



TRUSTING GOD IN TROUBLED TIMES Psalm 37

INTRODUCTION

Have you noticed how we are always faced with choices? All most of us want is peace in our heart and we try to make the right move to achieve that peace. When our choices don't work out, we sometimes look back and say that I should have known better. For the believer, we do know better, but applying what we know somehow eludes us in the midst of the battles of life. Our faith in God makes us believers. But our trust in God makes us his followers. Faith is believing. Trust is doing. Knowing this, God gives us some remarkable wisdom in Psalm 37 on how to apply our knowledge of him, his plans, and his promises for us. "But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble." (Ps 37:39).

A. THE CURE FOR THE TROUBLED _____. (Verses 1-9)

We do: (do we trust him?)

V1 - "**Fret Not thyself** because of evildoers, neither be thou envious...."

V3 - "**Trust** in the LORD, and do good:..."

V.4 - "**Delight thyself** also in the LORD...."

V.5 - "**Commit thy** way unto the LORD; **trust** also in him..."

V.7 - "**Rest** in the LORD, and **wait** patiently for him: **fret not thyself**..."

V.8 - "**Cease** from **anger**, and **forsake wrath**: **fret not thyself** in any wise to do evil."

Trust = have confidence in...

Fret = to gnaw, wear away, rub raw

Evil = natural origin = disasters

= moral; wicked; against God

Delight = fulfillment of joy; permanent

Joy = anticipation of good; heart condition

Happiness = circumstantial; in the "now"

Rest = stop moving; quiet; a state of reconciliation to God.

God does: (Do we believe it?)

V.2 - "For they (*v.1 workers of iniquity*) shall soon be **cut down** like the grass, and **wither**..." (*they're gone!*)

V.3 - "...so **shalt thou dwell** in the land, and verily thou **shalt be fed**." (*We will have all we need*)

V.4 - "...and he **shall** give thee the **desires of thine heart**." (*When the **object** of our "delight" is more of God*)

V.5 - "...and he **shall** **bring it to pass**." (*When the desires of our **heart** are the same as his desires*)

V.6 - "And **shall** **bring forth thy righteousness**..and thy judgment.. (*our **righteousness** will be seen by all*)

Supporting Scriptures: (...trust in the LORD, and do good...)

- **Pv. 24:19** - "Fret not thyself because of evil *men*, neither be thou envious at the wicked."
- **Matthew 5:44** - "...do good to them that hate you..."
- **Luke 6:35** - "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again;..."
- **Isaiah 40:31** - "But they that **wait** upon the LORD shall renew their strength."

B. TRUSTING GOD'S _____ . (Verses 10 - 17)

- V.10 - "For yet a little while, and the **wicked shall not be....**" (*The wicked WILL BE GONE!*)
- V.11 - "But the **meek shall inherit the earth**; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of **peace**."
(*peace is promised and is on the way....wait patiently for God to work it all out...this is faith in action*)
- V.13 - "The **Lord shall laugh** at him..." (*Psalm 2: He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh:....*)
- V.15 - "Their **sword shall** enter into their own **heart**, and their bows shall be broken." (*Destroy themselves*)
(*see 2 Chronicles 20; the battle is the LORD's*)
- V.16 - "A **little** that a **righteous man** hat is better than the riches of many wicked." (*All we need is God!*)
- V.17 - "The arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the Lord **upholdeth the righteous**."
(*The wicked will have no ability to prosper, to be "fed". Only God's righteous people will be fed.*)

Supporting Scriptures:

- **Jer 29:11** "For I know the thoughts I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."
- **Pv 3:5-6** "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."
- **John 3:16:** "... whosoever **believeth** in him (*Jesus*) should not perish, but have **everlasting life**."
- **John 3:18** "....But he that believeth not is **condemned** already."

C. TRUSTING GOD'S _____ to the **RIGHTEOUS** (Verses 18 - 40)

- **Inheritance** will be for ever....the meek shall **inherit the land**. (Verses: 9,11, 18, 22, 29, 34)
- The **righteous** will **not be forsaken**. God will "**satisfy**", "**upholdeth**" "**preserve**" "**bless**" give "**peace**", (Verses 19, 24, 25, 28, 33, 34, 37)
- The **wicked shall perish**, be cut off, be gone, destroyed (verses 9, 10, 20, 22, 28, 34, 36, 38)

Supporting Scriptures:

- **John 16:33** - "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have **peace**. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer: **I have overcome the world**."
- **Matthew 5:5** "Blessed are the **meek**: for they shall **inherit the earth**."
- **Matthew 5:9** "Blessed are the **peacemakers**: for they shall be called the **children of God**."
- **Revelation 20:15** "And whosoever was **not** found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

CONCLUSION

v. 39 "But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: **he** is their strength in **the time of trouble**."

v. 40 "And the LORD shall **help** them, and **deliver them**: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and **save** them, because they **trust** in him."

For us to do:

May we **act** on our faith by **trusting** in him with our **actions**.