

## Psalm 37 OF DAVID

### He Will Not Forsake His Saints

<sup>1</sup> Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! <sup>2</sup> For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb. <sup>3</sup> Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. <sup>4</sup> Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. <sup>6</sup> He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. <sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! <sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. <sup>9</sup> For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land. <sup>10</sup> In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. <sup>11</sup> But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace. <sup>12</sup> The wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes his teeth at him, <sup>13</sup> but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he sees that his day is coming. <sup>14</sup> The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose way is upright; <sup>15</sup> their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken. <sup>16</sup> Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked. <sup>17</sup> For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous. <sup>18</sup> The LORD knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will remain forever; <sup>19</sup> they are not put to shame in evil times; in the days of famine they have abundance. <sup>20</sup> But the wicked will perish; the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures; they vanish—like smoke they vanish away. <sup>21</sup> The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives; <sup>22</sup> for those blessed by the LORD shall inherit the land, but those cursed by him shall be cut off. <sup>23</sup> The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way; <sup>24</sup> though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand. <sup>25</sup> I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken nor his children begging for bread. <sup>26</sup> He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing. <sup>27</sup> Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever. <sup>28</sup> For the LORD loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off. <sup>29</sup> The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell upon it forever. <sup>30</sup> The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice. <sup>31</sup> The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip. <sup>32</sup> The wicked watches for the righteous and seeks to put him to death. <sup>33</sup> The LORD will not abandon him to his power or let him be condemned when he is brought to trial. <sup>34</sup> Wait for the LORD and keep his way, and he will exalt you to inherit the land; you will look on when the wicked are cut off. <sup>35</sup> I have seen a wicked, ruthless man, spreading himself like a green laurel tree. <sup>36</sup> But he passed away, and behold, he was no more; though I sought him, he could not be found. <sup>37</sup> Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace. <sup>38</sup> But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed; the future of the wicked shall be cut off. <sup>39</sup> The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble. <sup>40</sup> The LORD helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

## Psalm 37:10-11

Verse	Do – Faith Verbs	Object – Focus of faith	God does	Outcome	Object	Don't	Verse
3	Trust	in the Lord			because of evildoers	Fret not yourself	1
	and do good			For they <b>will soon fade</b> like the grass and wither like the green herb	of wrongdoers	be not envious	2
	dwell in the land						
	befriend faithfulness						
4	Delight yourself	in the Lord	<b>he will</b> give you the desires of your heart				
5	Commit your way	to the Lord					
	trust	in him	and <b>he will</b> act				
6			<b>He will</b> bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.				
7	Be still	before the Lord			over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices	fret not yourself	
	and wait patiently	for him					
						Refrain from anger and forsake wrath	8
				it tends only to evil		Fret not yourself	
9	but those who wait	for the Lord	<b>shall</b> inherit the land	For the evildoers <b>shall be cut off</b>			
11	But the meek		<b>shall</b> inherit the land	In just a little while, the wicked <b>will be no more</b> ; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there			10
			and delight themselves in abundant peace				

**Ps 37:23-24**

<sup>23</sup>The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way; <sup>24</sup>though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand.

**Prov 3:5-8**

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

<sup>7</sup>Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. <sup>8</sup>It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

**Prov 28:25-26**

<sup>25</sup>A greedy man stirs up strife, but the one who trusts in the LORD will be enriched. <sup>26</sup>Whoever trusts in his own mind is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom will be delivered.

**Jer 9:23-24**

<sup>23</sup>Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, <sup>24</sup>but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.”

**Phil 5:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

**Heb 11:5b-6**

Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

## Faith

- In God – In who He is. That He will act according to who He is
- Not in ourselves (our own understanding, effort, righteousness...) [Prov 3:5-8](#), [Prov 28:25-26](#)
- Not in 'faith'

See our circumstances in the light of who God is. Do not see God in the light of our circumstances.

## Accompanied by

- Doing good – righteousness, blameless. True faith is accompanied by 'good works.'
  - It is not faith if it is not evidenced in our behavior and attitudes.
  - It is not because we do things that earns us favour, but because we 'do good' by faith.
  - [Heb 11:5b-6](#) – It is the fact that it is by faith that pleases Him
  - This is the way in which He delights
- Are not saying that we are without sin – no one is – but we trust in God in our struggle against sin.
  - Trust in His love and salvation.
  - Our 'righteousness' before Him is reliant on what He has done rather than on what we do. Our trust is in Him; our reliance is on God and not our own righteousness.
  - [v23-24](#), [Jer 9:23-24](#). Trust in His steadfast love (Hesed) – His steadfast love that never fails, is constant and consistent and is altogether based in on who God is. It is not reliant on what we do in any way whatsoever.
  - Trust – honest, humble trust in His hesed – cannot but lead to us displaying the same attitude toward Him. It is not authentic if it does not.
- Befriend (shepherd, nurture) faithfulness. [v28](#) – 'His saints' (Title of the Psalm) refers to those who display 'Hesed' – steadfastness toward God in faith and love.

- Delight in God – embrace who He is
- Commit our way to Him – seek His agenda and do not want Him to give us ours
- Be still – quietness
- Wait patiently
- Meekness (humility, gentleness)

Enjoy abundant peace (Phil 5:4-9)