

**Series:** Psalm (Summer 2023)

**Text:** Psalm 1:1-6

**HI:** **The Lord has made a way.**

**Title:** *The Gateway Psalm*

**Hook:** Trailhead

**Date:** 7.16.23

**Purpose:** To introduce the listener to the way of the Lord, knowledge of which precedes worship of the Lord.

**FCF:** Every human being lives in response to the Lord; wickedness entices while righteousness beckons. Because he is gracious, the Lord has made a way for sinners to live rightly before him, thereby experiencing life and blessing.

**COR:** This text rings with the reality of absolute truth, describing only two ways to live. Every human's orientation within this reality is directly related to their connectivity to the Lord, the I Am, the one true God and creator of all things.

**Witness of Christ [WC\*]:** John 14:6: Jesus is the way. (CXT: "I Am")

**Apologetic:** The Psalms are an anthem of the experience of God's people in this world. But today's Psalm is very different. No matter if you believe in God or not, this first Psalm will give you insight into the anthems that follow it in this book.

**Text Tone:** Teaching/Training

**Preaching Voice:** Priestly (instructional)

**Form:** Deductive

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 18:30

**Benediction:** 2 Thessalonians 3:16

**Outline:**

**I. There is a way to a blessed life. (1-2)**

A. This life deviates from the world. (1)

B. This person delights in the word. (2)

**II. There is a road to flourishing that is not fleeting. (3-4)**

A. This tree is rooted. (3)

B. This chaff is ruined. (4)

**III. There is a path to peace among the perishing. (5-6)**

A. The wicked are headed for judgment. (5)

B. The righteous are secure in the Lord. (6)

**Main Idea:**

Subject: How does the way of the righteous diverge from the way of the wicked?  
Complement: One leads to blessing and life and the other to judgment and death.  
Exegetical Idea: The way of the righteous leads to blessing and life; the way of the wicked to judgment and death.  
Theological Idea: The Lord has made a way for his people to reject wickedness and walk in righteousness.

**Homiletical Idea: The Lord has made a way.**

### **Introduction:**

**Psa. 24:3-4** Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

READ Psalm 1:1-6

Blessed is the man

who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.

3 He is like a tree  
planted by streams of water  
that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.

In all that he does, he prospers.

4 The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

5 Therefore the wicked will 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 wicked will perish.

**The Lord has made a way.**

RE-READ Psalm 1:1-2

Blessed is the man  
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  
2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.

### **I. There is a way to a blessed life. (1-2)**

Matthew 5:3-5: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

“Whatever shapes a man’s thinking shapes his life” Derek Kidner

READ Psalm 1:3-4

3 He is like a tree  
planted by streams of water  
that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.

In all that he does, he prospers.

4 The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

### **II. There is a road to flourishing that is not fleeting. (3-4)**

Charles Spurgeon: “The righteous carves his name upon the rock, but the wicked writes his remembrance in the sand.”

RE-READ Psalm 1:5-6

5 Therefore the wicked will 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 wicked will perish.

### **III. There is a path to peace among the perishing. (5-6)**

Hebrews 9:27: it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment...

#### **The Lord has made a way.**

John 14:6: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."