

# PSALM 1: **TWO WAYS, TWO DESTINIES**

Psalm 1

### About the **Psalms**

Hebrew: Tehillim = PRAISES

English (Greek) **Psalmoi** = **SONGS** sang with accompaniment

#### THE FUNCTION OF THE PSALMS

- They express the human **SENTIMENT** in one's relationship with God
- The **HYMNAL**/prayer book of Israel

#### THE VALUE OF THE PSALMS

- The **FREQUENCY** of New Testament quotations (3rd place)
- The theological insight into God's **SOVEREIGNTY**
- The **DEVOTIONAL** aid through the centuries

#### TYPES OF PSALMS

- Hymn of Praise
- LAMENT
- Pentitential

- Thanksgiving
- Royal
- WISDOM

## Psalm 1: Two Ways, Two Destinies

The righteous	separates	oneself	from	<b>WICKED</b>
influences.	(Psalm 1:1)			

The *righteous* one **SATURATES** oneself with the Word of God. (Psalm 1:2)

The *righteous* one prospers and is **FRUITFUL**. (1:3)

The wicked one is **USELESS**. (Psalm 1:4)

The wicked one is **ETERNALLY** judged. (Psalm 1:5-6)

### 1:10 COMMUNITY GROUP **HOMEWORK**

#### **GETTING STARTED**

- 1. Do you have any favorite Psalms? What do you like about it? Why does it resonate with you?
- 2. **Read Psalm 1:1-6** and review your message notes. What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it with your group.

#### **DISCUSS**

- 3. Did you learn anything new about the Psalms this week?
- 4. Of the images used by the Psalmist in Psalm 1, which is your favorite? Why?
- 5. Psalm 1 lays out the doctrine of the two ways, righteousness v. wickedness, that each person chooses. Jesus taught on this concept often, especially toward the end of his Sermon on the Mount. Read each of the following passages from Matthew. What imagery did Jesus use to communicate the "two ways"? What do you notice about each image? Why do you think he uses imagery to teach? Which do you find most striking?

Matthew 7:13-14 Matthew 7:15-20 Matthew 7:24-27

- 6. Bible history seems to be built around the concept of "two men": Cain and Abel, Ishmael and Isaac, Esau and Jacob, David and Saul—and Bible history culminates in Christ and Antichrist. Two men, two ways, two destinies. The ultimate example used by Paul is the contrast between the "first Adam" and the "last Adam" (i.e. Jesus). 1 Corinthians 15:45-49. Compare this passage to Psalm 1. What are the two ways of the "first Adam" and the "last Adam"? What are the similarities between the two Adams? What are the differences? What are their two destinies? (You might also look at Romans 5:12-21.)
- 7. **Read Deuteronomy 30:15-20.** Everyone is faced with a choice... we can choose to obey the Lord, or we can choose our own way and choose to sin. Two ways. What is the result of choosing to obey? What is the result of choosing to sin?
- 8. Psalm 1:2 says the the righteous person delights in the law of the Lord. Read the following passages. What does it look like *practically* to delight in God's Word and meditate on it day and night? Come up with some ideas as a group, or share with your group what you've found to be helpful for you.

### PRAYER GUIDE

During your prayer time this week, let's all be praying together about the following items. Use the space at the bottom to record your personal prayer items, or requests from your 1:10 Group.

#### **Neighboring Church**

Pray this week for the ministry and people of Apostolic Christian Church in Milford.

#### Student Ministry at Challenge this Week!

Pray this week for our students at Challenge in Kansas City, Missouri this week. Pray for God to work in the lives of the students, drawing them closer to one another and closer to Jesus. Challenge is the national youth conference of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

Personal	Personal Prayer Items									

#### Word Find for Psalm 1 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

<sup>1</sup> 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; <sup>2</sup> 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.

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