

COMMIT THY WAY UNTO THE LORD PSALMS 37

Text: Psalms 37:5

Psalm 37:5

⁵ Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Introduction:

When we look abroad we see the world full of evil-doers that flourish and live in ease.

We are tempted to fret at this, to think of these as the only happy people, and then we are prone to do like them: but this we are warned against.

Outward prosperity is fading. When we look forward, with an eye of faith, we shall see no reason to envy the wicked.

What is the desire of the heart of a good man? It is this, to know, and love, and serve God. Commit thy way unto the Lord; roll thy way upon the Lord.

We must do our duty, and then leave the event with God. The promise is very sweet: He shall bring that to pass, whatever it is, which thou has committed to him.

1. FRET NOT THYSELF (VS. 1)

Psalms 37:1

¹Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

The Psalm opens with the first precept. It is too common for believers in their hours of adversity to think of themselves being harshly dealt with when they see persons utterly destitute of religion and honesty, rejoicing in abundant prosperity.

This command is much needed, *“Fret not thyself because of evildoers.”*

To fret is to worry, to become vexed.

Its natural and we're apt to kindle a fire of jealousy when we see law-breakers, wicked, people living lives of ease, and the obedient struggling from day to day. It's only in the classroom of grace when one comes to view and understand that the Lord's way and the Lord's work is perfect and is righteous in all His acts.

2. TRUST IN THE LORD (VS. 3)

Psalms 37:3

³Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

“Trust in the Lord.” Here is the second precept and one that is very appropriate to the occasion.

Faith cures fretting.

“And do good.” True faith is actively obedient.

Doing “good” is a fine remedy for fretting.

There is a joy in holy activity which drives away the rust of discontent.

“So shalt thou dwell in the land.” In “the land” which floweth with milk and honey in the land of content and rest.

3. DELIGHT THYSELF ALSO IN THE LORD (VS. 4)

Psalms 37:4

⁴ Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Notice in the third precept.

He who was first bidden not to fret, was then commanded actively to trust, and now is told with holy desire to delight in God. *“Delight thyself also in the Lord.”*

Bad men delight in carnal objects. We are not to envy them if they’re allowed their fill of vain idols; we are to look to the better delight, and fill ourselves with this better portion.

Every name, attribute, word, or deed of God, should be delightful to us.

Read the Names of God and their meaning chart.

“And he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.”

Men who delight in God desire or ask for nothing but what will please God.

4. COMMIT THY WAY UNTO THE LORD (VS. 5)

Psalms 37:5

⁵Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

“Commit thy way unto the Lord.”

Roll the whole burden of life upon the Lord.

“Trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.”

Our destiny shall be joyfully accomplished if we confidently entrust all to our Lord.

“Thy way, not mine, O Lord,
However dark it be;
O lead me by thine own right hand,
Choose out the path for me.

Smooth let it be or rough,
It will be still the best;
Winding or straight, it matters not,
It leads me to thy rest.

I dare not choose my lot,
I would not if I might;
But choose Thou for me, O my God.
So shall I walk aright.
Take thou my cup, and it
With joy or sorrow fill;
As ever best to thee may seem.
Choose thou my good and ill.”

5. REST IN THE LORD (VS. 7)

Psalms 37:7

7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

“Rest in the Lord.”

This fifth precept requires much grace to carry it out.

A silent tongue not only shows a wise head, but a holy heart.

“And wait patiently for him.”

Time is nothing to Him; let it be nothing to us.

God is worth waiting for. “He never is before his time, he never is too late.”

Determine, let the wicked succeed as they may, that you will treat the matter with indifference, and never allow a question to be raised as to the righteousness and goodness of the Lord.

What if wicked devices succeed and your own plans are defeated there is more of the love of God in your defeats than in the successes of the wicked.

Close:

Someone once said concerning these verses”

Oh, shame on our faithlessness, mistrust, and vile unbelief, that we do not believe such rich, powerful consolatory, declarations of God, and take up so readily with little grounds of offence, whenever we but hear the wicked speeches of the ungodly. Help, O God, that we may once attain to right faith

