

Overcoming the D's

Psalm 73

1. God is Good — The Foundation

- **v. 1** — “Truly God is good...”
- Asaph knows the truth, but his experience is challenging his faith.

2. Envy — The Struggle

- **vv. 2–3** — “My feet were almost gone... I was envious...”
- He sees the prosperity of the wicked and compares it with his own life.
- **vv. 4–12** — The wicked appear healthy, prosperous, secure, and successful.
- **vv. 13–14** — Asaph questions whether faithfulness is worth it: “I have cleansed my heart in vain.”

3. Discouragement — The Question

- **vv. 15–16** — His struggle becomes painful and confusing.
- The question underneath the comparison: **“Why them and not me?”**
- Possibly: **“Is God displeased with me?”**

4. Perspective — The Turning Point

- **v. 17** — “Until I went into the sanctuary of God...”
- God's presence changes Asaph's perspective.
- He sees the **ultimate end** of the wicked rather than merely their present prosperity.

5. Assurance — God Has Not Abandoned Him

- **vv. 21–23** — Asaph recognizes his bitterness and says, “Nevertheless I am continually with thee.”
- God was **holding his hand** even when Asaph felt he was slipping.

6. Contentment — God Himself Is Enough

- **vv. 24–26** — “Whom have I in heaven but thee?”

- “God is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever.”
- His focus moves from **what others have** to **Whom he has**.

7. Conclusion — Draw Near to God

- **vv. 27–28** — “It is good for me to draw near to God.”
- Envy is overcome not by getting what others have, but by **rediscovering the value of God Himself**.

Simple Theme

Comparison → Envy → Discouragement → Perspective → Assurance → Contentment → Drawing Near to God

Key verse: Psalm 73:17 — *“Until I went into the sanctuary of God...”*