

August 17, 2025 Worship Service Pastor Bruce Adrian WeAreLifeBridge.com

## Summer in the Psalms

Lesson Nine • Psalm 73

### When It Seems Life Isn't Fair

#### An Age-Old Question

How can a GOOD God allow the righteous to suffer and the wicked to succeed?

#### A Crisis of Faith

What we <u>SEE</u> in life often collides with what we <u>KNOW</u> about God, and this can cause a crisis of faith.

Truly God is good to Israel, to such as are pure in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; my steps had nearly slipped. For I was envious of the boastful, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. Psalm 73:1-3

## Two Perspectives When It Seems Life Isn't Fair

## 1. <u>DOUBT</u> Builds When We Focus On the Success of the Wicked!

#### When Asaph Sees the Wicked in Life

- ➤ He ENVIES how the wicked live (v. 3-12).
- ➤ He REGRETS how he lives (v. 13-14).
- ➤ He WRESTLES with how God works (v. 15-16).

#### What Do We Learn from Asaph So Far?

We will <u>DOUBT</u> God's goodness as long as we draw conclusions from what we see in life.

# 2. <u>FAITH</u> Triumphs When We Focus On the Goodness of God!

#### Turning Point Begins in Worship!

Worshiping God <u>CLARIFIES</u> what we see in life from God's perspective of eternity (v. 16-17).

### When Asaph Sees the Lord in Worship

- ➤ He remembers the wicked's <u>FUTURE</u> (v. 17-20).
- He realizes his own FOOLISHNESS (v. 21-22).
- He rejoices in God's FAITHFULNESS (v. 23-26).

#### When It's All Said and Done

It's bad to be FAR from God but it's good to be NEAR God.

For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry. But it is good for me to draw near to God...

Psalm 73:27-28

#### How Should We Respond?

TRUST in God's goodness and TELL others about God's greatness.

I have made the Lord GoD my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works. Psalm 73:28