



Prepared To Live And Die

Psalm 49:1-20

#19 in a series on the Psalms

Pastor Lyle L. Wahl

August 29, 2010

Theme: **Only True Trust In God Prepares Us For Life And Death.**

The Foolishness Of Not Being Prepared.

1. The foolishness of trusting in wealth. (5-14, 16-17; cf. Job 1:21; Ecclesiastes 5:10, 15; Matthew 16:26; Luke 12:13-21; 1 Timothy 6:7; James 1:9-11)
2. The foolishness of trusting in accomplishment and reputation. (11-13, 17; cf. 1 John 2:15-17)
3. The foolishness of trusting anything temporary. (7-14, 17-20; cf. 1 John 2:15-17)

The Wisdom Of Being Prepared.

1. The path to the wisdom of trusting in God. (1-4; cf. 37:30-31; 119:105, 129-130; Proverbs 1:7; 9:10; Acts 1:8; Romans 1:16; 2 Timothy 4:5)
2. The reward of the wisdom of trusting in God. (5-6, 14-17; cf. 17:15; Daniel 12:2; John 3:16; 11:25-26; 14:6; Romans 8:17; 2 Corinthians 2:14-16; 5:8; Ephesians 1:3; 2:10; Philippians 1:23; 2 Timothy 2:12; 3:17; 1 John 5:11-12; Revelation 5:10; 20:6, 11-15; 22:5)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Psalm 49 explores the subject of trust. Christians assume and state that they trust in God. This week we will continue the journey we started in the sermon yesterday of exploring what it means to trust God and something of the how and where we do and do not trust God. Read the Psalm. Focus on the truths, questions and challenges that God brought to your mind about trusting Him yesterday and in reading the Psalm today.

Tuesday. Only true trust in God prepares us for life and death. Why is this so? According to this Psalm, why is it foolish to trust in wealth, accomplishment, reputation or anything temporary? Are there any issues where you don't really trust God, where you want to keep control or bank on things and people rather than Him? If God's plans for you are good, and they are, why not step out in faith, let go of your attempts to control or ensure the outcomes you want and truly trust Him?

Wednesday. Being prepared to live and die requires following God's path of trusting Him. This is true wisdom. Read the Psalm writer's call in the first four verses. He calls us to pay attention not because he is sharing his own ideas or current politically correct ideas, but wisdom which comes from God. God does not ask us to take a blind or totally subjective leap into the dark. He has given us His Word that we are to listen to, meditate on and obey. When you know and obey God's Word you are on the path of wisdom trusting God that prepares you to live and die. How are you doing?

Thursday. When we truly trust in God we are, among many other benefits, freed from fear (see verse 5-6 and 16-17). Why? Don't miss the deep, liberating connection here! As well, those who truly trust in God have certainty of life forever with Him (see verse 15). In that life there is the privilege of ruling with Christ (see verse 14 and the other references in the outline). God, in His grace, rewards us now and forever for trusting Him.

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to look at Psalm 139. Read and think through this Psalm as you prepare for our time of worship together.

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