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CONDITIONAL PROSPERITY

Psalm 1:1-3 brings a tremendous promise. Verse 3 says, ***“And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water; that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”***

Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper? Wow, that is quite a promise, but it is conditional. As we read verses 1 and 2, we see the conditions.

The first condition is found in verse 1. It states ***“walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly.”*** Who would the ungodly be? They would be those that contradict what God says in his word. Whether it be an individual or government, the person that receives the promise of verse 3 cannot get counsel from these sources.

The second condition to receive would be found also in verse 1. The person that wants to be blessed cannot ***“stand in the way of sinners.”*** What does this mean? It means to go along with those that are sinning and not object to it. It means you do not stand against sin, but stand with them in the ways of sin. How do we know what sin is? Sin according to scripture is ALL unrighteousness. We learn what sin is through reading the scriptures.

The third condition is also found in verse 1. It says, ***“not sitteth in the seat of the scornful.”*** The Amplified version reads, ***“...nor sits down [to relax and rest] where the scornful [and the mockers] gather.”*** It would mean you don't hang out with those that mock God. You witness to them, but they are not part of your “inner circle.”

The fourth condition is found in verse 2 where it says, ***“his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.”*** This is a simple one. It means you love the Lord and you love his Word. You think on scriptures, and make decisions based on what the Word of God says. Your life is intertwined with God, and you don't make a move without thinking about what he says.

When we meet those conditions then we can expect to receive all the promises that verse 3 affords us.

Verses 4-6 tell us what happens to those that are ungodly. It says, ***“The ungodly are not so: (they are not blessed or do what verses 1-3 say to do) but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.”*** The ungodly will not judge the righteous, and sinners will not stand where the righteous will stand. The end of the ungodly is separation from God, while the ***“righteous shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.”*** (Daniel 12:3.)