

Psalm 37

Why does God allow the wicked to flourish?

Psalms 37, 49 and 73 are devoted to answering the question of how God as good and just, allows the ungodly to prevail on the earth. It seems it does not pay to be good and the wicked prosper while adversity haunts the righteous. The psalmist deals with the baffling problem of God revealing Himself as good and just, punishing wickedness and rewarding goodness yet current reality does not look like this is the case.

Psalm 37 possible outline:

Verses 1-11 Counsel for the wise

Verses 12-20 Doom for the wicked

Verses 21-31 Reward for the righteous

Verses 32-40 Contrasts of wicked and righteous

What blessing does the author highlight as a result of living in God's wisdom?

How are the consequences of choosing not to live in God's wisdom described?

What thoughts, beliefs, or behaviors is God challenging in my life through these verses?