

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

PSALM 37

Psalm 37

Psalm thirty-seven is a psalm that speaks to the heart of this present generation and for all time. The subject is perspective, or it is what the psalm offers to all who would read and heed its teachings. The warnings begin in the first verse. Do not fret or be envious. The word fret is the word for anger and is most often translated as such. The word for envy does not have the impact as the sister word "jealousy." These two words and concepts go hand in hand in destroying lives, families, churches, and communities. King David had started down a path that many have followed, to their destruction. A path that must be avoided at all costs. The path of uncontrolled and misguided anger and jealousy of others who are perceived as not deserving of blessing, ease and seeming freedom from suffering as those perceived, or in reality, more righteous. The psalm is so rich that only the surface can be touched to its depth and richness of meaning. This mere four-hundred-word commentary will only attempt to scratch a small surface of this inspirational and informative song.

David lost perspective and began to look at the earthly, short-term blessing of God's mercy toward the ungodly.

He failed to see life from an eternal viewpoint. Then God allowed him to see the bigger picture. The Apostle Paul said, **"If in this life only we have hope in God, then we are of all men most miserable."** (I Corinthians 15:19) David became angry and envious at others, but disappointed in what he perceived as God's unfair treatment of the righteous (David himself). God gave him perspective as He will to you. The remedy is found in summary in verses 3-6. Read them over and over again until they are a part of your very being. God will bring them to mind when discouragement comes. **"Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD; and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He will do it. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light and your judgment as the noonday."**

Prayer and Action Steps

Give you the desires of your heart doesn't mean, giving you whatever you desire, but rather what to desire. God, please give me that kind of heart. Amen

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?
