

Finding Yourself in the Psalms
Psalm 37
A Psalm When You Are Troubled by Evil People

CREATED in the IMAGE of GOD

Desire for JUSTICE

Michael *"It's not fair"*

Psalm 36 (of David)

Psalm 49 (Sons of Korah)

Psalm 73 (Asaph)

- I. WHEN are we troubled by evil. 37:1-2
 - A. When we see evil in ourselves.
 - B. When evil people afflict God's children. **Psalm 37:1-2**
 - 1. Suffering Christians (Sudan, China, Middle East)
 - 2. People gaining through lies and deception
 - 3. When God is mocked and ridiculed
 - C. Christians overcome by evil.
 - 1. Immature
 - 2. Temptations
 - 3. Those who fall away

- II. WHAT TO DO 37:3-9
 - A. Trust in the Lord. 34:3
 - B. Do good. 34:3
 - C. Dwell in the land. Don't lose your joy. Don't surrender!
NKJV *"Dwell in the land and feed on His faithfulness"*
 - D. Delight yourself in the Lord. 34:4 Delight = "enjoy, be fond, i.e., take pleasure and enjoyment in an object, implying desirability of the object" (Swanson)
 - E. Commit. 37:5 "HE WILL DO IT"
Why will He do it? **It is HIS reputation at stake, not yours!**
 - F. Be still 37:7.
 - G. Refrain. 37:8

- III. WHY we can trust. 37:10-19
 - A. I won't last. V. 10
 - B. God is just. V. 13
 - C. Evil schemes will be returned. 37:14
 - 1. Haman.
 - a. Haman's pride. Esther 5:9-14; 6:6-10
 - b. Haman's fate. Esther 7:3-6
 - c. Hung on his own gallows. 7:9-10
 - 2. Psalm 141:8-10

D. God satisfies the righteous. 37:16-17

1. Psalm 119:57 You are my portion, O LORD; I have promised to obey your words.
2. Psalm 142:5 I cry to you, O LORD; I say, “You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.”
3. Lamentations 3:22-24 Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, “**The LORD is my portion**; therefore I will wait for him.”

IV. How should we live in light of the presence of evil? 37:18-40

- A. Vulnerably. 37:22-22
- B. Trustingly. 37:23-24
- C. Confidently. 37:25-26
 1. “The Lord doesn’t allow things to happen *to us*, He allows things to happen *for us*.
- D. Righteously. 37:27-29