

The Righteous and the Ungodly  
(Psalm 1)

Introduction:

1. Psalm 1 presents some valuable information about 2 groups of people:
  - a. *"the righteous"*
  - b. *"the ungodly."*
2. By carefully examining this Psalm, we see that:
  - a. both groups are described
  - b. the destinies of both groups are revealed.
3. Let us begin by pointing out that . . .

Discussion:

- I. A RIGHTEOUS PERSON IS DESCRIBED
  - A. According to vs.1, a righteous person must avoid 3 things.
    1. First, a righteous person does not walk *"in the counsel of the ungodly."*
      - a. *"The ungodly"* are wicked unrighteous people.
      - b. *"The counsel"* of such people must be avoided (Proverbs 4:14-17, 19).
    2. Second, a righteous person does not stand *"in the way of sinners."*
      - a. *"Sinners"* are those who habitually practice sin.
      - b. *"The way"* of such people must be avoided (Proverbs 1:10-16).
    3. Third, a righteous person does not sit *"in the seat of the scornful."*
      - a. *"The scornful"* despise and have contempt for things that please God.
      - b. *"The seat"* of such people must be avoided (Proverbs 22:10).
  - B. Turning to the positive, we learn from vs.2 that a righteous person is devoted to 2 activities.
    1. First, he delights *"in the law of the Lord."*
    2. Second, he meditates on God's law continually (Psalm 119:97).
  - C. As we consider what is written about a righteous person, we see that he will be blessed abundantly.
    1. Vs.1 begins by stating that a righteous person is *"blessed."*
    2. Furthermore:
      - a. he will be like the beautiful tree pictured in vs.3
      - b. whatever he does will prosper.
  - D. (vs.6a) The Lord knows *"the way of the righteous"* (1 Peter 3:12).
  - E. As we examine Psalm 1 further, we see that . . .
- II. UNGODLY PEOPLE ARE DESCRIBED
  - A. The ungodly include the wicked people listed in vs.1, including:
    1. *"the ungodly"*
    2. *"sinners"*
    3. *"the scornful."*
  - B. (vs.4) *"The ungodly"* are compared to the chaff driven away by the wind (Matthew 3:12).
  - C. (vs.5) *"The ungodly"* will not be blessed.
    1. They will not *"stand in the judgment."*
    2. They will not be included with the righteous.
  - D. (vs.6b) *"The way of the ungodly shall perish."*

Conclusion:

1. Psalm 1 supplies some practical information that is designed to help us be among the righteous.
2. Additional information is presented in:
  - a. 1 John 3:7
  - b. Matthew 5:6.