

Psalm 37

New International Version

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Aleph

¹Do not fret because of those who are evil
or be envious of those who do wrong;
²for like the grass they will soon wither,
like green plants they will soon die away.

Beth

³Trust in the Lord and do good;
dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.
⁴Take delight in the Lord,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Gimel

⁵Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in him and he will do this:
⁶He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn,
your vindication like the noonday sun.

Daleth

⁷Be still before the Lord
and wait patiently for him;
do not fret when people succeed in their ways,
when they carry out their wicked schemes.

He

⁸Refrain from anger and turn from wrath;
do not fret—it leads only to evil.
⁹For those who are evil will be destroyed,
but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

Waw

¹⁰A little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look for them, they will not be found.
¹¹But the meek will inherit the land
and enjoy peace and prosperity.

Zayin

¹²The wicked plot against the righteous
and gnash their teeth at them;
¹³but the Lord laughs at the wicked,
for he knows their day is coming.

A

Anger may come but don't let it rule your heart.
Don't envy those who do wrong.
As green fields at noon wither and fade
they will shrivel like grass in the sun.

B

Believe, be blameless,
be blessed by the bounty of God's land.
Be filled with joy! Your heart's desires
are satisfied by God's hand.

C

Commit your way unto the Lord;
confide in God, your soul's support.
And your faithfulness will shine like the dawn
and justice like the noonday sun.

D

Deep is the peace
of those who rest in God.
Do not be distressed
by those with evil designs.

E

Evil for evil only brings more evil.
Turn from wrath and walk away from anger.
Evil will end
and the faithful will see their reward.

F

For soon the faithless will be no more;
search high and low, still they won't be found.
But the meek will inherit the earth,
forever blessed with peace.

G

Grinding their teeth and licking their lips,
the wicked make their plans for the righteous.
God only laughs as they lay their traps
for he knows that their own downfall is coming.

Heth

- ¹⁴The wicked draw the sword
and bend the bow
to bring down the poor and needy,
to slay those whose ways are upright.
¹⁵But their swords will pierce their own hearts,
and their bows will be broken.

K

Here they lie in wait with weapons drawn—
their swords are sharpened their bow strings taut—
hoping to harm the humble, the holy and the poor
who walk in peace upon the road.
How confused they'll be to find their arrows broken,
their bows as shattered as their hopes.
How could they have known that their own swords
in their own hearts would find a home?

Teth

- ¹⁶Better the little that the righteous have
than the wealth of many wicked;
¹⁷for the power of the wicked will be broken,
but the Lord upholds the righteous.

T

It is better to be impoverished with the innocent
than enjoy the abundance of iniquity.
The iron grip of the wicked will be broken,
but God will hold the righteous in his hands.

Yodh

- ¹⁸The blameless spend their days under the Lord's care,
and their inheritance will endure forever.
¹⁹In times of disaster they will not wither;
in days of famine they will enjoy plenty.

J

Jehovah leads the journey of the just;
their legacy enduring like the sun.
When catastrophe comes they'll stand strong;
and in famine they'll still have enough.

Raph

- ²⁰But the wicked will perish:
Though the Lord's enemies are like the flowers of the field,
they will be consumed, they will go up in smoke.

R

King of all,
and all must bow down.
But the faithless, like fields on fire,
All gone— gone up in smoke.

Lamedh

- ²¹The wicked borrow and do not repay,
but the righteous give generously;
²²those the Lord blesses will inherit the land,
but those he curses will be destroyed.

L

Loans to the crooked will never be repaid.
God's people give with generosity and grace.
Bless the Lord for countless blessings.
Curse not for it comes to nothing.

Mem

- ²³The Lord makes firm the steps
of the one who delights in him;
²⁴though he may stumble, he will not fall,
for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

M

Mighty is the Lord,
who strengthens the steps of those who walk his way.
They may stumble but they'll never fall,
Hand in hand with the Lord of all.

Nun

- ²⁵I was young and now I am old,
yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken
or their children begging bread.
²⁶They are always generous and lend freely;
their children will be a blessing.^b

N

Now I am old, but once I was young,
And I have never seen the righteous forsaken,
or their children go hungry, or their families go begging.
Their riches they give freely— forever a blessing!

Samekh

- ²⁷Turn from evil and do good;
then you will dwell in the land forever.
²⁸For the Lord loves the just
and will not forsake his faithful ones.

Ayin

- Wrongdoers will be completely destroyed^[e];
the offspring of the wicked will perish.
²⁹The righteous will inherit the land
and dwell in it forever.

Peh

- ³⁰The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom,
and their tongues speak what is just.
³¹The law of their God is in their hearts;
their feet do not slip.

Sadhe

- ³²The wicked lie in wait for the righteous,
intent on putting them to death;
³³but the Lord will not leave them in the power of the wicked
or let them be condemned when brought to trial.

Zoph

- ³⁴Hope in the Lord
and keep his way.
He will exalt you to inherit the land;
when the wicked are destroyed, you will see it.

Resh

- ³⁵I have seen a wicked and ruthless man
flourishing like a luxuriant native tree,
³⁶but he soon passed away and was no more;
though I looked for him, he could not be found.

Shin

- ³⁷Consider the blameless, observe the upright;
a future awaits those who seek peace.^[d]
³⁸But all sinners will be destroyed;
there will be no future^[e] for the wicked.

O

Only do good; turn from all sin;
then you will dwell forever in the land.
For the Lord loves the just
and will not abandon his faithful.

P

The People of the Lord
will abide with God forever,
but evil comes to nothing
and the wicked come to nothing.

Q

Quiet words of wisdom
flow from the mouths of the just.
Their tongues speak righteousness
for God's law is in their hearts.
Therefore, their feet do not slip.

R

Resolved to trap the faithful
the wicked will lie in wait.
But God's own will not be caught
within their schemes of hate.

S

Stay on God's path.
Hope in the Lord.
Your eyes shall see
the triumph of good.

T

Tyrants may flourish like trees,
their branches spreading like cedars.
But they vanish in the breeze;
they're forgotten like a fever.

U

The Upright, the blameless,
and those who seek God's peace
will enjoy a glad future
the unjust will never know.

Taw

- ³⁹The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord;
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
⁴⁰The Lord helps them and delivers them;
he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

V

Vindication for the righteous
comes from God, and God alone.
Run to the Lord;
you will find a fortress strong!