

PSALM 73

¹ A Psalm of Asaph.

How good is God to Israel, to the upright in heart!

² But my feet were almost overthrown; my goings very nearly slipped.

³ For I was jealous of the transgressors, beholding the tranquility of sinners.

⁴ For there is no sign of reluctance in their death, and *they have* firmness under their affliction.

⁵ They are not in the troubles of *other* men; and they shall not be scourged with *other* men.

⁶ Therefore pride has possessed them; they have clothed themselves with their injustice and ungodliness.

⁷ Their injustice shall go forth as out of fatness; they have fulfilled their intention.

⁸ They have taken counsel and spoken in wickedness; they have uttered unrighteousness proudly.

⁹ They have set their mouth against heaven, and their tongue has gone through upon the earth.

¹⁰ Therefore shall my people return here, and full days shall be found with them.

¹¹ And they said, "How does God know? And is there knowledge in the Most High?"

¹² Behold, these *are* the sinners, and they that prosper always; they have possessed wealth.

¹³ And I said, "Verily in vain have I justified my heart, and washed my hands in innocence."

¹⁴ For I was plagued all the day, and my reproof *was* every morning.

¹⁵ If I said, "I will speak thus"; behold, I *should* have broken covenant with the generation of Your children.

¹⁶ And I undertook to understand this, *but* it is too hard for me,

¹⁷ until I go into the sanctuary of God, *and so* understand the latter end.

¹⁸ Surely You have appointed *judgments* to them because of their crafty dealings; You have cast them down when they were lifted up.

¹⁹ How have they become desolate! Suddenly they have failed; they have perished because of their iniquity.

²⁰ As the dream of one awakening, O Lord, in Your city You will despise their image.

²¹ For my heart has rejoiced, and my heart has been gladdened.

²² But I *was* vile and did not know: I became brutish before You.

²³ Yet I am continually with You. You have taken hold of my right hand.

²⁴ You have guided me by Your counsel, and You have taken me to Yourself with glory.

²⁵ For whom have I in heaven *but You?* And what have I desired upon the earth besides You?

²⁶ My heart and my flesh have failed; *but God is the strength* of my heart, and God is my portion forever.

²⁷ For behold, they that remove themselves far from You shall perish; You have destroyed everyone that goes a whoring from You.

²⁸ But it is good for me to cleave close to God, to put my trust in the Lord; that I may proclaim all Your praises in the gates of the daughter of Zion.