

Message: David and author of several Psalms, deals with the question. Why do the wicked prosper and the righteous go unrewarded?

- I. Asaph and the evil Ones (73:1-20)
  - A. The consternation (73:1-20): Psalmist Asaph is deeply troubled by two matters:
    - 1. The prosperity of the godless (73:3-12)
      - a. They enjoy health and wealth (73:3-12)
      - b. They have no worries or problems (73: 3-4).
      - c. They are proud and cruel (73:6).
      - d. They have everything (73:7).
      - e. They are arrogant toward God and people (73: 8-12).
    - 2. The pain of the godly (73: 1-2, 13-16)
      - a. He feels like he is about to fall off a cliff (73:1-2).
      - b. His life of purity seems unrewarded (73:13).
      - c. He is constantly plagued with problems (73: 14-16).
  - B. The clarification (73: 17-20): Asaph realizes the destiny of the wicked.
    - 1. The place of this revelation (73:17): Asaph realizes this while he is in the sanctuary.
    - 2. The particulars of this revelation (73:18-20)
      - a. The wicked are on a slippery path to destruction (73:18-19).
      - b. The present life of the wicked is but a dream (73:20): They will vanish from the earth when the Lord arises.
- II. Asaph and the Exalted One (73:1`-18): Asaph acknowledges two great truths about God:
  - A. God is guiding him (73:21-24).
  - B. God is watching over him (73:25-28).