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# LIFE: USE ONLY AS DIRECTED

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PSALM I BIBLE STUDY | DANNY SCOTTON JR.



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# PSALM I CONTEXT



1 Make a **joyful noise** unto the LORD, all ye lands.

2 Serve the LORD with **gladness**:

Come before his presence with singing. (Ps 100:1, KJV)

1 **How long**, LORD? Will you forget me forever?

**How long** will you hide your face from me?

2 **How long** must I wrestle with my thoughts

and day after day have sorrow in my heart?

**How long** will my enemy triumph over me? (Ps 13:1-2, NIV)

O give **thanks** unto the LORD, for he is good:

For his mercy endureth for ever. (Ps 107:1, KJV)

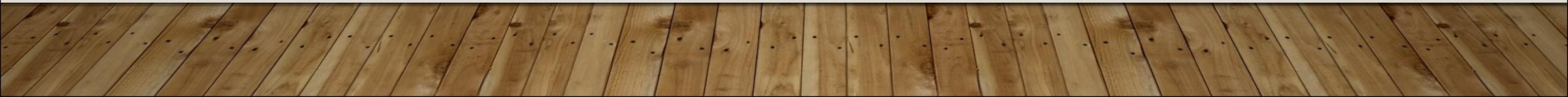


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# PSALM I WISDOM PSALM



For the **wisdom** of this world is **foolishness** in God's sight. (1 Cor 3:19a, NIV)





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# PSALM I

## THE BOOK(S) OF PSALMS



- **Praise** be to the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. **Amen** and **Amen**. (Ps 41:13, NIV)
- **Praise** be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory. **Amen** and **Amen**. (Ps 72:19, NIV)
- **Praise** be to the LORD forever! **Amen** and **Amen**. (Ps 89:52, NIV)
- **Praise** be to the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Let all the people say, “**Amen!**” **Praise** the LORD. (Ps 106:48, NIV)
- Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. **Praise** the LORD. (Ps 150:6, NIV)



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## PSALM 1:1 PARALLELISM



I The heavens **declare** the glory of God;  
the skies **proclaim** the work of his hands. (Ps 19:1, NIV)

I Praise the LORD.

**Praise God** in his **sanctuary**;  
**praise him** in his **mighty heavens**. (Ps 150:1, NIV)



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## PSALM 1:1 PARALLEL PROGRESSION



Blissful is the one who does not **walk in the counsel** of the wicked,  
or **stand in the way** of sinners,  
or **dwell in the assembly** of mockers (Ps 1:1,AT)



## PSALM 1:1 WALKING THE WRONG WAY



- They **claim to know God**, but by their **actions** they **deny** him. (Tit 1:16a, NIV)
- Whoever **claims** to live in him must **live as Jesus did**. (1 Jn 2:6, NIV)
- Whoever says, “**I know him**,” but **does not do what he commands** is a **liar**, and the truth is not in that person. (1 Jn 2:4, NIV)



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## PSALM 1:1 MOCKERS



7 Whoever corrects a **mocker** invites insults;

whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse.

8 Do not rebuke **mockers** or they will hate you;

rebuke the wise and they will love you. (Pr 9:7-8, NIV)

“Do not **give dogs what is sacred**; do not **throw your pearls to pigs**. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces. (Mt 7:6, NIV)

34 He mocks proud mockers

but shows favor to the humble and oppressed. (Pr 3:34, NIV)



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## PSALM 1:1 AMERICAN SELF-FULFILLMENT



- The highest goal of life is to **enjoy** it as much as possible” (84%).
- “To be fulfilled in life, you should pursue the things **you desire** most” (86%).
- “The best way to find yourself is by looking **within yourself**” (91%).



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## PSALM 1:1 TRUE BLISS



Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers,

and **blessed** is the one who trusts in the LORD. (Pr 16:20, NIV)

**Blessed** are those whose ways are blameless,

who **walk** according to the **law** of the LORD. (Ps 119:1, NIV)



# PSALM 1:1 THE UNPOPULAR, ULTIMATELY FULFILLING WAY



- “Woe to you when **everyone speaks well of you**, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.” (Lk 6:26, NIV)
- I 1 “Blessed are you when people **insult** you, **persecute** you and **falsely say all kinds of evil** against you **because of me**. I 2 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they **persecuted the prophets** who were before you.” (Mt 5:1 1-12, NIV)
- Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they **persecuted me**, they will **persecute you** also. (Jn 15:20a, NIV)



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# PSALM 1:2 LAW, INSTRUCTIONS DIRECTIONS



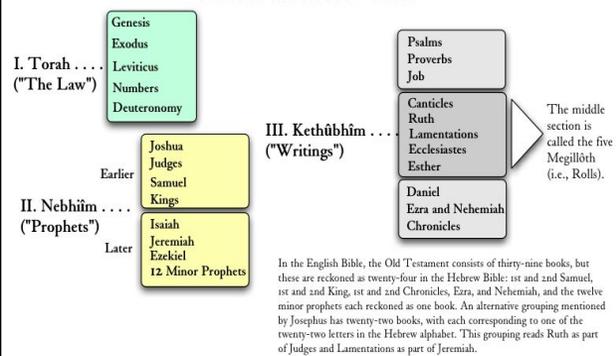
but rather in the law of the **LORD** they delight;

and on **His** law they meditate day and night (**Ps 1:2,AT**)

She speaks with wisdom,

and faithful instruction [*torah*] is on her tongue. (Pr 31:26, NIV)

### Parts of the Hebrew Bible

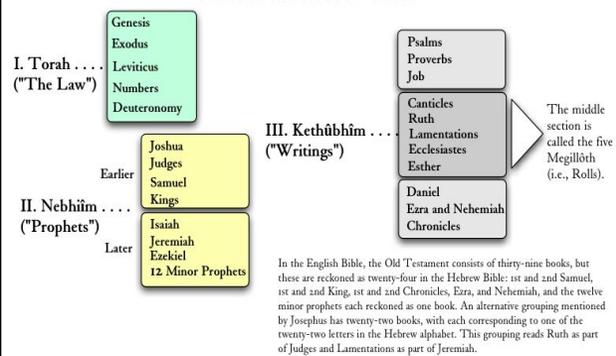


# PSALM 1:2 MEDITATE ON THE LORD'S INSTRUCTIONS



- He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the **Law of Moses**, the **Prophets** and the **Psalms.**” (Lk 24:44, NIV)
- Keep this Book of the **Law [torah]** always on your **lips**; **meditate** on it **day and night**, so that you may be careful to **do** everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. (Jos 1:8, NIV)
- “Remember the **law [torah]** of my servant Moses, the decrees and **laws [torah]** I gave him at Horeb for all Israel. (Mal 4:4, NIV)

### Parts of the Hebrew Bible



# PSALM 1:2 MEDITATE ON THE LORD'S INSTRUCTIONS

- Thy **word** have I **hid in mine heart**, That I might **not sin** against thee. (Ps 119:11, KJV)

97 Oh, how I love your **law [torah]!**

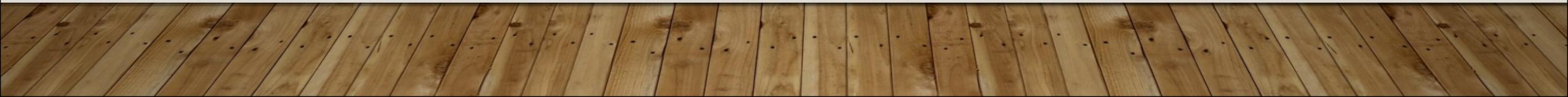
I **meditate** on it all day long.

98 Your commands are always with me

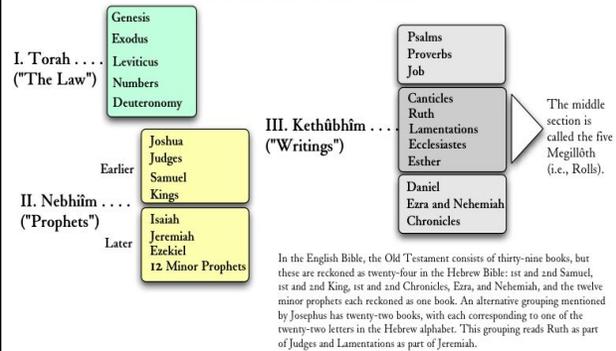
and make me **wiser than my enemies.**

99 I have **more insight than all my teachers,**

for I **meditate** on your statutes. (Ps 119:97-99, NIV)



### Parts of the Hebrew Bible



# PSALM 1:2 MEDITATE ON THE LORD'S INSTRUCTIONS

103 How **sweet** are your words to my taste,

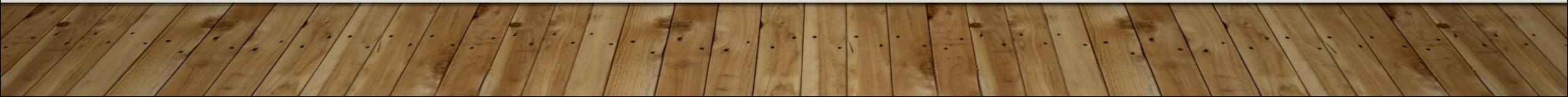
**sweeter** than honey to my mouth!

104 I gain understanding from your precepts;

therefore I hate every wrong path.

105 Your word is a **lamp** for my **feet**,

a **light** on my **path**. (Ps 119:103-105, NIV)





## PSALM 1:3 GODLY PROSPERITY



**And they are like a tree (trans)planted by streams of water;**

**which gives fruit in its season;**

**and whose leaf does not wither;**

**whatever they do prospers (Ps 1:3,AT)**

so is my word that goes out from my mouth:

It will not return to me empty,

but will accomplish what I desire

and **achieve the purpose [נְלֶצְחַת | ṣālah]** for which I sent it. (Is 55:11, NIV)



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## PSALM 1:3 PROSPERITY GOSPEL?



35 “Who has ever **given** to God,  
that God should **repay** them?” (Rom 11:35, NIV)

For the **wages of sin is death**, but the **gift** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 6:23, NIV)

11 “**Blessed** [μακάριος | *makarios*] are you when people **insult** you, **persecute** you and **falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me**. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because **great is your reward in heaven**, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you (Mt 5:11-12, NIV)



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## PSALM 1:3 GODLY PROSPERITY



12 The **righteous** will **flourish** like a **palm tree**,

they will **grow** like a cedar of Lebanon;

13 **planted** in the house of the **LORD**,

they will **flourish** in the courts of our **God**.

14 They will still **bear fruit in old age**,

they will stay **fresh and green**, (Ps 92:12-14, NIV)



## PSALM 1:4 GONE WITH THE WIND



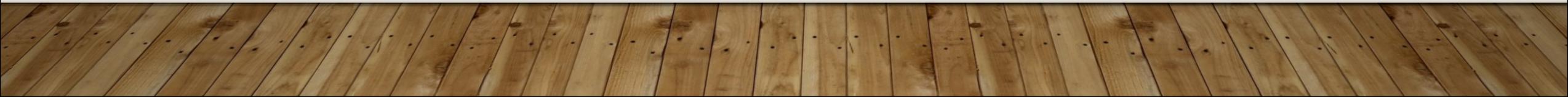
**Not so the wicked;**

**but rather, they are like chaff that the wind blows away (Ps 1:4, AT).**

But your many enemies will become like fine dust,

the ruthless hordes like **blown chaff.** (Is 29:5ab, NIV)

His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his **threshing** floor, **gathering his wheat into the barn** and **burning up the chaff** with **unquenchable fire.**" (Mt 3:12, NIV)

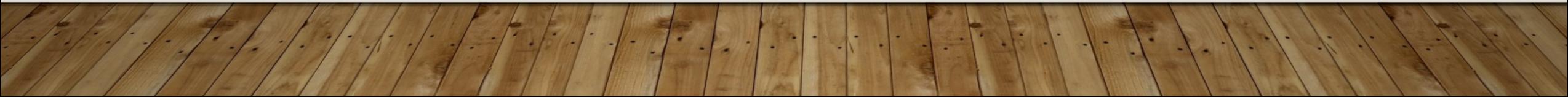




PSALM 1:5  
CAN'T STAND IT



**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment;  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous (Ps 1:5,AT).**





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PSALM 1:6  
TWO WAYS,  
TWO DESTINATIONS



**For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish. (Ps 1:6, AT)**

And Adam **knew** [יָדָעַ (yāda ')] Eve his wife; and she conceived,  
and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD  
(Gen 4:1, KJV).



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PSALM 1:6  
TWO WAYS,  
TWO DESTINATIONS



18 The **blameless** spend their days under the **LORD's** care, and their inheritance will endure forever. 19 In **times of disaster** they will **not wither**; in days of **famine** they will **enjoy plenty**. 20 But 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. (Ps 37:18-20, NIV)



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## PSALM 1:6 THINK LONG-TERM



3 For I envied the arrogant

when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. (Ps 73:3, NIV)

1 Do not fret because of those who are evil

or be envious of those who do wrong;

2 for like the **grass they will soon wither,**

**like green plants they will soon die away.** (Ps 37:1-2, NIV)



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PSALM 1:6  
THINK LONG-TERM



12 The wicked plot against the righteous

and gnash their teeth at them;

13 but the LORD **laughs** at the wicked,

for **he knows their day is coming.**



## PSALM 1:6 DIVINE INTERVENTION



3 | The **law** [*torah*] of their God is in their hearts;  
their feet do not slip. (Ps 37:31, NIV)

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart  
and lean **not on your own understanding**;

6 in all your ways **submit to** [יָדָהּ (*yāda* ')] him,  
and **he will make your paths straight**. (Pr 3:5-6, NIV)



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# PSALM 1:6 DIVINE INTERVENTION



- 1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,  
**From whence cometh my help.**
- 2 My **help cometh from the LORD,**  
**Which made heaven and earth. (Ps 121:1-2, KJV)**



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# PSALM 1:6 TWO WAYS, TWO DESTINATIONS



5 This is what the LORD says:

“**Cursed** is the one who **trusts in man**,  
who draws strength from mere flesh  
and whose heart turns away from the LORD.

6 That person will be like a **bush in the wastelands**;  
they **will not see prosperity** when it comes.

They will dwell in the **parched places of the desert**,  
in a salt land where no one lives.

7 “But **blessed** is the one who trusts in the LORD,  
whose confidence is in him.

8 They will be **like a tree planted by the water**  
that sends out its roots by the stream.

It does not fear when heat comes;  
its **leaves are always green**.

It has no worries in a year of drought  
and **never fails to bear fruit.**” (Jer 17:5-8, NIV)



## PSALM 1:6 TWO WAYS, TWO DESTINATIONS



- For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever **believes in him shall not perish** (ἀπόλλυμι | *apollymi*) but **have eternal life**. (Jn 3:16, NIV)
- But everyone who **hears these words** of mine and **does not put them into practice** is like a foolish man who built his **house on sand**. (Mt 7:26, NIV)
- Then I will tell them plainly, **'I never knew you**. Away from me, you evildoers!' (Mt 7:23, NIV)
- 13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and **broad is the road that leads to destruction**, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and **narrow the road that leads to life**, and only a few find it. (Mt 7:13-14, NIV)



PSALM 1:6  
MAKARIOS MEDITATION



- 27 As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, “Blessed [*makarios*] is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you.” 28 He replied, “Blessed [*makarios*] rather are those who **hear the word of God and obey it.**” (Lk 11:27-28, NIV)



## THE LORD LISTENS TO THOSE WHO LISTEN



The LORD is **far from the wicked**,  
but he **hears the prayer of the righteous**. (Pr 15:29, NIV)

The LORD **detests** the **sacrifice** of the **wicked**,  
but the **prayer** of the **upright pleases** him. (Pr 15:8, NIV)

If anyone turns a **deaf ear** to my **instruction [torah]**,  
even their **prayers are detestable**. (Pr 28:9, NIV)