

PULPIT COMPANION

A NEW
PERSPECTIVE

PSALMS 73

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AUGUST 31, 2025

09:45 AM

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In this powerful message, we're reminded of the importance of gaining a new perspective through our faith, especially during challenging times.

The central theme revolves around Psalm 73, where the psalmist struggles with the apparent prosperity of the wicked. Like us, he grapples with the injustices of the world, questioning why those who don't follow God seem to thrive. However, the key turning point comes when he enters the sanctuary of God. This teaches us that when we immerse ourselves in God's presence, our perspective shifts dramatically. We're encouraged to look beyond our immediate circumstances and trust in God's ultimate plan. The message emphasizes that as children of the King, we shouldn't be begging or living in fear. Instead, we're called to represent Christ with dignity and confidence, knowing that our Father owns it all and will supply all our needs.

This insight is particularly relevant in our current world, where we often feel overwhelmed by negative news and personal struggles. By entering God's sanctuary - both literally and figuratively - we can find peace, joy, and a renewed perspective that empowers us to face life's challenges with faith and grace.

SCRIPTURES FROM PULPIT AI

- Psalm 73 (The entire chapter is the main focus of the sermon)
- Psalm 62:11 - "God has spoken once, twice I have heard this: that power belongs to God."
- Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."





DEVOTIONAL

Day 1: A New Perspective in God's Sanctuary

Reading: Psalm 73:1-28

Devotional: Asaph's journey in Psalm 73 mirrors our own struggles when we look at the world around us. Like him, we often question why the wicked seem to prosper while the righteous suffer. But the key lies in verse 17: "until I entered the sanctuary of God."

Today, reflect on how your perspective changes when you enter God's presence. In what ways do your worries and comparisons fade when you focus on God's eternal truths? Remember, the sanctuary isn't just a physical place, but a state of communion with God. Seek His presence today and allow Him to renew your mind and heart.

Day 2: Trusting God in Uncertain Times

Reading: Proverbs 3:5-6, Isaiah 41:10

Devotional: In a world full of chaos and unpredictability, our natural inclination is to lean on our own understanding. However, God calls us to trust Him completely. Reflect on areas in your life where you're struggling to trust God. Are you facing financial difficulties, health challenges, or relationship issues? Remember that God promises to direct our paths when we acknowledge Him in all our ways. He is with us, strengthening and upholding us.

Today, practice surrendering your concerns to God and affirm His faithfulness in your life.

Day 3: Living as Children of the King

Reading: 1 Peter 2:9-10, Ephesians 1:3-14

Devotional: As believers, we are royal children of the King of kings. This identity should shape how we live and interact with the world around us. Consider how you represent Christ in your daily life. Are there areas where you've forgotten your royal heritage? Remember, you are chosen, holy, and dearly loved. Let this truth empower you to live with dignity, purpose, and love towards others.

Today, make a conscious effort to embody your identity in Christ in your words, actions, and attitudes.





Day 4: Finding Peace in the Midst of Storms

Reading: Philippians 4:6-7, John 16:33

Devotional: Life often brings storms that threaten to overwhelm us. Yet, as followers of Christ, we have access to a peace that surpasses all understanding. Reflect on the challenges you're currently facing. How can you invite God's peace into these situations? Remember Jesus' words: "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Today, practice bringing your anxieties to God in prayer, and allow His peace to guard your heart and mind in Christ Jesus.

Day 5: Representing Christ with Love and Integrity

Reading: Colossians 3:12-17, James 1:22-25

Devotional: As Christians, we are called to be living representations of Christ's love and character. This involves not just hearing God's Word, but putting it into practice. Reflect on how you can better embody Christ's love in your interactions with others. Are there areas where your actions don't align with your beliefs? Remember, love should be the hallmark of our faith.

Today, look for practical ways to show Christ's love to those around you, whether through acts of kindness, words of encouragement, or simply by being present for someone in need.





SMALL GROUP GUIDE : "A New Perspective"

Opening Prayer:

Start your session with a prayer, asking God to open your hearts and minds to His word and to guide your discussion.

Key Scripture:

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon mentions feeling discouraged when seeing the wicked prosper. Have you ever felt this way? How did you handle those feelings?
2. How does entering God's "sanctuary" (through prayer, worship, or fellowship) change your perspective on life's challenges?
3. The speaker emphasizes the importance of representing Christ well. In what areas of your life do you find this most challenging?
4. Discuss the concept of having "joy" and "peace" even in difficult circumstances. How can we cultivate this in our lives?
5. The sermon touches on the importance of accountability within the Christian community. How can we lovingly hold each other accountable while avoiding judgment?
6. What does it mean to you to be a "child of the King"? How should this identity impact our daily lives?

Practical Applications:

- This week, commit to spending time daily in God's "sanctuary" through prayer, Bible reading, or worship. Journal about how it affects your perspective.
- Evaluate your wardrobe and behavior, asking yourself, "Does this represent Christ well?" Make any necessary changes.
- Practice memorizing a Bible verse that reminds you of God's promises or character. Share it with the group next time you meet.
- Identify one area in your life where you struggle to trust God's timing. Pray specifically about this and ask others to pray with you.
- Look for an opportunity to encourage or build up another believer this week, especially someone who may be struggling.





Key Takeaways:

1. When life seems unfair or challenging, we need to seek God's perspective by entering His sanctuary (church, prayer, worship).
2. Our focus should be on God and His word, not on comparing ourselves to others or envying their success.
3. As Christians, we are called to represent Christ in all areas of life, including how we dress, speak, and interact with others.
4. God's word and promises remain true, even when circumstances are difficult.
5. We need to trust in God's timing and justice, especially when evil seems to prosper.

Closing Prayer:

End your session by praying for each other, asking God to help you apply what you've learned and to give you His perspective on your daily lives.

