

Daily Bible Readings for Home Study

LET'S STUDY!!

Your Read-Ahead for: 19 June 2022

Asaph's Lament

Monday-The Wicked Prosper (**Job 21:1-16**)

Tuesday-The Wicked Will be Judged (**Job 21:17-34**)

Wednesday-The Lord is My Portion (**Psalm 119:57-64**)

Thursday- The King of Glory (**Psalm 24:1-10**)

Friday-The Rock of My Salvations (**Psalm 18:1-3, 46-50**)

Saturday-God's Love is Steadfast (**Psalm 5:1-12**)

Sunday-The Strength of My Heart (**Psalm 73:1-26**)

Asaph's Lament¹

Lesson Text: Psalm 73:1-26

Related Scriptures:

Job 21:1-16; Psalm 16:1-11, 24:1-10; 84:1-12

TIME: 1000 B.C.

PLACES: Jerusalem

GOLDEN TEXT: "One cried unto another and said, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory." (1st Samuel 3:10) Corinthians 10:5 KJV)

Scripture Lesson Text

Psalm 73:1-26

1 Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.

2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had near slipped.

3 For I was envious of the foolish when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

12 Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.

13 Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain and washed my hands in innocence.

14 For all the day long have I been plagued and chastened every morning.

15 If I say, "I will speak thus," behold, I should offend against the generation of Thy children.

16 When I thought to understand this, it was too painful for me!"

18 Surely, you did set them in slippery places. You did cast them down into destruction!

21 Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.

22 So foolish was I and ignorant; I was as a beast before you

23 Nevertheless I am continually with you; you have held me by my right hand.

¹ Union Gospel Press, Adult Bible Teacher, Spring Quarter, 29 May 2022, *Paul's Thorn in the Flesh*

24 You shall guide me with your counsel and afterward receive me to glory.

25 Whom have I in heaven but you Lord? There is none upon earth that I desire beside you.

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

Lesson Aim

Facts: To study the psalmist's feelings, which moved from self-pity to rejoicing in the Lord when he considered the destiny of the wicked who seemed to prosper.

Principle: To realize that faithful servants of God still struggled with doubt and despair.

Application: To urge believers to serve faithfully considering the transitory nature of this life and the eternal blessings that await them with God in heaven.

Introduction

Most of us are upset when we witness things that appear to be unfair or unjust. Asaph was no exception. He showed his humanity when he became envious over the supposed prosperity of those around him who were wicked, while he felt deprived in his supposed innocence. In God's sanctuary he discovered that the slipping he felt really belonged to the wicked. His position in God was superior to theirs. Asaph's struggle with injustice should encourage Christians today as they learn to patiently wait for Christ's return.

I. Developing the Lesson:

- a. Sense of envy (Psalm 73:1-3)
- b. Sense of unfairness (Psalm 73:12-13)
- c. Sense of enlightenment (Psalm 73:16-18)
- d. Sense of grief (Psalm 73:21-22)
- e. Sense of guidance (Psalm 73:23-26)

II. Studying the Text

a. Good Goodness (Psalm 73:1-3)

- i. God is good (Psalm 73:1)
- ii. Slippery feet (Psalm 73:2)
- iii. Envying the wicked (Psalm 73:3)

b. God Grief (Psalm 73:12-13, 16-18)

- i. Worldly prosperity (Psalm 73:12-13)
- ii. Painful thoughts (Psalm 73:16)
- iii. Into the sanctuary (Psalm 73:17-18)

c. God's Guidance (Psalm 73:21-26)

- i. Foolish and ignorant (Psalm 73:21-22)
- ii. Guided by glory (Psalm 73:23-24)
- iii. God is my strength (Psalm 73:25-26)

III. *Take Aways*

IV. *Announcements*

V. *Closing Prayer*