

How to Deal With the Wicked

Psalm 37:1-40 (NASB)

Place Your Trust in God

- ¹ Do not fret because of evildoers, Be not envious toward wrongdoers.
² For they will wither quickly like the grass And fade like the green herb.
³ Trust in the LORD and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.
⁴ Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.
⁵ Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.
⁶ He will bring forth your righteousness as the light And your judgment as the noonday.

Rest in the Lord

- ⁷ Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.
⁸ Cease from anger and forsake wrath; Do not fret; *it leads* only to evildoing.
⁹ For evildoers will be cut off, But those who wait for the LORD, they will inherit the land.
¹⁰ Yet a little while and the wicked man will be no more; And you will look carefully for his place and he will not be *there*.
¹¹ But the humble will inherit the land And will delight themselves in abundant prosperity.
¹² The wicked plots against the righteous And gnashes at him with his teeth.
¹³ The Lord laughs at him, For He sees his day is coming.
¹⁴ The wicked have drawn the sword and bent their bow To cast down the afflicted and the needy, To slay those who are upright in conduct.
¹⁵ Their sword will enter their own heart, And their bows will be broken.
¹⁶ Better is the little of the righteous Than the abundance of many wicked.
¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked will be broken, But the LORD sustains the righteous.
¹⁸ The LORD knows the days of the blameless, And their inheritance will be forever.
¹⁹ They will not be ashamed in the time of evil, And in the days of famine they will have abundance.

²⁰ But the wicked will perish; And the enemies of the LORD will be like the glory of the pastures, They vanish—like smoke they vanish away.

²¹ The wicked borrows and does not pay back, But the righteous is gracious and gives.

²² For those blessed by Him will inherit the land, But those cursed by Him will be cut off.

²³ The steps of a man are established by the LORD, And He delights in his way.

²⁴ When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, Because the LORD is the One who holds his hand.

²⁵ I have been young and now I am old, Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken Or his descendants begging bread.

²⁶ All day long he is gracious and lends, And his descendants are a blessing.

Turn From Evil and Do Good

²⁷ Depart from evil and do good, So you will abide forever.

²⁸ For the LORD loves justice And does not forsake His godly ones; They are preserved forever, But the descendants of the wicked will be cut off.

²⁹ The righteous will inherit the land And dwell in it forever.

³⁰ The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, And his tongue speaks justice.

³¹ The law of his God is in his heart; His steps do not slip.

³² The wicked spies upon the righteous And seeks to kill him.

³³ The LORD will not leave him in his hand Or let him be condemned when he is judged.

Place Your Hope in the Lord and Walk Faithfully

³⁴ Wait for the LORD and keep His way, And He will exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

³⁵ I have seen a wicked, violent man Spreading himself like a luxuriant tree in its native soil.

³⁶ Then he passed away, and lo, he was no more; I sought for him, but he could not be found.

³⁷ Mark the blameless man, and behold the upright; For the man of peace will have a posterity.

³⁸ But transgressors will be altogether destroyed; The posterity of the wicked will be cut off.

³⁹ But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in time of trouble.

⁴⁰ The LORD helps them and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, Because they take refuge in Him.

Who Are the Wicked?

1. The wicked _____ against the _____.

Psalm 37:12 (NASB)

¹² The wicked plots against the righteous And gnashes at him with his teeth.

2. The wicked have drawn their sword and bent their bow to _____

_____ the afflicted and needy.

Psalm 37:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ The wicked have drawn the sword and bent their bow To cast down the afflicted and the needy,

3. The wicked _____ those who are _____ in conduct.

Psalm 37:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ The wicked have drawn the sword and bent their bow.... To slay those who are upright in conduct.

4. The wicked _____ and does not _____.

Psalm 37:21 (NASB)

²¹ The wicked borrows and does not pay back, But the righteous is gracious and gives.

5. The wicked _____ on the _____ and seeks to kill him.

Psalm 37:32 (NASB)

³² The wicked spies upon the righteous And seeks to kill him.

How to Respond to the Wicked

1. Do not _____.

Psalm 37:1 (NASB)

¹ Do not fret because of evildoers, Be not envious toward wrongdoers.

Psalm 37:7 (NASB)

Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way,

Psalm 37:8 (NASB)

Do not fret; *it leads* only to evildoing.

2. _____ in the Lord and do _____.

Psalm 37:3 (NASB)

³ Trust in the LORD and do good;

3. _____ in the land and cultivate _____.

Psalm 37:3 (NASB)

Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.

4. _____ yourself in the Lord.

Psalm 37:4 (NASB)

⁴ Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.

5. _____ your _____ to the Lord.

Psalm 37:5-6 (NASB)

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

⁶ He will bring forth your righteousness as the light And your judgment as the noonday.

6. _____ in the Lord and _____ for Him.

Psalm 37:7 (NASB)

⁷ Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him

7. Cease from _____ and forsake _____.

Psalm 37:8 (NASB)

⁸ Cease from anger and forsake wrath; Do not fret; *it leads* only to evildoing.

8. _____ from _____ and do good.

Psalm 37:28-29 (NASB)

²⁸ For the LORD loves justice And does not forsake His godly ones; They are preserved forever, But the descendants of the wicked will be cut off.

²⁹ The righteous will inherit the land And dwell in it forever.

9. _____ for the Lord and _____ His way.

Psalm 37:34-36 (NASB)

³⁴ Wait for the LORD and keep His way, And He will exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

³⁵ I have seen a wicked, violent man Spreading himself like a luxuriant tree in its native soil.

³⁶ Then he passed away, and lo, he was no more; I sought for him, but he could not be found.

10. Mark the _____ man and behold the _____.

Psalm 37:37-39 (NASB)

³⁷ Mark the blameless man, and behold the upright; For the man of peace will have a posterity.

³⁸ But transgressors will be altogether destroyed; The posterity of the wicked will be cut off.

³⁹ But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in time of trouble.

What is Going to Happen to the Wicked?

1. They will _____ like grass and _____ like the green herb.

Psalm 37:2 (NASB)

² For they will wither quickly like the grass And fade like the green herb.

2. They will be _____.

Psalm 37:9 (NASB)

⁹ For evildoers will be cut off, But those who wait for the LORD, they will inherit the land.

3. In a while they will _____ no _____.

Psalm 37:10 (NASB)

¹⁰ Yet a little while and the wicked man will be no more; And you will look carefully for his place and he will not be *there*.

4. The _____ of the wicked will someday be _____.

Psalm 37:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked will be broken, But the LORD sustains the righteous.

5. The wicked will _____.

Psalm 37:20 (NASB)

²⁰ But the wicked will perish...

6. The wicked will _____ like _____.

Psalm 37:20 (NASB)

They vanish—like smoke they vanish away.

7. The wicked will be _____ from the land.

Psalm 37:22 (NASB)

²² For those blessed by Him will inherit the land, But those cursed by Him will be cut off.

Psalm 37:28 (NASB)

²⁸ For the LORD loves justice And does not forsake His godly ones; They are preserved forever, But the descendants of the wicked will be cut off.

Psalm 37:34 (NASB)

He will exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

8. The wicked will _____ no _____.

Psalm 37:35-36 (NASB)

³⁵ I have seen a wicked, violent man Spreading himself like a luxuriant tree in its native soil.

³⁶ Then he passed away, and lo, he was no more; I sought for him, but he could not be found.

9. The wicked will be _____ and their _____ cut off.

Psalm 37:38 (NASB)

³⁸ But transgressors will be altogether destroyed; The posterity of the wicked will be cut off.

The Most Effective Fight Against the Wicked

1. _____.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

2. The _____.

Romans 1:19-32 (NASB)

²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

²¹ For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

²² Professing to be wise, they became fools,

²³ and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

²⁵ For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

²⁶ For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,

²⁷ and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

²⁸ And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,

²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; *they are gossips,*

³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

³¹ without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;

³² and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.