

A SERMON SERIES FROM THE PSALMS

SONGS *for* SUMMER

VOLUME 3

Psalm 73

SONGS *for* SUMMER VOL. 3

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. ² But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. ³ For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. ⁴ For they have no pangs until death;

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

their bodies are fat and sleek. ⁵ They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind. ⁶ Therefore pride is their necklace; violence covers them as a garment. ⁷ Their eyes swell out through fatness; their hearts overflow with follies.

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

⁸ They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression. ⁹ They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth. ¹⁰ Therefore his people turn back to them, and find no fault in them. ¹¹ And they say, “How can God know?

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

Is there knowledge in the Most High?"

¹² Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches. ¹³ All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence. ¹⁴ For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning.

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

¹⁵ If I had said, “I will speak thus,” I would have betrayed the generation of your children. ¹⁶ But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, ¹⁷ until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

¹⁸ Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin. ¹⁹ How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors! ²⁰ Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as phantoms.

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

²¹ When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart, ²² I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you. ²³ Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. ²⁴ You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. ²⁷

Psalm 73:1-28 (ESV)

For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. ²⁸ But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

Psalm 73

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Orientation

Psalm 73:1 (ESV)

Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

“God only is infinitely good. A boundless goodness that knows no limits, a goodness as infinite as his essence, not only good, but best; not only good, but goodness itself, the supreme inconceivable goodness...Nothing that is good by his influence can equal him who is good by himself.”

-Stephen Charnock

Psalm 73:1 (ESV)

Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

Disorientation

Psalm 73:12 (ESV)

Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease,
they increase in riches.

**Asaph's point of disorientation
was not mainly his experience but
his envy.**

Psalm 73:15 (ESV)

If I had said, “I will speak thus,” I would have betrayed the generation of your children.

Reorientation

Psalm 73:16-17 (ESV)

But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task,¹⁷ until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.

Psalm 73:27-28 (ESV)

For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. ²⁸ But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

**The goodness of God consists not
of passing health, wealth, and
ease, but of unending nearness to
God.**

Psalm 73:28 (ESV)

But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

If you would like to talk to Chuck about the sermon, please feel free to call him or email him.



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