



Life from Another Perspective

Psalm 73

Message Notes by Dr. Mark Platt

Sometimes life's realities can be more than we can handle. Psalm 73 is the personal testimony of a worship leader named Asaph who had a crisis of faith. This psalm is his journal of how God taught him to see life from His perspective. This psalm teaches **three changes** you need to make in your perspective:

I. Change your perspective about the godless

(verses 1-12)

1. Always believe in the goodness of God
2. Always distrust the façade of the godless
 - a. they hide behind their prosperity
 - b. they act problem-free
 - c. they are proud
 - d. they have false piety
 - e. they have power
 - f. they are popular
 - g. they are profane

“Surely God is good”

“... what the wicked are like”

“the prosperity of the wicked”

“no struggles ... free from the burdens”

“pride ... conceit ... arrogance”

“mouths lay claim to heaven”

“possession of the earth.”

“their people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance.”

“How can God know?”

II. Change your perspective about justice

(verses 13-22)

1. The godly life only appears fruitless
2. The godless life really is futile

“till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood ...”

“... ruin ... terrors ... destroyed ... fantasies ...”

III. Change your perspective about God

(verses 23-28)

1. God's hands grip you
2. God's counsel guides you
3. God's heaven awaits you
4. God's resources satisfy you
5. God's strength empowers you

“You hold me by my right hand.”

“You guide me”

“You will take me into glory”

“nothing I desire besides You.

“God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

6. God's alternatives confront you

*“those who are far from You ...
it is good to be near God.*

Your Response:

1. Has this study of Psalm 73 exposed sin in your life? Has doubt, envy or bitterness got the best of you? Are you wondering if being a God-follower makes any difference? Talk to some mature Christians and ask them how to cope.
2. Have you been carrying the cares of the world on your shoulders? What discourages you the most? Now give these things to God and let Him carry them. Make a commitment to live in the *“heavenly realms”* (Ephesians 2:6)
3. Asaph got his perspective turned around in worship. Have you been neglecting this component in your walk with God? Make a commitment worship God publically at least weekly basis and privately in daily personal devotional time.

Resources:

Psalms (volume 2) by James Montgomery Boice

When God Doesn't Make Sense by James Dobson

Exposition of Psalms by H.C. Leupold

Why?: Trusting God When You Don't Understand by Anne Graham Lotz

Psalms by Elmer Leslie