

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

HOW EXCELLENT IS THY LOVINGKINDNESS PSALMS 36

Text: Psalms 36:7

Psalm 36:7

⁷ How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

Introduction:

It is easy to become discouraged by wicked people.

However, this Psalm sets the stage of God's goodness by introducing the wicked and vile nature of man thus showing God's goodness toward the undeserving.

Note:

1. THE DEPRAVITY OF THE WICKED – (VS. 1-4)

Psalm 36:1-4

¹ The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes. ² For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful. ³ The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, and to do good. ⁴ He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way that is not good; he abhorreth not evil.

We know nothing about when this Psalm was written.

There is an interesting line in the title of this Psalm.

David is referred to as the servant of the Lord.

The servant of the Lord should be willing to be honest and speak as God directs him to speak and not be bound by the opinions of others.

Note these words regarding the wicked.

- There is no fear of God before his eyes (vs. 1)

Psalm 36:1

*¹ The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that **there is no fear of God before his eyes.***

Here the word would mean dread or terror. It is not the same word usually used for “fear” which carries the thought of reverence.

If the wicked had any true dread of God, they would not do what they do.

Many times people have changed their behavior simply out of fear of an individual.

Illustration:

Behave different in the presence of a police officer.

Why because we fear the results of breaking the law.

But as we read; the wicked do not even dread God.

Not only do they not fear God but also:

- He flattereth himself (vs. 2)

Psalm 36:2

² *For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful.*

A wicked person is self-deceived and doesn't think that he has done anything wrong. He flatters himself to think that he's okay.

Not only do they not fear God and flattereth himself but also:

- The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit

Psalm 36:3

³ *The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, and to do good.*

Do you know why a wicked man's words are iniquity and deceit?

One reason is that there is no fear of God but also it is because of the condition of his heart.

Note:

Proverbs 12:5

⁵ *The thoughts of the righteous are right: **but the counsels of the wicked are deceit.***

Luke 6:45

⁴⁵ *A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and **an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil:** for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.*

Not only do they not fear God flattereth himself, and his mouth are iniquity and deceit but also:

- He hath left off to be wise, and to do good (vs. 3)

Psalm 36:3

³ *The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, and to do good.*

Ephesians 5:15-16

¹⁵ *See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,* ¹⁶ *Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*

The Spirit-filled Christian will walk circumspectly.

The wicked will not. He will not regard wisdom and doing what is good important.

Not only do they not fear God flattereth himself, his mouth are iniquity and deceit and He hath left off to be wise, and to do good but also:

- A wicked person will lay in bed and make evil plans (vs. 4)

Psalm 36:4

⁴ *He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way that is not good; he abhorreth not evil.*

Another problem with the wicked is he abhorreth not evil.

We need to be concerned for the wicked. Without a change caused by trusting the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, they are doomed!

We not the Depravity of the Wicked but secondly:

2. THE DEPENDABILITY OF GOD – (VS. 5-9)

Here we see how God is different from the wicked.

Verses 5-9 show us some of the great qualities of God.

Psalm 36:5-9

⁵ Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds. ⁶ Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast. ⁷ How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. ⁸ They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures. ⁹ For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

- He is merciful. Vs. 5

Psalm 36:5

⁵ *Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.*

In spite of our sinfulness, God loves us.

In spite of our failures, God loves us.

In spite of our humanity, God loves us.

- He is faithful. Vs. 5

Psalm 36:5

⁵ *Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.*

- He is righteous. Vs. 6

Psalm 36:6

⁶ ***Thy righteousness is like the great mountains;*** *thy judgments are a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.*

Great mountains are only moveable by God.

Our God is a righteous God.

He will only do what is right.

He will only stand for what is right.

Psalm 119:142

¹⁴² *Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.*

Psalm 145:17

¹⁷ *The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.*

- He is just. Vs. 6

Psalm 36:6

⁶ *Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; **thy judgments are a great deep**: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.*

- He loves. Vs. 7

Psalm 36:7

⁷ ***How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God!*** *therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.*

- He protects. Vs. 7

Psalm 36:7

⁷ ***How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.***

- He satisfies. Vs. 8

Psalm 36:8

⁸ **They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house;** and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

- He is life. Vs. 9

Psalm 36:9

⁹ **For with thee is the fountain of life:** in thy light shall we see light.

- He is light. Vs. 9

Psalm 36:9

⁹ For with thee is the fountain of life: **in thy light shall we see light.**

We not the Depravity of the Wicked and the Dependability of God but thirdly:

3. THE DESIRE OF THE GODLY – (VS. 10-11)

Psalm 36:10-11

¹⁰ O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart.

¹¹ Let not the foot of pride come against me, and let not the hand of the wicked remove me.

- Continuation of God's blessing. (Vs. 10)
- Preservation from evil (Vs.11)

Psalm 36:11

¹¹ Let not the foot of pride come against me, and let not the hand of the wicked remove me.

Close:

We need to pray for the wicked.

We need to be grateful for the goodness of God.

May our desire be right.