

Sunday - January 24, 2021

Living In The Word

Dr. Jim Cooley, First Baptist Birmingham

Today's Scripture: Psalm 1:1-6

¹ Blessed is the man

Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

² But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
And in His law he meditates day and night.

³ He shall be like a tree
Planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper.

⁴ The ungodly are not so,
But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall 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 ungodly shall perish.

HOW IMPORTANT IS A DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WORD OF GOD?

- The quality of your spiritual life is directly dependent upon how deeply connected you are to the Bible

DAVID WAS A LOT LIKE YOU AND ME

- He knew how to do things God's way
- He knew how to do things his own way

- He had to remember the power of staying in the Word of God

YOU ARE BLESSED WHEN YOU AVOID THE PROGRESSIVE POWER OF SIN

- *“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful.” Psalm 1:1*
- Temptation hardly ever challenges you to immediately do something drastic that will separate you from the Lord and His ways
- Notice the way David describes it.
 - First, you walk by
 - Then, you stop and stand
 - Finally, you sit and stay
- This is what is true of everyone who chooses the path of temptation
- You begin by believing you are in control
- You justify your actions by convincing yourself that sin will deliver what you believe you want
- In the end, you discover you are not a victor; you are a victim.

BLESSED IS THE PERSON WHO TRUSTS GOD’S WORD TO GUIDE HIM

- *“But his delight is in the law of the Lord.” Psalm 1:2*
- While temptation and sin find a way to sneak into your life, a strong Christian life is always the result of a deliberate choice
- To delight in is to discover where you belong
- To delight in the Word of God is to realize that knowing God’s Word and following God’s way is the only place where satisfaction and contentment can be found
- If the path of temptation leads away from the Lord, the Word of God leads you right back again
 - I will know God’s Word
 - I will do God’s Word
- *“In His law he meditates day and night.” Psalm 1:2*

JOSIAH BECAME A SPIRITUAL GIANT

- *“Now before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses; nor after him did any arise like him.” II Kings 23:25*
- He let the Word have its way in his life

YOU ARE BLESSED WHEN YOU INVEST YOUR LIFE WISELY

- Those who invest in sin receive sin's consequences
- Those who invest in Godliness receive God's blessings
- *For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish."*
Psalm 1:6