



How can we have our hearts corrected from discontentment and bitterness? Pastor leads his family in today's "Hopewell @Home" passage. Psalm 73 prepares us for the opening portion of Morning Public Worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these twenty-eight verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that recognizing God Himself as our treasure in Jesus reminds us that we have the heavenliness of heaven now, and all trial from His good hand is preparing us to enjoy perfectly and perpetually our priceless Treasure.

Tuesday, October 5, 2021 • Read Psalm 73

Questions from the Scripture text: How does the Psalm summarize its teaching in v1? But what does the Psalmist immediately admit about himself, concerning faith in God's goodness, in v2? What are some things that he had noticed about the wicked in vv3-12? What did he conclude about himself and his godliness in v13? What circumstance from v14 had led him to decide that there was no point in being godly? But what would he have done if he had spoken like that out loud (v15)? When he tried to figure this out, what happened (v16)? What ended up making the difference (v17)? Whose end does he understand in v17-20? What does he conclude had been his problem in vv21-22? Who is always with him? Who will receive him into glory? Whose end is he learning about now? What does that teach him about what to value in v25? What does that teach him about whom to depend upon in v26? What will happen to those who are far from God (v27)? What is good in v28? What is the ultimate purpose of trusting in the Lord in v28?

Next week's Call to Worship, Prayer for Help, Song of Adoration, and Prayer of Confession all come from Psalm 73, so that we will see that we are singing God's thoughts after Him with *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*. Here, we learn one of the great benefits of true worship: it teaches us **what a true life of treasuring Christ looks like**.

It looks like remembering what our end could have been (losing everything we have on earth, and falling into destruction as we are condemned by God). It looks like remembering what our end is instead (enjoying the glorious holiness of God forever and ever).

It looks like realizing that we have, now already, Him who is the heavenliness of heaven. We are continually with Him! It is He who holds us by our right hand! It is He who guides us with His counsel! Who is He? The glorious One who will receive us into His own glory.

It looks like concluding that if we have Him, we have already, now, in heaven and earth, more **possessions** than we could ever hope to desire. God is "our portion forever." It looks like concluding that if we have Him, we have already, now, more **power** than we could ever fear to need. "God is the strength of our heart."

Is God near to us? Then it is not in vain that we have our hands clean.
Are we far from God? Then we are on the cusp of eternal destruction.

Why have we trusted in God? Not so that we can get all the other earthly stuff that we love, but so that we can realize and tell all that God is more glorious and worthy than all else combined!

What trials do you have right now? What earthly things do you desire? How does God compare? How has your life been showing a desire to tell others His praise?

Sample prayer: O Lord, You are the treasure of heaven, and You have already given Yourself to us here on earth! How beast-like we are toward You whenever we are discontented, but You Yourself have borne the penalty of this sin. By Your atonement, forgive us. Be constantly with us, guide us by Your counsel, and then afterward receive us unto glory. Our flesh and heart fail, but we look to You to be the strength of our heart and our portion forever, through Jesus Christ, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP73C "Yet Constantly, I Am with You" or TPH508 "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

For more Home devotionals, please visit bit.ly/harpCHAH

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

All right, Psalm 73, you'll see since we've just sung it. Maybe that's helpful that you can already have in your mind. What we will be singing when I'm saying God's thoughts after him, that the

The wicked.

The mechanism by which the Lord keeps us from being alarmed by and despairing from embittered, by to use the word in psalm 73. The wicked is by setting himself before us as our treasure, and in which case, we see the relative infinitesimal value of other good things by comparison to God and this, of course, is ultimately fulfilled in Christ.

All right. Psalm 73 a psalm of Asaf. Truly God is good to Israel to such as our pure and heart. But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled. My steps had nearly slipped for. I was envious of the boastful when I saw the prosperity of the wicked for there in opangs and their death, but their strength is firm.

They're not in trouble as other men nor are they plagued like other men. Therefore pride serves as their necklace, violence covers them like a garment, their eyes bulge with abundance. They have more than heart could wish they scoff and speak. Wickedly concerning oppression, they speak loftly. They set their mouth against the heavens.

Their tongue walks through the earth. Therefore his people return here and waters of a full cup or drained by them. And they say, how does God know and is there knowledge in the most high? The whole? These are the ungodly who are always at ease. They increase in riches.

Surely I have cleansed my heart and vain and washed my hands in innocence for all day long. I had been plagued and chastened every morning. If I had said I will speak. Thus, behold, I would have been untrue to the generation of your children. When I thought to hunt how to understand this?

It was too painful for me until I went into the sanctuary of God, then I understood their end. Surely you set them in slippery places, you cast them down to destruction. Oh how they are brought to desolation is in a moment there, utterly consumed with terrors as a dream.

When one awakes. So Lord. Would you awake? You shall despise their image. Thus, my heart was grieved and I was vexed in my mind. I was so foolish and ignorant. I was like a beast before. You never the last time, continually, with you. You hold me by my right hand.

You will guide me with your counsel and afterward received me to glory him, have I in heaven? But you and there's nothing upon earth that I desire besides you my flesh and my heart fail but God is the strength of my heart and to my portion forever for indeed those who are far from you shall perish.

You have destroyed all those who deserve you for harlotry but it is good for me to draw near to God. I have put my trust in the Lord Yahweh that I made declare all your works. I'm in the reading of God's word.

It can sometimes seem to believe us like the wicked. Have it good in this life? That of course, is a lie. They are constantly enduring the bitterness of being hateful and being hated of always, scheming and lying and losing track of the various loose ends of the lies. They have told and afraid that they may be found out or overthrown even those.

You have been the most powerful tyrants in the history of the world have been in constant terror of being assassinated by someone else, whom they suspected wanted to be the most powerful pirate many have even been murdered by their children or have preemptively murdered their children. In order to avoid it and yet an hour sinfulness and we can see sometimes the earthly treasure that the wicked amass, and think to ourselves that they have a good.

And then we see the pain that sometimes the Lord brings us through. Since he does chase in every son, whom he loves like he was 12 tells us and who we can. We can respond to that in the way verse 13 in verse 14, ASA responds and says, cleansed my heart and vein, because all day long, I've been playing and chasing every morning when we should have said.

I've not cleansed my heart. Well enough. Just like he was 12 says, you've not yet resisted sin to the point of bloodshed, but the Lord is good to me and he doesn't, let me go without the discipline. I need God loves me as a father and he gives me the training that I need.

And so if we were to speak the way, I will remaining sin views things and make the mistake of thinking the wicked have a good and make the mistake of thinking that our trials mean that we have it badly speaking that way, would be untrue or betraying verse 15 the generation of God's children, but you know who doesn't speak on truthfully to God's children.

You know who doesn't betray God's children in the way that he's speaks. God himself. And that's why one of the great parts of his response to having gone into the sanctuary of God, and worshiping God. And when he does, so he sees the end of the wicked, they don't have God, but God himself is better than anything else.

And he sees the end of himself. He does have God already, who was better than everything else? And not only does he have God now, but you'll have God forever. And he sees that in the worship of God. And he says, oh, God guides me by his counsel verse 24, that, whereas his flesh, and his heart were already failing him because of his remaining sin, and the way he was not seeing things correctly yet, God is the strength of his heart and his portion.

God had come near him in his word and set himself before him and corrected, the way he was thinking and give gave him the ability to believe and embrace the truth about God and his goodness and having God, as our portion forever. And of course, Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of this isn't us for.

Jesus is the word. The law came through Moses, grace and truth came through. Jesus Christ. Jesus is though, word of God, he's our prophet, he's our teacher, he gloves us, he gives us his spirit so that we can understand and believe, and hold on to what he says. And Jesus isn't just the word of God, that corrects us guides us by his counsel.

Jesus also is our portion in Jesus, all of the fullness. Dwells as we'll hear in the Colossians passage Lord willing in a couple of days, and Jesus are hidden all of the treasures of God for us in Jesus, who is God, God himself is our treasure. And so when we realize that we have Jesus already and that we have God already in Jesus, we realize verse 23.

I am continually with you, you hold me by my right hand. You guide me by your counsel and you will receive me to glory afterward. You will receive me into glory. So we already have him, who is the heavenlyness of heaven? So he says, whom have I in heaven and there's nothing upon earth that I desire besides you God himself especially in our Lord.

Jesus Christ is our priceless treasure and so he's reoriented reassessed, his value system. By the time, he comes to, the end of the psalm says, they already have the hellishness of hell, to not know, God himself and God's favor. Indeed, those who are far from you. So perish, you have destroyed all those who desert you for harlotry that is to love all of the things, the created things instead of the creator is Idolatry, but it's idolatry that is personal.

It's, it's harlotry. Abandoning having God as your chief treasure and having something else as your chief treasure. So when you are embedded or when you are breaking the 10th commandment and what does the 10th commandment? Teach us Sophia to be content with our lot to be content with our locked.

When we are breaking the 10th commandment, we are saying all of these things would be valuable treasure to me, and I am not happy, just to have God, and whatever else he is assigned to me with him. That's a very, very wicked response to God. And here, it's described in verse 27 as harlotry, like a wife who goes after other people, instead of her husband.

So also is our heart when it goes after created things instead of the creator who has given himself to us and has done. So, most of all in the Lord, Jesus Christ. So by the time we get to the end of the psalm, the spirit is instructed us to reorient.

Our values system to define goodness, as knowing the Lord to trust in the Lord, declaring the Lord to be the process treasure is good for me. I define goodness as drawing near to God. I've put my trust in the Lord Yahweh that I may declare all your works. Indeed.

God himself is the priceless treasure and he has given himself to us and the Lord Jesus. Let's pray. We thank you. Oh, Lord. For this psalm. And we thank you for your patience with us that we have had this experience where our hearts were far from you. And our souls were embedded and we were not treasuring you and we deserved to be destroyed.

We were the wicked that ought to have had your wrath burn upon us, but you loved us and you gathered us to yourself in your worship and you instructed us from your word and you set yourself before us. And then as now we remembered that you oh God have made us for yourself and even given yourself to us in Jesus Christ.

And that even your way of being worshiped is to guide us by your counsel to instruct us that our hearts will be set upon you again and to treasure you again and discover the true and everlasting goodness. How we thank you that you and your electing everlasting love have designed that.

We would be saved by union with your son, that he would become flesh and dwell among this and that by your spare, working faith. In us when we consider Christ, we would behold his glory, we ask for your spirits almighty work, in our hearts that you who made the light to shine in the darkness would cause the light of the knowledge of your glory to shine in our hearts, in the face of Jesus Christ that we might treasure him and know you in him that we would count all goodness as drawing near to you and know that all ready on earth.

We have the heavenlyness of heaven and there's nothing besides you, that we would desire. And so we bless your name for your goodness. And we can confess that having given us yourself together with whatever else you assign us as our lot. You have been infinitely. Generous when we pray that you would give us hearts that are content with this and that love, instead most of all, to praise your name for, we ask it in Jesus name.

Amen.