

Personal/Small Group Study

Week of May 12, 2024 A.D.

The Way of the Wicked Will Perish. This Is Guaranteed with Absolute Certainty.

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read Psalm 1:1-6

Read Psalm 1:1

1. What is your personal definition of being "blessed"? In your opinion, how would the typical adult American define being "blessed"?
2. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this sentence: "Being blessed has nothing to do with material possessions, happiness, or contentment. Being blessed is knowing and loving and serving God."
3. What does it mean to "walk in the counsel of the wicked"? Why do people choose to be wicked? Can a follower of Christ ever be a wicked person? Can a follower of Christ ever approve of the actions of a wicked person?
4. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this sentence: "It appears that American Christians stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers every time that a Christian fails to confront those persons who violate or oppose the clear biblical teachings which condemn sinful behavior."

Read Psalm 1:2

5. Does God expect every follower of Christ to: (a) pray daily, (b) diligently study and obey the teaching of the Bible (especially the New Testament), and (c) regularly attend a weekly worship service with their local church fellowship?

Read Psalm 1:3

6. When the word "prosper" appears in the Bible, it typically means "to become strong and flourishing". In the context of verse 3, please explain the meaning of : (a) yields its fruit in season, (b) whose leaf does not wither, and (c) whatever he does prospers.

Read Psalm 1:4

7. A wicked person is someone who is "evil or morally bad; sinful; mean." Are all non-believers (every person who does not have a personal relationship with Christ) "wicked"? If not, why are all non-believers eternally condemned to hell? Why are all Christ-followers destined to live in the presence of God in heaven for eternity?

8. Chaff means: "worthless matter or refuse which is separated from the wheat during threshing". Are all non-believers "worthless" (a) during their earthly existence and/or (b) after they are physically dead?

Read Psalm 1:5

9. Please explain the meaning of (a) "the wicked will not stand in the day of judgment", and (b) "nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous".

Read Psalm 1:6

10. How (and how well) does the Lord "watch over the way of the righteous"? When (and how) will "the way of the wicked perish"?

11. What is the message of Psalm 1:1-6 when it is applied to a follower of Christ (a) during their life on earth and (b) during their life in eternity?

12. Does Psalm 1 teach that the wicked will not enjoy material prosperity, good fortune, and/or power during their lives on earth? Does Psalm 1 teach that the righteous will enjoy material prosperity, good fortune, and/or power during their lives on earth? When it is all said and done, what are the basic principles which are taught by Psalm 1?

Consider: James (who was the half-brother of Jesus) has said to the church, "You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God. Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God." Jesus said, "You are my friends if you do what I command." In the eyes of God, are you a friend of God or are you a friend of the world? You cannot be both. "You think about that." Amen.