

No Matter What

Psalm 73:23-26

Sermon Outline

A. All I Need is You (vs. 23-25):

1. Nevertheless I am continually – The Lord, without interruption and with complete devotion is always with us.
 - a) Now the writer has found a complete victory over his doubts. His foolishness is a thing of the past, because God is his guide and strength. [\[1\]](#)

2. Holding on – The Lord is spiritually have us sealed to Him (Ephesians 1:13-14; John 10:29-30; Matthew 28:19-20). The Holy Spirit is in us (John 14:16-17; Titus 3:4-8), we are in Christ (Ephesians 2:6) and Christ is in God (Colossians 3:1-4).
 - a) They often prosper when alive, but death ends their prosperity. On the other hand, even when righteous people suffer trouble, their lives are full of God's goodness (73:1). Asaph (see the superscription and the note on Ps. 50) authored Psalms 73–83. Psalm 73 falls in the category of Wisdom Literature, which is noted for its use of generalization (73:3–5). [\[2\]](#)

3. Right hand – To be at the Lord's right hand means to be in a place of strength a place of honor at His throne.
4. Hand – Hand references possession, power authority and strength. It signifies to be in control because of the person's authority.
5. Right hand – Right hand therefore symbolizes that as believers the Lord provides us strength, a place in His kingdom and because it's He who holds us no one has the power or authority to take us from Him because He are His possession (Titus 2:14; Hebrews 10:34; 1 Peter 2:9).

6. With your counsel – As if preparing for battle the Lord after careful deliberation provides plans for us to powerfully organize a strategy that effect great results.

a) Jesus said, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” (Luke 12:15).^[3]

b) The Psalmist, after experiencing God’s gracious deliverance from his doubts, expresses here his confidence of God’s shepherd-like guidance. So He guided Israel with the cloud over the ark of the covenant (Num. 10:33; Ps. 107:7). He guides His people even in temporal affairs (Ezra 8:21; Ps. 32:8). and afterward receive **me (to) glory**—or ‘(with) glory.’ Thou wilt at length bring me to glory; even as, on the contrary, those wicked men who now enjoy prosperity, thou wilt at length bring down to destruction.^[4]

7. Guide – The Lord will continuously be before us leading us, like sheep following a shepherd, in what the right paths, based on His righteousness, that we must take.
8. Receive – To receive here means that the Lord would selectively, endlessly, and permanently take or summon us to heaven after He faithfully provides us wise counsel and guidance.
9. To glory – Where the Lord takes us into His imposing presence, heaven.

a) “Into glory” could also be translated “with glory,” meaning that God would guide him through his troubles so that he would enjoy honor (and not shame; cf. 4:2) in this life. Since “glory” for individuals in the Old Testament seldom meant heavenly glory the psalmist was probably looking for deliverance in his lifetime. This would demonstrate that he was in God’s favor. Of course believers today know from the New Testament that God’s punishment of the wicked and blessing of the righteous extend beyond death.^[5]

10. Whom have I in Heaven – Heaven is the physical place that God resides. Heaven is a place, in the third heavens, that fully exposes God’s righteousness and majesty.
11. Besides you I desire – Based on Asaph’s relationship with the Lord there is no one else he has a strong affection for or seeks to please.

a) God is all that matters in heaven even though great men preceded him like Abraham, Moses, Joseph, Samuel etc.

12. Earth – Having no pleasure in seeking anyone but God compares to everyone throughout all of mankind.

B. Victory Guaranteed (vs. 26):

1. My flesh and my heart – Our day to day life, our deepest desire or passions, our mindset or determination to get things done can come to the point of exhaustion.
 - a) *Flesh* is mere human tissue; *heart* is mere human courage. Neither is adequate for the needs of godly living in an ungodly world. But God supplies what we lack if we are truly committed to him. And he does it *forever!*^[6]
2. My flesh and my heart – Asaph's mortality is always evident.
3. Fail; Finished – Everything that a person may passionately live for can come to a complete end.
4. God – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are supreme, they control all things because they rule over all things and have authority over all things as they judge the entire earth.
5. Strength of my heart; Rock – The Lord is our support and defense so that He is like a rock that is immovable. Because of this our hearts, that can dominate us emotionally, find stability and strength in difficult times. This is why we can be at peace and long suffer through trials while remaining focused to live in God's wisdom.
6. My portion; Reward - God is the one who provides us our place or allotment of blessings He has in store for us.
 - b)
 - a) The focus is the contrast between the weakness of the person and the strength of God. *Portion* is correctly taken in the sense of inheritance by spcl, which says "but God is my eternal inheritance and the one who sustains my heart."^[7]
7. Forever – All of the strength and blessings that God provides never changes and remains with no end, an indefinite future.