IS HE WORTH IT?

Surfing Through the Psalms **Psalm 73**

Pastor Brian Brown **November 19, 2023**

1 Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.
2 But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost
my foothold. 3 For I envied the arrogant when I saw the
prosperity of the wicked. 4 They have no struggles; their
bodies are healthy and strong.5 They are free from common
human burdens; they are not plagued by human ills.
6 Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves
with violence. 7 From their callous hearts comes iniquity;
their evil imaginations have no limits. 8 They scoff, and speak
with malice; with arrogance they threaten oppression. 9 Their
mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take
possession of the earth. 10 Therefore their people turn to
them and drink up waters in abundance. 11 They say, "How
would God know? Does the Most High know anything?"
12 This is what the wicked are like—always free of care, they
go on amassing wealth. 13 Surely in vain I have kept my heart
pure and have washed my hands in innocence. 14 All day
long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new
punishments. 15 If I had spoken out like that, I would have
betrayed your children. 16 When I tried to understand all this,
it troubled me deeply 17 till I entered the sanctuary of God;
then I understood their final destiny. 18 Surely you place
them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin.
19 How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept
away by terrors! 20 They are like a dream when one awakes;
when you arise, Lord, you will despise them as fantasies. 21 When
my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, 22 I was
senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. 23 Yet I am
always with you; you hold me by my right hand. 24 You guide me
with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.
25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire
besides you. 26 My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the
strength of my heart and my portion forever. 27 Those who are far
from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you.
28 But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the
Sovereign LORD my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.

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