

## ***Life Is Not a Roll of the Dice***

Psalm 37:16-25

*“The reality of this world is that I was born into Someone Else’s Kingdom. My life came to me as a gift I did not choose; it is suspended from a slender thread that I did not weave and cannot on my own sustain, ‘Many are the plans in a human heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.’ So I will need to resign as Master of the Board. The Bible’s word for this is ‘Surrender’. I crown another to be Master-Lord-of my life. I offer my gifts, energies, resources, and heart to Him.”*

**- John Ortberg**

### **I. Life is not a routine in motion; it is the purpose of God at work. (V.16 &18)**

A. God has purposed to bless those who follow His will.

**Psalm 37:16** *A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.*

**Psalm 37:17.** . . . *but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.*

**Psalm 37:18** *The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be forever.*

*“God didn’t hand you your granddad’s bag or your aunt’s life, He personally and deliberately packed you. When you live out of the bag God gave, you discover an uncommon joy.” - Max Lucado*

B. God has purposed to burden those who forsake His will.

**Psalm 37:17** *For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.*

**Psalm 10:15** *Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness till thou find none.*

### **II. Life is not a roulette spin; it is the pleasure of God at work. (V.19-21)**

*“You were planned for God’s pleasure. The moment you were born into the world, God was there as an unseen witness, smiling at your birth. He wanted you alive, and your arrival gave him great pleasure. God did not need to create you, but he chose to create you for his own enjoyment. You exist for His benefit, His glory, His purpose, and His delight. Bringing enjoyment to God, living for His pleasure, is the first purpose of your life. When you fully understand this truth, you will never again have a problem with feeling insignificant.” - Rick Warren*

A. It is the pleasure of God that the righteous prosper.

**Psalm 37:19** *They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.*

**Psalm 1:3** *And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*

B. It is the pleasure of God that the wicked perish.

**Psalm 37:20** *But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away. (V.21) The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.*

An example of the wicked in their arrogance:

**Exodus 4:21** *And the Lord said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.*

**Exodus 14: 17** *And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen. (V.18) And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord,*

### **III. Life is not a random lottery; it is the providence of God at work. (V.23-25)**

