

Psalms Chapter 037 Verses 23-40; Mark The Perfect Man

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

Ps 37:23 "The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. 24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand."

David is prophesying of the first and second comings of Jesus. Jesus tells us in scripture that no man is good, only God. Since Jesus, in his prepared body was God in the flesh, He is the good man, and the God man. Jesus's life on earth was laid out by God the Father, and he lived it to the fullest extent.

Knowing that He would have to face crucifixion on the cross to bring about the eternal salvation of God's people, Jesus still delighted to do the Father's will. How do we know this to be true? We find in ***Heb 12:1-2; 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."*** Jesus was looking beyond his mortal existence to his eternal throne in heaven.

Even though Jesus did suffer greatly, for he suffered the very torments of hell, yet He was willing and obedient to the Father as He tells us in ***Joh 4:34 "Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work."*** And in ***Joh 6:38 "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day."*** Of all the suffering in mortality and mortal death that Jesus suffered, was nothing in comparison, to knowing that He would complete the work that God the Father gave him to do, and he would save all of God's people eternally, to spend eternity with him.

Even, when Jesus yielded to mortal death, Jesus was not utterly cast down, because God gave Jesus power to lay down his life, and power to take it up again, in resurrecting himself from the dead. God upheld him here in time, and now Jesus has returned to heaven to sit on the throne of God.

In the new birth, we are given eternal remission of sins, and we are given eternal life; wherefore, we delight in the way of the LORD. Therefore, when we stumble in life's journey and sin against God, we shall not be utterly cast down as those, who deny Jesus is the Christ, and who shall go into the eternal lake of fire. Likewise, when we die a mortal death, our bodies sleep in hope of the resurrection of the dead in Christ and the change of those who are alive and remain at his second coming. Thank you, King Jesus! For the gift of eternal life in Christ, and for being a willing and obedient Saviour.

25 "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. 26 He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed. 27 Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore. 28 For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off. 29 The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever."

These verses are prophetic of the earthly walk of God's people in the New Testament Church seen in ***2Ti 2:20-26; 20 "But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. 22 ¶ Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes. 24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will."***

Just as David is preaching to Israel to do good and depart from evil, we have the same commandment today ***Heb 9:13-15; 13 "For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: 14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? 15***

¶ And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." Herein, we have the eternal perspective of every child of God. Those made righteous, by Jesus Christ, are given eternal life, and they shall dwell in immortality with Him forever in eternity.

30 "The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. 31 The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide."

This is a prophetic picture of Jesus Christ and his finished work. How? Who is righteous? Jesus! Who is wisdom and speaketh wisdom? Jesus! Who shall be the ultimate judge of all the earth and its people? Jesus! In whose heart is the law of God? Jesus! Who never failed in His walk before God? Jesus! This is prophetic; of the example which Jesus set for God's people to follow. Thus, we have the surety of our eternal salvation in the finished work of Jesus Christ. How? Because we are indwelt with Christ in us, the Holy Spirit, we have the righteousness of Christ, we have the wisdom of Christ, and we can speak of the judgment day that is coming, seen in **Re 20:12-15; 12 "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."**

32 "The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him. 33 The LORD will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged. 34 ¶ Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it."

Another prophesy of Jesus Christ. When Jesus was on the earth and began his public ministry, the wicked watched him closely, hoping to catch him in some error or sin, with which they might justly accuse him and put him to death. Although, God did deliver Jesus into the hands of men to kill his mortal body, God did not leave Jesus in their hands. Although Jesus was falsely accused and sentenced by evil men, God did not condemn Jesus: even when Jesus was on the cross and our sins were laid upon Him, God never condemned Jesus. Jesus was buried and resurrected from the dead. Jesus ascended back to his throne in heaven. Wherefore, Jesus is now exalted and the wicked are cut off. The same principle is true for all of God's children.

35 "I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. 36 Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found."

David declares that he has seen the wicked in the seat of power, spreading as a plague in all directions. Yet the wicked died and was no longer in power. David says that I sought him, and he could not be found.

We, God's people, have seen the wicked one, Satan, in the seat of great power, spreading over the face of the earth, as seen in **Eph 2:2-3; 1 ¶ "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. 4 ¶ But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."**

Well, what does David mean by seeking him and not finding him? Just as the Ephesians text above points out, when a child of God is quickened and raised up into Christ, Satan is no longer seated upon the throne of your heart. Now, Jesus is seated upon the throne of your heart, and the presence of Satan is no longer found there. Thank you, King Jesus, for making your abode in us.

There is also the eternal perspective of this thought. In the eternal resurrection of the dead in Christ, and those who are alive are changed, Jesus shall take us to that place He has prepared for us, and there we shall see the wicked no more, for there will be no sin in our eternal abode in Christ.

37 "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace. 38 But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off. 39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble. 40 And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him."

David is again prophesying of the first and the second comings of Christ, and the beginning of that eternal day for God's people. Remember the scripture in **Matthew 25:31-46** where God separated the sheep and the goats? Also, we are given this promise in **1Th 4:9-18; 9 ¶ "But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. 10 And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more; 11 And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; 12 That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing. 13 ¶ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words."**

Verses 9-12 give us the prophetic picture of what the first coming of Jesus accomplished. Verses 13-18 give us the prophetic picture of what the second coming of Jesus will accomplish. What a day that will be! Hallelujah! Amen!