

## The Blessed and the Scornful Psalm 1

Psalms, sometimes called Hebrew Hymnbook. Like the other Psalms, chapter one was music to Israel. What is the first hymn about? How does God start this song book?---with the word "blessed." I like that word. It means happy. In favor with God. After you are saved, there is no influence in your life as powerful as your relationship, your walk with God. Folk that do not want a relationship with God should never have gotten involved in salvation.

Blessed in the original language is plural. In other words, much is the happiness of those spoken of in this verse as being BLESSED. I cannot count the happiness God has sent my way. Seems God does not dole out blessings one at a time but in bundles. Good health. Good church. Good church family. Saved family. Home. Clothes. Transportation.

Psalms 1 sometimes called an orphan Psalm for no writer is associated with this Psalm.

Verse 1:

Psychologist say emphasize the positive, but God starts with the negative. The happy man is marked by the books he does not read, the places he does not go, the movies he does not watch, the company he does not keep, the words he does not say. We judge people like this: they have a big house. God say in verse 1: they do not have a sinful life. In other words, the man that avoids sin is the HAPPY man. We think we be happy is we get raise, new car, promotion. That is not who God says is happy, but it is the man who avoids sin. If you desire to flourish in your Christian life, you will have to stay away from sin. It is not possible to live sinless, but it is possible to not be sinful.

The Happy Man does not learn from the sinner

a) Counsel means advise, offer advise. Does not listen to the sinner. The world will give you a bum steer. Hollywood will have

you walking down the street nude. NFL have you beating your wife. NBA have you smoking pot.

The town drunk claims to know how a Christian should live. The rank sinner in this city knows all about God and Bible and stands ready to tell you.

Don't listen! Eve first mistake- listening!

Some advice of the world: OK in moderation "a little never hurt anyone." "Everyone doing it." "Way to be popular accepted."

### The Happy Man does not observe sinners.

b) Big term today is "hangout." If I going to hangout, I will not hangout at the bar. I will not hangout at the pool hall.

Happy man does not stand alongside sinners. Who do you hang out with? Nothing wrong with being friendly to all people- saved and lost. Jesus was kind to all people. He got accused with being Friend of sinners calling him a friend of publicans and sinners.

Examples:

\* Abraham stood alongside sinners when he went down to Egypt to escape famine in Canaan. Lied about Sarah. Lost testimony. Lot in Sodom.

\* Peter "hung out" with sinners at their fire and failed the Lord.

Who do you hang out with? Ask God to give you a path where you are surrounded with saints. Many are not happy because the run with sinners. I have often wondered- what happened to that clan of men who were running with Paul on road to Damascus when he got saved!

### The happy man does not lodge, dwell with sinners

c) Seat=chair. Professor's chair. Mt 23:2 "the scribes...sit in Moses' seat," that is, they were professors of the law. Who are the scornful? Those who ridicule the way of the Lord. The atheist, agnostic, the humanist. I did not send my kids to a liberal, Godless college to sit in the seat and listen to professors ridicule the ways of the Lord and blaspheme Him. Many young minds had been

ruined listening to the scornful and that includes some of today's so-called Bible institutes.

Who is your mentor? Who do you emulate? Who would you desire to be like?

Did you notice the digression in verse 1? Walk, stand, then sit. If you will not participate in the first step, you will never get to the third step.

All of the above speak of what we are to avoid if we shall be blessed, that is, happy.

Now, let's see what we not avoid, but partake of to be happy.

Verse 2:

\* The Happy Man is delighted, satisfied with the WORD OF GOD.

KJV- inerrant, infallible, inspired.

A) Delights in Word- it is his affection. Do you love this book? If not, you have a problem and need fixing. No, it is not enough just to hear it taught and preached. What about your desire, your love, your affection for this book? Watch more TV that read Bible? When you read the Bible, God is speaking.

Job 23:12 "Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food." When Job was not eating the Word of God, he was wanting to eat it.

- God instructed Ezekiel, when he called him, to eat of the scripture, place it in his bowels, inner parts.

- When Paul was in prison, he said BRING ME THE SCROLLS.

What we are to partake of as happy people- the word- that was a short list!!! About new car- not on list. How about bigger home- not on the list. The ULTIMATE satisfaction in the heart of a saint

is the Word of God. Nothing will take the place of the Word of God in your heart when you are saved.

\* B) Not only a happy man delights in the Word of God, he meditates (thinks) on it. How often? Day and night. Arise thinking of the Word of God. Go to bed thinking on it. What is “meditate?” It means to engage the conscious mind, in this case, in the truths of God’s Word. Not silly yoga, middle eastern culture. Not 2 o’clock TV. Not finances or education. HAVE you engaged anyone lately who has their mind engaged in the Word of God? I have thoughts, and I have meditations. Thoughts come and go. Some good. Some bad. But short lived. A meditation is to  dwell  on the Word of God. Think on it. Sleep on it. Sunday morning is not enough. David hid the Word in his heart. It was always with him.

Verse 1- stay away from sin

Verse 2- align with the Word of God.

Verse- we see the result...God’s people will prosper. Sounds good to me.

Verse 3:

\* The Happy Man dwells by the water. He is not plucked up, a quitter. He is not puckerred up- a whiner. He is not withered- that is a slothful, lazy man. There is life by the water. I have often thought what could Africa be if that land only had a generous water supply?

A man by the water:

> Tree- prominent. Others notice. Others impacted. Others influenced. Has a Testimony. Even the rank sinner notices a spirit-filled child of God.

> Planted- it has roots, life. The life is not the Pastor or the family, but the roots

> Position- by the water. Withstand drought. Hard times come. Sickness comes. Financial tests come. Someone fails to shake his hand. Still presses on.

> Productive. FRUIT. Keep dabbling in sin as verse 1, you never have fruit in your Christian life. Further, you will stand before God empty-handed. Are you a blessing to

anyone? Help anybody? **A TREE DOES NOT EAT ITS OWN FRUIT.** To be fruitful is to bring a blessing, not on self, but others.

> In his season- not much fruit now. As I speak, winter. How many apple trees bear fruit year-round? I want to feel blessed every day. I want to be fruitful every day. Not happen. However, if you will stay with God, make up your mind to be Godly person, “in season” fruit will come. ACTS 19. HOW MANY trees have apples year-round? I want one of those.

What happens in dry season? No fruit, kinda looks lifeless, does not look vibrant. **BUT ROOT DIGGING** down and strengthening.

> His leaf shall not wither- evergreen. Winter, leaves same. Fall, leaves same. Steady, faithful. Yo-yo Christians- up and down. Same night, same day. Same next year as this year.

> Prosperous- you can't keep a godly man down. “whatsoever” he doeth shall prosper.

Now we turn to the ungodly verse 4-6

Verse 4-5

DRIVEN: The ungodly. A popcorn husk. A particle of lint. A ship with no rudder. A horse with no bridle. A car with no steering system. A plane with no pilot. So many folk think they are in control but they are not. They intend to go to heaven, but hell awaits. They plan to live forever, but death is on trail. They never intend to be sick, but cancer or other disease walks in front door. But God's people know all thing work together for good to them that love God Rom 8:28.

Sister Lisa doc say cancer- so be it. I am one of God's children and this is His situation to handle.

Why is there so much suicide? Often, it is the ungodly hit by an unexpected wind. (Cletus Benton)

I would hate to face the satanic forces of this universe without God on my side. I am so glad I was not born in the time of Hitler to live

under his cruel dictatorship. Yet, millions of men and women live in a world where Satan is “the prince of the power of the air”, the “god of this world.” The devil is president. The devil is prime minister. The devil is chief justice.

Only godly people have stability in their life.

Verse 6

PERISH: We don't like to say it, we don't like to hear it, but the Bible says sinners are going to perish. Sinners go to a hopeless place called hell. Perish. Know only suffering, misery, loneliness, sorrow, helplessness. Wait til a sinner gets in a place called HELL where God is totally absent.