

Psalm 36

1:1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD. The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes. 2 For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful. 3 The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, and to do good. 4 He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way that is not good; he abhorreth not evil.

5 Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds. 6 Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.

7 How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. 8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures. 9 For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

10 O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart. 11 Let not the foot of pride come against me, and let not the hand of the wicked remove me. 12 There are the workers of iniquity fallen: they are cast down, and shall not be able to rise.

Introduction notes:

1. To the chief Musician – Asaph or others designated.
2. A Psalm written by David.
3. “the servant of the LORD” (Ps. 18:1; and here).

Outline:

- A. The Nature of the Wicked (vv.1-4)
- B. The Nature of the LORD (vv.5-6)
- B.’ The Blessings of the LORD (vv.7-9)
- A.’ The Dangers of the Wicked (vv.10-12)

Observations:

1. Though not often acknowledged, David speaks in v.1 as a prophet (cf. Acts 2:30).
2. “No fear” – the attitude and mindset of the wicked. No fear of the LORD, nor His judgment.
3. The wicked is self-assured in contradiction to God (Deut. 29:19).
4. The wicked is self-deceived and will deceive others (2 Tim. 3:13).
5. The LORD’s goodness is described as “Mercy”; “Faithfulness”; “Righteousness”; “Judgments”; “Preserves”; “Lovingkindness”
6. “river of thy pleasures (pleasures = “Edens”) – (Jn. 7:38).
7. The LORD’s light is distinguished from the sun, the moon, and the stars – as a fourth kind, the one prior to Day 4 of the Creation week (Ecc. 12:4). It is God Himself!
8. Like a prophet David prophesied of the final defeat and destruction of the wicked (perhaps, King Saul, we don’t know – although King Saul was certainly stopped by the LORD and he had a tragic ending (1 Sam. 31ff).

Lesson: Man’s wickedness results in destruction
But God’s goodness results in blessings.