

Saints Are Not Forsaken

Psalm 37:21-40

1. _____ of Contrasting People
 - a. The _____
 - i. _____ but does not repay
 - ii. Lies in wait to _____ the righteous
 - iii. A _____ man spreading out like a full tree
 - b. The _____
 - i. _____ and giving
 - ii. _____ righteously and justly
 - iii. Has God's law in his _____
 - iv. Takes _____ in the LORD

2. The LORD's _____ of Contrasting People

- a. The _____
 - i. Blesses him with an _____
 - ii. _____ his steps with pleasure
 - iii. Upholds his hand when he _____
 - iv. Does not abandon in _____
 - v. Does not forsake His " _____ "
 - vi. Does not abandon him to evil _____
 - vii. Does not declare him _____
 - viii. Gives _____ to him
 - ix. Is a _____ in times of distress
 - x. Helps, delivers and saves him
- b. The _____
 - i. Curses him so he is _____ off
 - ii. Cuts off his _____
 - iii. Makes him _____
 - iv. Destroys the _____ together

3. Proper _____ of the Believer to These Contrasts

- a. Turn aside from evil, do _____ and dwell forever
- b. _____ for the LORD and keep His way
- c. Keep the blameless and _____ the upright

Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Psalm 34:14

I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.

Psalm 40:8

And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Follow-Up Notes

The righteous man is described as one who has God's law in his heart. How is this displayed in the descriptions of his character?

1. Read Deuteronomy 15:7-11 and Exodus 22:25-27. How do these portions of the law guide the character of the righteous?
2. Read Exodus 23:1-8. How does "speaking justice" come from adherence to this part of the law? What does it mean to "speak righteously?"
3. Some translations of verse 40 equate "because they sought refuge in Him" to "because they trusted Him." How does seeking refuge in the LORD not only imply trust but go beyond trusting? How do you "seek refuge" in the LORD?

One thing we are told to do in this Psalm (while we try to react in a proper fashion to the apparent prosperity of the wicked) is to guard the blameless and see the upright.

1. Do you focus more on the wicked or the righteous?
2. Does the culture around us want us to focus more on the wicked or the righteous? Why?
3. How does looking at the righteous help us avoid improper reactions to the power, influence or wealth of the wicked?

Do you really trust God to take care of the wicked? Are you able to wait?