sinners. Understand, walking in the "**counsel of the ungodly**" is the action of willfully committing sins. If your heart and mind say it is okay, you will not hesitate to participate in ungodliness. How is this standing in the way of sinners? You have taken a stand against God, and you are saying to God: I delight to do mine own will, therefore I reject you, and your godly counsel. Not only are they walking in the way of the inherited sin nature, but they are also convinced that the "**counsel of the ungodly**" is the right way. They may be willing to listen to "**thus saith the Lord,**" but they choose the "**council of the ungodly**" as their source of happiness. They now willfully partake of sin and delight to do so. Standing in the way of sinners will lead to sitting in the seat of the scornful.

In contrast: the godly will choose "**thus saith the Lord**" over the "**counsel of the ungodly.**" If the godly do not choose to live by "**thus saith the Lord,**" they will end up suffering the consequence of their sin, here on earth. After the new birth, the consequence of disobedience to God is always worked out on earth. Our eternal forgiveness of sins, which will give us access to the eternal heaven, and is already accomplished in Christ.

"**nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.**" We believe the psalmist is speaking of the unsaved, sometimes called atheist, who deny that there is a God. They adamantly take a verbose stand against God and Christ, and they teach, by their actions and words, the "**counsel of the ungodly**" and "**standing in the way of sinners.**"

Walking in the counsel of the ungodly, leads to standing in the way of sinners, which leads to sitting in the seat of the scornful, which demonstrates a life that leads to eternal damnation, just as we are told in scripture in: **Jas 1:15 "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.**" This death is eternal death in the eternal lake of fire. How do we know this? We are told in: **Joh 5:28-29; 28 "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.**" Wherefore, we understand: "**Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.**"

2 "But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."

Delight means **pleasure, desire, a valuable thing; hence a matter or state of mind: acceptable, purpose, willingly.** Herein, we see demonstrated the life of the person whose desire has been changed, from accepting the "**counsel of the ungodly**" to rejoicing in "**thus saith the Lord.**" This change comes with the new birth and gives us the desire to search the scriptures, not to figure out what we can do to satisfy our inherit sin nature, but what we can do that will please God.

The word meditate means **to murmur with pleasure or to ponder.** Thus, we see the picture of the saved people walking, and talking, of the righteousness of God. They delight in reading and studying the King James bible, God's counsel to his people. They enjoy loving God's people and walking in sweet fellowship with God and his people. Because their "**delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.**" What a great blessing we have been given in the new birth, which gives us eternal forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation in Jesus Christ.

3 "And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Walking in faithfulness before God, and men, will assure us that our well of living water shall never be cut off from us, we will be thoroughly furnished and thereby manifest the fruits of the Spirit in our lives to others.

"his leaf also shall not wither." We shall not show signs of drought and dying from thirst. We shall always be prosperous in sowing the truth of God. Walking in faithfulness to God is prosperity. What people often misinterpret is prosperity. Prosperity is not the wealth and riches of this earth. You may be a very prosperous Christian and be one of the poorest people in earthly things. This prosperity is the fruit of the Spirit, "**that bringeth forth his fruit in his season;**" seen in: **Ga 5:22-23; 22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."**

4 ¶ "The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away."

The ungodly do not produce the good "**fruit of the spirit.**" They do not have an anchor. They are blown away by the wind of the "**counsel of the ungodly.**" They are not anchored in the Lord, seen in: **Heb 6:17-20; 17 "Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: 18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: 19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; 20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.**" Our anchor holds us fast, and we cannot be removed from the eternal life we have been given.

5 "Therefore, the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous."

The ungodly will not stand before God with the godly. Understand, the saved have already been judged worthy to enter the eternal heaven by the grace of God, through the finished work of Jesus Christ. The ungodly, who have not been saved by Jesus, shall not stand with the saved in judgment, but be cast down, seen in: **Mt 25:32-34; 32 "And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:**" This needs no explanation.

6 "For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."

Scripture testifies of this in: **2Ti 2:19 ¶ "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."** God knoweth the way of the righteous because they have Christ in them, and God and Christ are one. God also knows the way of the ungodly, seen in: **Mt 25:41-46; 41 "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 For I was an hungry, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. 44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungry, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. 46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.**" No interpretation needed.

Wherefore, **Ps 1:1 ¶ "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful."** Praise and glory to our Saviour, for granting us the gift of eternal life in Christ. Praise the Saviour, for filling us with wisdom and understanding to discern between "**the counsel of the ungodly**" and "**thus saith the Lord.**" Praise God! For providing us with godly counsel, in the revelation of Christ Jesus to us, in the King James bible, and in the preaching of the Gospel.

We leave you with a personal question: In examining your life as a Christian, can you say with the psalmist: I am a "**blessed**" person? If you can answer yes, you should be shouting, Hallelujah! Amen!