

Psalms Chapter 037 Verses 12-20; Their Inheritance Shall Be Forever

A Psalm of David. "Maschil--a teaching psalm;"

Ps 37:12 "The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. 13 The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming."

We continue with David teaching about the wicked and "***Their Inheritance Shall Be Forever***," and why we should not be envious of them. He tells us that the wicked plot against the just and gnasheth upon them with his teeth. He tells us; when God looks down from the eternal heaven, knowing what the end result of all things will be, God laughs at the plotting, and gnashing of teeth, of the devil, and those who do not believe in Jesus Christ.

Here, in time, the wicked are excited into action to try to fool God's people, when they see the favor of God upon his people. Thus, they plot against them and gnash upon them. Remember, Cain slew Abel out of envy of God's favor of him. King Saul sought to kill king David because of God's favor to him. This is a prophetic picture of how they would treat Jesus when he came to earth the first time. If God laughs at the wicked, so does Jesus, as seen in ***Heb 12:2; 1 ¶ "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."***

"who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross," Jesus set the example for us. Wherefore, we are to be glad of God's eternal favor to us in all our tribulations.

14 "The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as be of upright conversation. 15 Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken."

David is preaching the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. He is telling Israel, those who revolt against the king that God has chosen to reign over all Israel, God will turn them against one another, and they shall slay each other, and their weapons of war will be broken. We saw a picture of this in Judges 7 when God used Gideon and three hundred men to overthrow the Midianites. We have the same promise in the New Testament. What do you mean? Let's consider what we are told in ***1Jo 4:4 ¶ "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."*** The Christ in us, the Holy Spirit, is greater, and has power over the inherited sin nature of the flesh. Hallelujah!

We are hated of the wicked as seen in ***Joh 15:19 "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."***

Ps 124:6-8; 6 ¶ "Blessed be the LORD, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth. 7 Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped. 8 Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth." Why are we not taken in the enemy's snares? God is protecting us.

16 "A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked. 17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous. 18 The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be forever. 19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine, they shall be satisfied."

David is preaching to Israel the truth that having just a little of earthly possessions, is better than having great earthly riches, which you trust in for your eternal destination. God upholds the righteous. David says this to them in verse ***25 "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."*** David tells Israel, even in the time of famine in the land, if you are focused upon God and doing his will, you shall be satisfied, with whatever condition you find yourself in. Is this not true for every child of God also? Of course it is. How do we know? Because, if we are faithfully serving God and Christ, no matter what our circumstances on earth, we will have in our hearts, minds, and souls, that peace that passes all understanding. We have the knowledge that Jesus Christ has eternally redeemed our sins. We have the knowledge that we have been given eternal life in Christ and we are satisfied. We should be like Paul in ***Php 4:10-13; 10 ¶ "But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. 11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. 12 I know***

both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

This truth is further witnessed in **1Ti 6:6-10; 6 ¶ "But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."**

"The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be forever." This is a reminder to us of our eternal security in Christ Jesus, and in His finished work on the cross. How? We find the answer in many scriptures. Here is one: **1Jo 5:13 "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."**

20 "But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away."

What does David mean here? David is telling Israel, the enemies of the LORD, who are also our enemies, shall be as the fat of lambs that is burned upon the altar of sacrifice to God. Just as the fat is burned up and goes away as smoke until nothing remains, so shall it be with them.

Well, how does this apply to us today? Our greatest enemy is the inherited sin nature, to which the devil appeals to try and draw us into sinning against God. However, if we are making our sacrifices to God, and Christ, as we are commanded, the Holy Spirit in us will rebuke these temptations, and they shall go up as smoke from the burnt offerings. But, you say, we do not make sacrifices of lambs today. That is true, however we are still to be making sacrifices as seen in **Heb 13:12-16; 12 "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. 13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. 14 For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. 15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. 16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."** These are our sacrifices to God and Christ today. They are fruit of the Holy Spirit.

In an eternal perspective: the end for the wicked and enemies of the LORD, is seen in **Re 14:11; 9 "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."** This is the second death, which is an eternal death. They shall be ever dying, but they will never finally die, for their torment in those flames is eternal. Remember the rich man and Lazarus. Lazarus was in the bosom of Abraham and the rich man in hell tormented in the flame.

Wherefore, David is teaching, in these verses of this Psalm; just as the inheritance of God's people is eternal, so the inheritance of the wicked is an eternal. Eternal death in the eternal lake of fire. Why teach about such dreadful wrath from God? To give warning to God's people, that when the devil tempts you to follow your inherited sin nature, do not do it. This is to be a deterrent to God's people to keep them from being wicked. Why? Because you know what the eternal penalty is.

Well, preacher, we are saved eternally and our eternal sin debt is already paid, so why should we worry about sinning or being wicked? It is true that your eternal sin debt is paid in full by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. However, that does not keep you from suffering the consequence of sins committed here on earth. As King David suffered the consequence of his sin, against God, with Bathsheba and Uriah, David prayed to God **"restore to me the joy of thy salvation."** If we sin against God, we do not lose our eternal salvation, but we lose the joy of our salvation here in time. Continual sin puts us out of church fellowship and keeps us from the Lord's Supper.

Wherefore, we rejoice that God reminds us; the wicked shall have their days of fulfilling their fleshly lust on earth, but they shall reap their reward in the eternal lake of fire. We rejoice that we will suffer here for the cause of Christ, but know our reward will be the eternal place, which Jesus has gone to prepare for us. Hallelujah! Amen!