Choices That Shape Your Life"

Psalm 1
March 23, 2025

The Psalms

- → The Name: In Hebrew, it means "Praises". In Greek, the word means, "a poem sung to musical accompaniment."
- → The Author? Multiple people but many are by David.
- → They are Hebrew poetry, but don't look for rhymes, look for parallelism.

Psalm 27:1 is an example --

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

- → Psalm 1 is widely believed, not to technically be the first Psalm, but the preface or introduction to the collection. It serves to explain the big decision that is before all people -- how will you live your life?

The Big Idea: Scripture tells us that there are 2 ways to live. One comes with His blessing and prosperity and the other results in God's judgment and eternal death. The choice centers on the decision you make about who and what will have the greatest influences on your thoughts, character, and the choices you make.

1 Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.

3 He is *like a tree*
planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.

4 The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

6 for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

What It All Means for Us:

- ☐ There are two basic choices before every man and woman, as to the kind of life you will live.
- ☐ Only one life is promised the "Blessing" of your Creator.
- ☐ It matters who we allow to have access to our hearts. People have power to shape what we become. We choose the life we live, but the people closest to us have enormous influence on that choice.
- ☐ Only one kind of life is assured to "prosper". Remember, Biblical prosperity is not about health and wealth; it is about God-orchestrated, and ultimately good outcomes for our circumstances.
- ☐ There is only one kind of life where we can be assured that God walks intimately with us – He knows the "way of the righteous". In the Incarnation – Jesus showed us He ***IS*** *the Righteous Way!*
- ☐ ***What kind of life will you live?***

"The human heart has a thirst for God. God created us, and something in us relates to something in God. Until these two are brought together, which happens at salvation, there is restlessness within the human heart that can never be stilled."

- ***A.W. Tozer***