

## **Psalm 73**

### **Restored Perspective, Renewed Vision**

#### **Preamble**

We are committed to obey the Lord

Committed to the scriptures

- The Great Commandment - Love the Lord your God with all ...
- The Great Commission - Go into all the world ..

A year to be strong and become stronger

By the Lords help but we also work with the Lord

#### **In The Grey zone**

- Global shaking and transition taking place
- We may question who we are, what we believe
- Change and transition are taking place can make us feel unsettled
- This produces pressure and shaking
  
- A season like this may produce, anxiety, lack of clarity and weariness

The enemy tries in this unprecedented time in history, to:

- Confuse - Make something more complex or less easy to understand
- Distract - Divert attention, prevent someone from concentrating
- Disorient - Lose one's sense of direction
- Dilute - Make something thinner, weaker, less concentrated, or less pure
- Deter - Discourage from doing something by instilling doubt or fear

#### **Introduction**

Asaph - one of the main worship leaders that David had set in place

- Chief amongst the Levites - 1 Chronicles 16

Psalm 73 - Asaph - Probably going through a very serious illness, trial

- V14 - *All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments*
- V26 - *My flesh and my heart may fail*

#### **1. Surely God is good**

Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. **Psalm 73:1**

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him! **Psalm 34:8**

The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works. **Psalm 145:9**

- The fact that God is good means that He has no evil in Him, His intentions and motivations are always good, He always does what is right,
- It refers to God's transcendent majesty, His august superiority, by virtue of which He is worthy of our honour, reverence, adoration, and worship

## 2. **I almost slipped** - nearly lost my foothold

### Envy and Comparison

For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. **Psalm 73:3**

- Envyng someone else's situation and life
- Comparing their prosperity to his present condition

### Have I wasted my commitment

Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence. [14] All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments. **Psalm 73:13-14**

- Asaph had committed to a life of purity
- A clean life
- An innocent life
- Making right choices

### Deeply troubled - potential to betray others

If I had spoken out like that, I would have betrayed your children. [16] When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply **Psalm 73:15-16**

### Grief and Bitterness

When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, [22] I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. **Psalm 73:21-22**

- Grief and bitterness caused Asaph to lose his 'sense'
- Described himself as a brute beast

3. **Till I entered the sanctuary of God** - Then I understood till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny. **Psalm 73:17**

### **Application** - Stay near to God

But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign LORD my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds. **Psalm 73:28**

- It is good to be near God
- I have made the Sovereign

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. [2] I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." **Psalm 91:1-2**

- It's relational
- You choose to meet him in the scriptures
- You meet him in the place of prayer
- You meet him in others