

“LIFE ISN’T FAIR!”

.001.tiff

¹TRULY GOD IS GOOD TO ISRAEL, TO THOSE WHO ARE PURE IN HEART. ²BUT AS FOR ME, MY FEET HAD ALMOST STUMBLLED, MY STEPS HAD NEARLY SLIPPED. ³FOR I WAS ENVIOUS OF THE ARROGANT WHEN I SAW THE PROSPERITY OF THE WICKED. ⁴FOR THEY HAVE NO PANGS UNTIL DEATH; THEIR BODIES ARE FAT AND SLEEK. ⁵THEY ARE NOT IN TROUBLE AS OTHERS ARE; THEY ARE NOT STRICKEN LIKE THE REST OF MANKIND. ⁶THEREFORE PRIDE IS THEIR NECKLACE; VIOLENCE COVERS THEM AS A GARMENT. ⁷THEIR EYES SWELL OUT THROUGH FATNESS; THEIR HEARTS OVERFLOW WITH FOLLIES.

.002.tiff

⁸THEY SCOFF AND SPEAK WITH MALICE; LOFTILY THEY THREATEN OPPRESSION. ⁹THEY SET THEIR MOUTHS AGAINST THE HEAVENS, AND THEIR TONGUE STRUTS THROUGH THE EARTH. ¹⁰THEREFORE HIS PEOPLE TURN BACK TO THEM, AND FIND NO FAULT IN THEM. ¹¹AND THEY SAY, “HOW CAN GOD KNOW? IS THERE KNOWLEDGE IN THE MOST HIGH?” ¹²BEHOLD, THESE ARE THE WICKED; ALWAYS AT EASE, THEY INCREASE IN RICHES. ¹³ALL IN VAIN HAVE I KEPT MY HEART CLEAN AND WASHED MY HANDS IN INNOCENCE. —PSALM 73:1-13

.003.tiff

“THE PSALMIST UNDERSTANDS THE DOCTRINAL TRUTH OF THE GOODNESS OF GOD, BUT REALITY MAKES HIM DOUBT THIS TRUTH.”

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**I. THE FUTILITY OF HUMAN COMPARISON
(PSALM 73:1-3)**

.005.tiff

**“ENVY IS A
FOCUSING MORE ON
WHAT OTHERS HAVE
THAN WHAT GOD
HAS GRACIOUSLY
PROVIDED FOR YOU,
CAUSING YOU TO WANT
WHAT THEY HAVE AND
TO QUESTION THE
GOODNESS OF GOD.”
—PAUL DAVID TRIP**

.006.tiff

**A TRANQUIL HEART GIVES LIFE TO THE FLESH,
BUT ENVY MAKES THE BONES ROT.
—PROVERBS 14:30**

.007.tiff

**2. THE NECESSITY OF SPIRITUAL PERCEPTION
(PSALM 73:16-22)**

.008.tiff

16BUT WHEN I THOUGHT HOW TO UNDERSTAND THIS, IT SEEMED TO ME A WEARISOME TASK, 17UNTIL I WENT INTO THE SANCTUARY OF GOD; THEN I DISCERNED THEIR END. 18TRULY YOU SET THEM IN SLIPPERY PLACES; YOU MAKE THEM FALL TO RUIN. 19HOW THEY ARE DESTROYED IN A MOMENT, SWEEPED AWAY UTTERLY BY TERRORS! 20LIKE A DREAM WHEN ONE AWAKES, O LORD, WHEN YOU ROUSE YOURSELF, YOU DESPISE THEM AS PHANTOMS. 21WHEN MY SOUL WAS EMBITTERED, WHEN I WAS PRICKED IN HEART, 22I WAS BRUTISH AND IGNORANT; I WAS LIKE A BEAST TOWARD YOU. —PSALM 73:16-22

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16AND HE TOLD THEM A PARABLE, SAYING, “THE LAND OF A RICH MAN PRODUCED PLENTIFULLY, 17AND HE THOUGHT TO HIMSELF, ‘WHAT SHALL I DO, FOR I HAVE NOWHERE TO STORE MY CROPS?’ 18AND HE SAID, ‘I WILL DO THIS: I WILL TEAR DOWN MY BARNs AND BUILD LARGER ONES, AND THERE I WILL STORE ALL MY GRAIN AND MY GOODS. 19AND I WILL SAY TO MY SOUL, “SOUL, YOU HAVE AMPLE GOODS LAID UP FOR MANY YEARS; RELAX, EAT, DRINK, BE MERRY.”’ 20BUT GOD SAID TO HIM, ‘FOOL! THIS NIGHT YOUR SOUL IS REQUIRED OF YOU, AND THE THINGS YOU HAVE PREPARED, WHOSE WILL THEY BE?’ 21SO IS THE ONE WHO LAYS UP TREASURE FOR HIMSELF AND IS NOT RICH TOWARD GOD.” —LUKE 12:16-21

.010.tiff

**“GOD BUILT US TO FUNCTION IN FOUR AREAS: BIOLOGICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL. IF ONE AREA IS OUT OF ALIGNMENT, WE ARE NOT GOING TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S PEACE.”
—DR. JEREMIAH JOHNSTON**

.011.tiff

**3. THE SECURITY OF A FUTURE HOPE
(PSALM 73:23-28)**

.012.tiff

²³NEVERTHELESS, I AM CONTINUALLY WITH YOU; YOU HOLD MY RIGHT HAND. ²⁴YOU GUIDE ME WITH YOUR COUNSEL, AND AFTERWARD YOU WILL RECEIVE ME TO GLORY. ²⁵WHOM HAVE I IN HEAVEN BUT YOU? AND THERE IS NOTHING ON EARTH THAT I DESIRE BESIDES YOU. ²⁶MY FLESH AND MY HEART MAY FAIL, BUT GOD IS THE STRENGTH OF MY HEART AND MY PORTION FOREVER. ²⁷FOR BEHOLD, THOSE WHO ARE FAR FROM YOU SHALL PERISH; YOU PUT AN END TO EVERYONE WHO IS UNFAITHFUL TO YOU. ²⁸BUT FOR ME IT IS GOOD TO BE NEAR GOD; I HAVE MADE THE LORD GOD MY REFUGE, THAT I MAY TELL OF ALL YOUR WORKS.

—PSALM 73:23-28

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FAITH...

• BRINGS PERCEPTION INTO A WORLD OF DECEPTION (PSALM 73:17, 23-24)

.014.tiff

FAITH...

• FULFILLS WHEN LIFE DISAPPOINTS
(PSALM 73:25-26)

.015.tiff

²³THUS SAYS THE LORD:
“LET NOT THE WISE MAN BOAST IN HIS WISDOM,
LET NOT THE MIGHTY MAN BOAST IN HIS MIGHT,
LET NOT THE RICH MAN BOAST IN HIS RICHES,
²⁴BUT LET HIM WHO BOASTS BOAST IN THIS,
THAT HE UNDERSTANDS AND KNOWS ME,
THAT I AM THE LORD WHO PRACTICES STEADFAST LOVE,
JUSTICE, AND RIGHTEOUSNESS IN THE EARTH.
FOR IN THESE THINGS I DELIGHT, DECLARES THE LORD.”

—JEREMIAH 9:23-24

.016.tiff

FAITH...

- ENABLES ME TO PRAISE WHEN I'M PRONE TO POUT (PSALM 73:27-28)

.017.tiff

³⁶FOR WHAT DOES IT PROFIT A MAN TO GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD AND FORFEIT HIS SOUL? ³⁷FOR WHAT CAN A MAN GIVE IN RETURN FOR HIS SOUL? ³⁸FOR WHOEVER IS ASHAMED OF ME AND OF MY WORDS IN THIS ADULTEROUS AND SINFUL GENERATION, OF HIM WILL THE SON OF MAN ALSO BE ASHAMED WHEN HE COMES IN THE GLORY OF HIS FATHER WITH THE HOLY ANGELS."

—MARK 8:36-38

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"WHATEVER MAY BE THE MYSTERIES OF LIFE AND DEATH, THERE IS ONE MYSTERY WHICH THE CROSS OF CHRIST REVEALS TO US, AND THAT IS THE INFINITE AND ABSOLUTE GOODNESS OF GOD. LET ALL THE REST REMAIN A MYSTERY SO LONG AS THE MYSTERY OF THE CROSS OF CHRIST GIVES US FAITH FOR ALL THE REST."

—CHARLES KINGSLEY

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