

SERMON ON PSALM ONE

I. Text: Psalm 1:1-6:

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord: and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."

II. Major Objective: Consecrational

III. Central Idea: There are certain characteristics and blessings abiding in the life of one who serves God.

IV. Subject: The Character of a Christian. 48

V. Thesis and Goal:

1. Proposition: This Psalm is a mirror of the true Christian, highlighting his chief characteristics.
2. Specific objective: To get the people to see and understand the Bible standard for the man who serves God and to challenge them to strive with God's help to attain this ideal and goal.

(1) The Christian does not follow the counsel of the ungodly. (Psalm 1:1a)

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a. The Christian does not follow the ways of the world, nor does he adopt the principles of the wicked as a rule for his life. Psalm 40:8

b. Additional scripture: Isa. 55:7-9 victory over evil.

(2) The Christian does not seek companionship with those who wilfully violate God's commandments and

Additional scripture: Psalm 119:9, 11

(2) He lives in open wickedness. (Psalm 1:1b)

Illustration: Lot pitched his tents toward Sodom and soon he was sitting in a place of prominence. He became so entangled in the affairs of that wickedness he lost his influence and possessions.

3. (3) The Christian does not assemble himself with those who sneer and attack religion. (Psalm 1:1c)

(1) a. His faith in God cannot permit his fellowship with atheists.

b. His love for God will not tolerate the company of those who mock God.

Illustration: Peter while Christ was being tried was gathered around the fire with those who were crucifying Christ. Had he been with the other disciples there would have been no temptation to deny his Lord. He was warming his hands at the

(2) devil's fire!

Additional scripture: 2 John 9-11

The Character of a Christian is revealed by his Choice

2. The Choice of the Christian Reveals His Character.

(Psalm 1:2)

(1) His greatest delight is in the law of the Lord.

(Psalm 1:2a) *Scripture: Galatians 6:9*

a. He is not under the law as a curse or ^ssondemnation,

4. The Contrast of the Christian Reveals His Character.

but he delights in it. This is where his heart is.

1. Habitually
2. Takes time to do it
3. about business
Additional scripture: Psalm 40:8

b. His delight in God's law gives him victory over
(Psalm 1:4a)
evil.

(2) The ungodly are neither fruitful nor nutritious, but

Additional scripture: Psalm 119:9,11

fit only to be removed. (Psalm 1:4b)

(2) He delights to meditate in God's law day and night.

(4) (Psalm 1:2b) Perish with their way of life. (Psalm 1:2b)

a. It is his constant companion in the day of sunshine
and in the night of shadows.

5. The Consumption of the Christian Reveals His Character.

b. The law of the Lord meets his every need.

(Psalm 1:4)

7 4(7) 3. (The Consolation of the Christian Reveals His Character.

(Psalm 1:3) and he takes care that it does not fail

(1) He is like a tree planted by the rivers of water.

(Psalm 1:3a) *Scripture: 1 Peter 1:4,5*

a. He is not a wild tree, but a planted tree.

(a) He has a place and purpose in God's kingdom.

b. God supplies his every need. *His every need is supplied by God*

If one goes another
dry moves another
(a) "The rivers of pardon and grace, rivers of
promise, rivers of communion with Christ
are never failing sources of supply."

Additional scripture: Philippians 4:19

(2) The Christian's life is a fruitful one.

Additional scripture: John 15:5; Galatians: 5:22,23

But God offers more than the cool of our trees.

Pleased in the man--how rich is the life of the man who follows

(3) He will flourish continually in all that he does.

Look. The Additional scripture: Galatians 6:9

which follows. "There is great opportunity for the Christian to flourish in all that he does."

4. The Contrast of the Christian Reveals His Character.

Psalm 1:4,5,6

(Psalm 1:4,5,6)

(1) He is not like the ungodly in character or choice.

(Psalm 1:4a)

(2) The ungodly are neither fruitful or nutritious, but fit only to be removed. (Psalm 1:4b)

(3) They have no place in God's kingdom. (Psalm 1:5)

(4) They shall perish with their way of life. (Psalm 1:6)

Additional scripture: James 1:15; Proverbs 14:12

5. The Consummation of the Christian Reveals His Character.

(Psalm 1:6)

(1) The righteous man's course of life leads to God himself; and he takes care that it does not fail of its end.

Additional scripture: 1 Peter 1:4,5

VIII. Conclusion: From start to finish the Christian life

cannot be said to be always easy and popular. The world

crucified Jesus and is the servant greater than the master?

Jesus said if we follow him it means taking a cross. This

life is not the time of crowns but of crosses. What if one

chooses the popularity of this world--what does it matter?

He shall surely lose his soul in the process! Better to

be forsaken of this world than to be forsaken of God!

But God offers more for the soul of man than does the world.

Blessed is the man--how rich is the life of he who follows