

# *Slippery Places*

Psalm 73

# I. An Old Problem

# Psalm 73

Words that describe the wicked...

1. Prosper, 3, 7
2. Pain-free, 4
3. Peaceful, 5, 12
4. Proud, 6
5. Pitiless, 6
6. Profane, 8-11

I. An Old Problem

II. A New Perspective

## Ps.73:13-16

1. Sanctuary of God, 17
2. End of the wicked, 17
  - 'Rest of the story' is out of this world
  - 18-20 – a passing dream

I. An Old Problem

II. A New Perspective

III. Lessons From  
Bad People

# Psalm 73

1. Good things **happen** to them, 3  
– Mt.5:45
2. Good things **harm** them, 3, 4-6  
– Lk.16; Mk.6
3. Good things **hold** their heart to this world, 12.  
– Mt.13:22; Mt.19

I. An Old Problem

II. A New Perspective

III. Lessons From Bad People

IV. Lessons For Good People



# Psalm 73

1. Bad things *happen* to good people, 8 – Job; Daniel
2. Bad things *help* good people, 17
  - Affliction is wake-up call
  - Bitter medicine can save a life

## Ro.5 –

- 1-2: faith brings peace
- 3-5, spiritual growth
  - Tribulation does not nullify assurance. 'Trouble; suffering' – Ex.4:31
  - 2: rejoice in hope – makes sense.
  - 3: rejoice in tribulation – ? ? ?
    - There is purpose in it all

“He who has a *why* to live for  
can bear almost any *how*”

# Ro.5:3-5, spiritual growth

- Tribulation
- Perseverance – ability to keep on keeping on.
- Character – **1**test; **2**result: standing a test (dross burned away)
  - **After test of sufferings, result is proven character. Job**
- Hope – approved character gives us more confidence in God

## 2 Co.12:1-9, revelation

- Pain, 7: arrogance would destroy Paul
- Prayers, 8-9a, Paul asked for relief
  - Answer: 'no' – something better in mind: grace to endure
    - When man can do nothing, divine power is recognized
- Purpose, 9b, boast in weakness

# Psalm 73

1. Bad things *happen* to good people, 8 – Job; Daniel
2. Bad things *help* good people, 17
3. Bad things *hold* our heart on heaven, 17 – 1 Tim.6:12, 19

1. God cares, 1 Pt.5:7
2. Real question: Why do good things happen to bad people? (Ro.5:6-8)