

Psalm 73: Truly God Is Good?



LIBERTI

PSALM 73

A Psalm of Asaph.

- ¹ Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.
- ² But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped.
- ³ For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
- ⁴ For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek.

PSALM 73

- ⁵ They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.
- ⁶ Therefore pride is their necklace; violence covers them as a garment.
- ⁷ Their eyes swell out through fatness; their hearts overflow with follies.
- ⁸ They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression.
- ⁹ They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth.

PSALM 73

- ¹⁰ Therefore his people turn back to them, and find no fault in them.
- ¹¹ And they say, “How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?”
- ¹² Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches.
- ¹³ All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence.
- ¹⁴ For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning.

PSALM 73

- ¹⁵ If I had said, “I will speak thus,” I would have betrayed the generation of your children.
- ¹⁶ But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task,
- ¹⁷ until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.
- ¹⁸ Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin.
- ¹⁹ How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors!

PSALM 73

- ²⁰ Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as phantoms.
- ²¹ When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart,
- ²² I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you.
- ²³ Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand.
- ²⁴ You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.

PSALM 73

- ²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
- ²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
- ²⁷ For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.
- ²⁸ But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

Confusion & Complaint

vs. 1-3

¹ Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. ² But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. ³ For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Confusion & Complaint

vs.13-14

¹³ All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence. ¹⁴ For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning.

Clarity & Comfort

vs. 16-20

¹⁶ But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, ¹⁷ until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end. ¹⁸ Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin. ¹⁹ How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors! ²⁰ Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as phantoms.

Clarity & Comfort

vs.21-26

²¹ When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart, ²² I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you ²³ Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. ²⁴ You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory. ²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. ²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Matthew 16:26

For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?