

*Philadelphia Church*

# WHEN IT FEELS LIKE GOD HAS FAILED AND SIN HAS PREVAILED

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# PSALM 73:1-28

Truly God is good to Israel, To such as are pure in heart. <sup>2</sup> But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; My steps had nearly slipped. <sup>3</sup> For I was envious of the boastful, When I saw the prosperity of the wicked. <sup>4</sup> For there are no pangs in their death, But their strength is firm. <sup>5</sup> They are not in trouble as other men, Nor are they plagued like other men. <sup>6</sup> Therefore pride serves as their necklace; Violence covers them like a garment.

# PSALM 73:1-28

<sup>7</sup> Their eyes bulge with abundance; They have more than heart could wish. <sup>8</sup> They scoff and speak wickedly concerning oppression; They speak loftily. <sup>9</sup> They set their mouth against the heavens, And their tongue walks through the earth. <sup>10</sup> Therefore his people return here, And waters of a full cup are drained by them.

# PSALM 73:1-28

<sup>11</sup> And they say, “How does God know? And is there knowledge in the Most High?”<sup>12</sup> Behold, these are the ungodly, Who are always at ease; They increase in riches.<sup>13</sup> Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain, And washed my hands in innocence.<sup>14</sup> For all day long I have been plagued, And chastened every morning.

# PSALM 73:1-28

<sup>15</sup> If I had said, “I will speak thus,”  
Behold, I would have been untrue to  
the generation of Your children. <sup>16</sup>  
When I thought how to understand  
this, it was too painful for me— <sup>17</sup>  
Until I went into the sanctuary of  
God; Then I understood their end.

# PSALM 73:1-28

<sup>18</sup> Surely You set them in slippery places; You cast them down to destruction. <sup>19</sup> Oh, how they are brought to desolation, as in a moment! They are utterly consumed with terrors. <sup>20</sup> As a dream when one awakes, So, Lord, when You awake, You shall despise their image.

# PSALM 73:1-28

<sup>21</sup> Thus my heart was grieved, And I was vexed in my mind. <sup>22</sup> I was so foolish and ignorant; I was like a beast before You. <sup>23</sup> Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand. <sup>24</sup> You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory.

# PSALM 73:1-28

<sup>25</sup> Whom have I in heaven but You?  
And there is none upon earth that I  
desire besides You. <sup>26</sup> My flesh and  
my heart fail; But God is the strength  
of my heart and my portion forever.



# PSALM 73:1-28

<sup>27</sup> For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry.

<sup>28</sup> But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord God, That I may declare all Your works.

# **BE CAREFUL OF COMPARISONS**

We don't know what is really going on behind closed doors and silent lips

## **2 CORINTHIANS 10:12**

For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

# **BE CAREFUL OF COMPARISONS**

God is good to Israel, but I almost slipped out of the way

# **BE CAREFUL OF COMPARISONS**

A horizontal view leads to envy of the wicked

# **BE CAREFUL OF COMPARISONS**

Life is not fair

# HEBREWS 12:5-15

And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; <sup>6</sup> For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.”

# HEBREWS 12:5-15

<sup>7</sup> If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? <sup>8</sup> But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.



# HEBREWS 12:5-15

<sup>9</sup> Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup> For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

# HEBREWS 12:5-15

<sup>11</sup> Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.  
Renew Your Spiritual Vitality

# HEBREWS 12:5-15

<sup>12</sup> Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, <sup>13</sup> and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

# HEBREWS 12:5-15

<sup>14</sup> Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: <sup>15</sup> looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

# 1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

# 1 PETER 5:5-11

Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”<sup>6</sup> Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

# 1 PETER 5:5-11

<sup>7</sup> casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

# 1 PETER 5:5-11

<sup>10</sup> But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, [f]perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. <sup>11</sup> To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.



# 1 JOHN 2:16

For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

# **PERSPECTIVE CHANGES EVERYTHING**

God's character is redemptive not  
preventative

# “BLESSED ASSURANCE”

Jesus is Mine, Oh what a foretaste  
of glory Divine, Heir of salvation,  
purchase of God, born of his  
Spirit, washed in his blood.

# **PERSPECTIVE CHANGES EVERYTHING**

When he went into the sanctuary  
he saw an eternal perspective

# EPHESIANS 3:13

Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

# **PERSPECTIVE CHANGES EVERYTHING**

Our great hope, believers are always with God and will spend eternity with Him

## ACTS 19:14-16

Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. <sup>15</sup> And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" <sup>16</sup> Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

# LIVING IN CONFIDENCE

Jesus knew who He was and  
where He was going



# JOHN 13:1-13

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him,

# JOHN 13:1-13

<sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup> rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.

# JOHN 13:1-13

<sup>5</sup> After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. <sup>6</sup> Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?"

# JOHN 13:1-13

<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.”<sup>8</sup> Peter said to Him, “You shall never wash my feet!” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”

# JOHN 13:1-13

<sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!” <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, “He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.”

# JOHN 13:1-13

<sup>11</sup> For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean."  
<sup>12</sup> So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" <sup>13</sup> You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.

# **MATTHEW 3:17**

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

# LIVING IN CONFIDENCE

Because He was secure in His identity  
Jesus could become the servant



# LIVING IN CONFIDENCE

God is not unjust to forget

# HEBREWS 6:9-12

But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.<sup>10</sup> For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name,

# HEBREWS 6:9-12

in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. <sup>11</sup> And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, <sup>12</sup> that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

# LIVING IN CONFIDENCE

Have the challenges of life caused you to draw near to God or push Him away?