

But God... Satisfies

Jon Sherman, Lead Pastor

7.26.2015

Psalm 73:25-28

SAY WHAT? ⇒ God - my Portion [vv.25-26]

Psalm 16:5, *Lord, You alone are my portion and my cup; You make my lot secure.*

SO WHAT? ⇒ God - the Judge [v.27]

Psalm 37:20, *But the wicked will perish: Though the Lord's enemies are like the flowers of the field, they will be consumed, they will go up in smoke.*

NOW WHAT? ⇒ God - my Refuge [v.28]

Jeremiah 23:23-24, "Am I a God who is near," declares the Lord, "And not a God far off? Can a man hide himself in hiding places so I do not see him?" declares the Lord. "Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?" declares the Lord.

The nearness of God is my good... for...

Direction

(see Psalm 73:23-24)

Protection

Psalm 23:4, *Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*

1 Thessalonians 5:17, *Pray continually.*

Hebrews 13:5-6, "'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?'"

Connection Group Questions

Taken from the sermon on July 26, 2015

But God Satisfies—Psalm 73:25-28

■ Questions for “Group Discussion”

- Do we, as believers, live a life that reflects contentment in God?
- Read James 4:8. How does this verse apply to the saying, “People have as much of Jesus as they want”.
- How do we learn to live a life of contentment and pass it to others?

■ Questions for “Personal Growth”

- Monday: **Comparatively speaking...** Please read Psalm 73 in its entirety. Who is the author of this psalm and what were his gifts/talents? (If time permits, do a little research about Asaph as you begin.) What problem does he present/confess in this psalm? What conclusion does Asaph reach despite the spiritual setback (as stated in v.1)?
- Tuesday: **“Assuming” is dooming...** If Asaph wrestled with insecurity and doubt, what might this teach you about assuming that those who seem to “have it all together” do not have struggles of their own (James 3:2; 2 Corinthians 10:12)? What does the world teach you about envying material things? (1 John 2:16; Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:15) And, what about envying others? To whom do you tend to compare yourself (i.e. those you consider to be wealthier, prettier, smarter, more “together”, more “spiritual”, more happily married, etc.)? Confess this insecurity to the Lord and allow Him to guide and minister to you as you do so.
- Wednesday: **Do you suffer from Myopic Vision?** Myopic vision is “a defective vision of distant objects” and, spiritually speaking, “a lack of foresight or discernment, a narrow view of something”. Please re-read Psalm 73:4-12. What was his primary focus; what was he trusting in more than God’s sovereignty, justice and goodness? How was his near-sightedness and “stinking thinking” sin? Do you tend to trust in your own feelings over God’s truth? Consider listing those fleshly thoughts that repeatedly oppress you and, beside them, find Scripture to negate your shortsighted thinking. Meditate upon these this week, as often as you can.
- Thursday: **A poisonous perspective...** Please read Luke 16 today, focusing on vv.14-15. In this parable, was the rich man focused more on his own “kingdom” or God’s? What was the deluding poison, or lie, that caused him to do so, and what did he lose because of it? Have you ever fallen into self-righteousness or self-justification, presenting yourself as better/more than you truly are? Please read Proverbs 21:2; Matthew 6:1-18,24 and Galatians 1:10. What does God say about “talking the talk” but not “walking the walk”? How can our pride, or “putting on airs”, hinder other’s walk? Ask the Lord to help you stay humble and focused on Him.
- Friday: **Take refuge...** Going back to Psalm 73, how did Asaph develop an eternal perspective? What was revealed to him? What was the result of substituting God’s vision for his own? Please read James 3:16-17; 4:13-15 and Philippians 1:18-26. What are some things you can do to stay focused on God’s eternal truths? Commit to doing so, allowing Him to be your comforting refuge and satisfying portion.