

Psalms Chapter 037 Commentary

A Psalm of David.

Ps 37:1 "Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb."

This Psalm is identified as a teaching Psalm and is titled "*The True State Of The Wicked*" in my study bible. David, in this Psalm, is teaching Israel to not be envious of the wicked, but to have full confidence in the Lord. He is telling them that though the wicked prosper on the earth, they will not inherit the kingdom of God in eternity. David is telling Israel, even if the wicked grow old in years upon the earth, they shall die and then they are faced with eternity. Wherefore, life is but a short span in comparison to eternity.

Today, God's ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ preach this same message. We have an advantage over David and Israel because they did not have the New Testament. We know what the outcome will be, as we are told in New Testament scripture. However, they had the faith of God instilled in them, as God's continual deliverances were made manifest in their lives. Likewise, we have strengthened faith, because of God's daily deliverances in our lives as children of God. We know, from the scriptures, our time on earth is short. We know that our salvation in God is secure, and in the death of our mortality, our spirits shall immediately go to be with Jesus. We know, at the return of Jesus, that the sheep, God's people, shall be separated from the goats, the devil's people, and the sheep shall go upward to eternal life with Christ, while the goats go downward to an eternity in the eternal lake of fire prepared for the devil and all that follow him.

3 "Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed."

David tells Israel to trust in the LORD, and attend to "*thus saith the LORD*." Reminding them that if you do this, you shall continue to dwell in the land of promise, and there you shall be fed from the fruit of the land flowing with milk and honey.

The message of the gospel of Jesus Christ is the same to us today. We are given a land of promise, the New Testament Church, and if we attend, to "*thus saith the LORD*," as the New Testament scriptures command us to do; we shall dwell in that land of promise with the abundance of God's blessings, and we will be satisfied with the fruits thereof. We are commanded to love God with all our hearts, minds, and souls, and our neighbors as ourselves, which if we do, we shall continue in the land of promise, and we shall be nourished with the Word of God, the bread of life, and the water of life. We shall feed from the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

4 "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

David tells Israel to delight in the LORD; and he shall give you the desires of your heart. New Testament scripture tells us to forsake our inherited sin nature, to purge ourselves of it daily, and embrace the new nature of Christ in us, whereby we will be given the desires of our hearts. What are the desires of the heart? If we are following the inherited sin nature, they are evil things. If we are following the new nature of Christ in us, our desires will be to bring glory and honor to the name of our God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Our desires will not be things of the earth, which God has promised to provide, if we are obedient to him, and his Word of truth.

5 "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

David is telling Israel: commit yourself wholly to the LORD. Trust completely in the LORD, and he shall bring it to pass. What is it He shall bring to pass? His will for your life, which is to bless you with all blessings.

We have this same commandment in the New Testament. I will ask you these questions which God has already asked me: Have you read and studied the bible thoroughly to know what God would have you to do? Have you truly committed yourself to following the path that Jesus laid out for his people to walk in? Do you really trust fully in the LORD, or are you still trying to do it your own way? Are you a child of God only, or are you a child of God and a disciple of Jesus Christ? If you have joined the New Testament Church, and you are walking in fellowship with God's people, then you are doing these things, and you have the same promise of God, that David is telling Israel of; He will bring to pass in your life his perfect will for you.

6 "And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday."

David is preaching to Israel: If you truly obey God in all things, God shall make the righteousness He has put in you to shine forth as light. We are told in the New Testament in **Isa 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;"** However, we are also told that in the new birth, we are indwelt with Christ in us by the Holy Spirit; therefore, we have the righteousness of Christ in us, which is also the light of Christ in us, which is why we are commanded to be light in the world, seen in **Mt 5:14 "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid."**

Well, what about? "**and thy judgment as the noonday.**" Judgement as it is used here means *a verdict pronounced judicially, or divine law, for an individual or collectively*. Noonday means *a light, a dual or double light*. Wherefore, we understand; having been born again, God has judged us to be saved by the finished work of Jesus Christ. When we are committed to the way of the LORD, He will pronounce the verdict that we are his children, and that we have the light of Christ in us. What is meant by a double or a dual light? It means that not only are we to live clean spiritual lives, demonstrating the light of Christ shining through us, we are also to live morally pure lives, which also demonstrates that we are children of God to the world around us.

7 ¶ "Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass."

David is telling Israel: do not fret about the prosperity of the wicked in their wicked ways. You rest in the LORD and wait patiently for him. The time will come when God judges the ungodly, and all their prosperity here on earth will be burned up, and it will come to nothing when they are cast into the eternal lake of fire.

What does it mean to "**rest in the LORD?**" We are told in **Heb 4:1-3; 1 ¶ "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. 3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world."** Herein we see: the unbelieving are the wicked, that prospereth in his own way, not believing in the finished work of Jesus Christ, and they shall **not** enter into the eternal rest of Jesus Christ. But we, who do believe in the finished work of Jesus Christ, shall enter into that eternal rest, for we shall be in that number, in the eternal resurrection of the dead in Christ, along with those that will be changed. Hallelujah! Praise, ye the LORD!

8 "Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. 9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. 10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."

David is telling Israel: do not be angry, do not worry, about those evil doers, because they shall soon be removed from the land of promise. Wait upon the LORD and inherit the land of promise. Those, who are meekly serving the great God of heaven and earth, shall inherit the possession that God has given them, and they shall have it with an abundance of peace. This was fulfilled on earth at the zenith of king David's reign, when God gave Israel peace all around.

It is a prophetic picture for us today. How? Jesus Christ, who gave his life on the cross, which redeemed us from our sins eternally, has gone to prepare a new heaven and a new earth for God's beloved to dwell in. This prophesy will come to fruition when Jesus returns as "**KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS**" and carries God's people to their eternal rest on the new earth. There will be no sin there, wherefore, we shall inherit perfect peace, and we will have that perfect peace forever. Praise, ye the LORD! Hallelujah!

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."**

Pss 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!

21 ¶ "The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth. 22 For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off."

David tells Israel; the wicked will borrow and they will not pay their debt. He is telling them not to become angry with the wicked who are living their inherited sin nature, nor try to take vengeance on their own.

However, you are still to lend to those who ask. David tells Israel: we are the blessed of the LORD, and we shall inherit the earth. However, they are the cursed of the LORD, and they shall be cut off from the earth.

The same principle applies to us today, seen in **Ro 12:19-21; 19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."** But preacher, that person did me wrong and I don't want anything to do with them. Let's see what Jesus said to do in **Lu 6:35-36; 35 "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. 36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful."**

The eternal perspective of this verse is to be brought to fruition as seen in **Mt 25:31-46; 31 ¶ "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 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: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. 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 hungred, 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 hungred, 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."** This needs no explanation, for it is written in plain English and not in a parable. Thus, the question: what is your standing, based on this scripture truth, and many others like it? To those have been born again and inherited eternal life in Christ Jesus; we say Hallelujah! Amen!

David is prophesying in Psalms of what Jesus is revealing in Matthew. Who is the "**him**" that David is using in Psalms 22? "**Him**" is the righteous. Now I ask: Who is righteous in and of their own selves? There is none. Why do you say none? Because scripture tells us in **Ro 3:10 "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. 12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."** That is; there is no person who is completely human that doeth good in their inherited sin nature. There is one who is righteous and that is Jesus Christ. Why is Jesus righteous? Because Jesus came to earth in a prepared body, without sin, and Jesus never committed a sin; wherefore, Jesus, who was also God in the flesh, is righteous.

Well, how do we get righteousness? Do you remember under the sacrificial law, when they sacrificed an animal for sin, they put their hand upon the head of the animal and then they killed it. The action of putting their hand on the head of the animal signified that their sins were imputed upon the sacrifice. This was a prophetic picture of what would happen when they nailed Jesus on the cross. As Jesus hung there, all the sins of everyone that will be in the eternal heaven with God and Christ, were imputed upon Jesus. Because the blood of Jesus was the only blood which was completely sin free, and there could be no forgiveness of sins except by the shedding of blood, Jesus paid our sin debt upon the cross.

Well, how then do we become righteous in the sight of God? When we are born again by the Holy Spirit power, not only are our sins forgiven eternally, but at the same time the righteousness of Jesus is imputed to us, just as our sins were imputed to him upon the cross.

With these bible truths before us: through the finished work of Jesus on the cross, we understand that those chosen of God to be born again are "**the blessed of my Father**" in Psalms 37:22, who shall go away to eternal life, to live in the place that Jesus has gone to prepare for them.

Well, what about those who shall inherit the earth in **Ps 37:22 "For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth;"** The "**blessed of him**" are the same as "**the blessed of my Father.**" Well, we understand that easily enough: but what about inheriting the earth? We are told in **2Pe 3:10-13; 10 "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 ¶ Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."**

We see in this scripture that this earth and heavens will be consumed by fire and go away. Therefore, we understand that Jesus is preparing a "**new heavens and new earth wherein dwelleth the righteous.**" Thus, we understand that it is the new earth that the righteous shall inherit. This is completely in line with what we are told in **Re 21:1-5; 1 ¶ "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful."**

This is why we are told in **Mt 10:28 "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."** Let us all remember, eternal salvation is the gift of God, and cannot be conjured up by man. It is our fervent prayer, that we all may be found in the marvelous grace of God, clothed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ, and resurrected in the eternal resurrection of the dead in Christ, or if we are alive when Jesus returns, be changed in a moment, and so shall we ever be with the Lord, to enjoy our eternal inheritance throughout eternity. Hallelujah! Amen!

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!