

Tim Smith - Psalm 73

NGC CW 7/7/24

Each bold title below represents a slide header with the text of the slide following. Feel free to divide longer passages up into two slides. Thanks for your help putting this together. Tim

Psalm 73

“Moved by Glory” (this is the title of the sermon, not another header)

Intro & Conclusion

¹Truly God is **good** to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.

²⁸But 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.

Asaph's Crisis

²But as for me, my feet had almost **stumbled**,
my steps had nearly **slipped**.

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

The “*Shalom*” of the Wicked

⁴For they have **no pangs** until death;
their **bodies** are **fat** and sleek.

⁵They are **not in trouble** as others are;
they are **not stricken** like the rest of mankind.

⁶Therefore **pride is their necklace**;
violence covers them as a garment.

⁷Their eyes swell out through **fatness**;
their hearts overflow with **follies**.

⁸They **scoff** and speak with **malice**;
loftily they **threaten oppression**.

⁹They set their **mouths against the heavens**,
and their tongue struts through the earth.

¹⁰Therefore **his people turn back to them**,
and find no fault in them.

¹¹And they say, “**How can God know?**”

Is there knowledge in the Most High?"

¹²Behold, these are the wicked;
always at ease, they increase in riches.

Where Comparison Leads

¹³All in vain have I kept my heart clean
and washed my hands in innocence.
¹⁴For all the day long I have been **stricken**
and **rebuked** every morning.
¹⁵If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
I would have **betrayed** the generation of your children.

Asaph's Turning Point

¹⁶But when I thought how to understand this,
it seemed to me a **wearisome task**,
¹⁷until I went into the **sanctuary of God**;
then I discerned their end.

Asaph's Conviction

¹⁸Truly you set them in **slippery places**;
you make them **fall** to ruin.
¹⁹How they are **destroyed in a moment**,
swept away utterly by terrors!
²⁰Like a dream when one awakes,
O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as **phantoms**.

Asaph's Confession

²¹When my soul was **embittered**,
when I was pricked in heart,
²²I was **brutish and ignorant**;
I was like a **beast** toward you.

Asaph's Affirmation

²³Nevertheless, I am continually with you;
you hold my right hand.
²⁴You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will receive me to glory.
²⁵Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
²⁶My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Asaph's Conclusion

²⁷For behold, those who are far from you shall perish;
you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.

²⁸But 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.

Gospel Reflection

1. Beware of the comparison trap!
2. Justice ultimately belongs to God!
3. Seek God's presence!

We seek God's presence through:

- HIS WORD - time in the bible
- WORSHIP - praising God for how much greater he is than anything else
- PRAYER - talking to God - honestly - about what we're struggling with
- CONFESSION - feel convicted? - name it to God & others
- COMMUNITY - time w/ God's people - open & honest