

Psalm 73

Subject: Resolving Struggles in faith and life

**PERSONAL STRUGGLES IN LIFE**

1. What kind of struggles do we experience?

2. Common struggles (almost trite)

- a) Health
- b) Job
- c) Family

**PERSONAL STRUGGLES OF ASAPH**

1. Theory versus Real life                      Psalm 73:1-2

- a) Theory
  - i) God is good to Israel
  - ii) To the pure in heart
- b) Real life
  - i) Stumbling in life                      Psalm 73:2
  - ii) The prosperity of the wicked      Psalm 73:2-13

2. Troubling observations about the wicked

- a) They are boastful                      Psalm 73:3
- b) They are prosperous                  Psalm 73:3
- c) They are strong                        Psalm 73:4
- d) They are not in trouble                Psalm 73:5
- e) They are full of pride                  Psalm 73:6
- f) They are violent                        Psalm 73:6
- g) They have abundance                  Psalm 73:7
- h) They scoff and speak wickedly      Psalm 73:8
- i) They even speak against heaven      Psalm 73:9
- j) Their tongue is all over the earth      Psalm 73:9
- k) They disdain God                        Psalm 73:11
- l) They increase in wealth                Psalm 73:12

### 3. Deep misgivings

- a) In vain      Psalm 73:13
  - i)      I have cleansed my heart
  - ii)     Washed my hands in innocence
- b) Problems    Psalm 73:14
  - i)      Plagued
  - ii)     Chastened

### 4. Deep internal struggles

- a) Verbalisation  
I will speak thus      Psalm 73:15
  - i)      I would be untrue
  - ii)     Will effect generations
- b) Comprehension  
When I thought how to understand this      Psalm u73:16
  - i)      Too painful
  - ii)     No understanding forthcoming

## THE SOLUTION

1. In the sanctuary of God      Psalm 73:17

2. Deeper understanding obtained Psalm 73:17-22

- a) What is the ultimate end of the wicked?
  - i)      Slippery places      Psalm 73:18
  - ii)     Destruction          Psalm 73:18
  - iii)    Desolation            Psalm 73:19
  - iv)     Terrors                Psalm 73:19
  - v)      Despised by God      Psalm 73:20

## PERSONAL CONFESSION

1. Candid confession

- a) Heart grieved      Psalm 73:21
- b) Mind vexed        Psalm 73:21

- c) Foolish                      Psalm 73:22
- d) Ignorant                     Psalm 73:22
- e) Like a beast                 Psalm 73:22

2. New Sense of appreciation of what we have in the Lord

- a) Continually with the Lord      Psalm 73:23
- b) Held in hand                     Psalm 73:23
- c) Guidance/ Counsel             Psalm 73:24
- d) Received into glory             Psalm 73:24

3. Renewal of faith

- a) In God                      Psalm 73:25
  - i)        Whom have I in heaven but You?
  - ii)       There is none upon earth I desire besides You
- b) In life                      Psalm 73:26
  - i)        My flesh/ heart faith
  - ii)       God is my strength
  - iii)      God is my portion
- c) Drawing nearer to God          Psalm 73:28
  - i)        It is good for me to draw nearer to God
  - ii)       Putting trust in God
  - iii)      Declaring God's works