

# THE KINGDOM CHILD

May 9, 2022

**PSALM 1:1-3 NKJV** – (1) Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; (2) But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. (3) He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.

**Psalm 1** begins by identifying the man who is blessed. The word "blessed" in the Hebrew Old Testament is actually a plural noun. Therefore, the words, "Blessed is the man," may be rendered, "Blessings to the man." Also, the word for "man" in this context refers to human beings in general. Blessings come to anyone who refuses to be influenced by the ungodly, those whose lives are governed by evil passions. The blessed person refuses to align with sinners: those who choose to do wrong. Further, they refuse to join the ranks of those who mock God, mock the righteous, or oppose whatever is virtuous.

This verse describes a downward spiral. First is willingness to be influenced by the ungodly, followed by entering into fellowship with them, followed by joining in their scornful attitudes and behavior. Christians today need to lead a righteous life, refusing to be influenced by godless attitudes. Despite the temptations of popularity or comfort, believers should not side with those who disdain God's standards of righteousness. **Ephesians 5:7-8** commands: "Therefore do not become partners with [the sons of disobedience]; for at one time, you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light."

Remember, you don't have to feel like a failure simply because you aren't measuring up to the culture's standards of prosperity. Christians live according to divine truths, not the world's expectations. If you want to live a truly "Kingdom life", **PSALM 1:1** explains God's path to its fruitfulness.

**Psalm 1:1-3** teaches that those who properly respect God's Word will enjoy spiritual prosperity and spiritual success. This first half of Psalm 1 stands in stark contrast to the second half. These words echo what God promised Joshua, if he would meditate upon God's Word and obey it (**Joshua 1:6-9**). **Psalm 119** also teaches the importance of devoting oneself to God's Word and the blessings that accompany that obedience.

**The Psalmist gives a warning:** The downward slide begins by listening to ungodly ideas and counsel. Then it progresses into the sinful practices and last you demonstrate the ungodly mindset by irreverent attitudes toward God and His word.

**The Lord calls His people to a higher path:** Genuine success is determined by our attitude towards scripture. God tells us not to boast in our wisdom, might or riches, but in understanding and knowing Him. And the one of the best ways to know the Lord is through His word.

**Last, staying on God's path leads to a fruitful life:** The picture is that of a stable life that stands firm in times of adversity because it's deeply rooted in biblical truth and continually sustained by Christ.

**SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 12:32**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Don't squander your time!"**

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"