

A Song of Foundations

Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

A. Psalms are the folk songs of the Bible.

B. The Psalms are divided into five books paralleling the first five books of the Bible.

1. 1st book: the book of foundations.

2. 2nd book: the book of redemption.

3. 3rd book: the book of worship.

4. 4th book: the book of problems.

5. 5th book: the book of law.

C. Text: Psalm 1.

1. The wicked person has little or no time for God in his life.

2. The Psalm is about the God-centered life.

II. The God-centered life.

A. The life described.

1. It is described as being “happy.”

2. To stand is to take a stand on certain matters of life.

3. To sit is to have a continual disposition on important matters of life.

a. The godly man avoids the philosophy of the world: me first, get it now, and run from what is unpleasant.

b. The godly man does not make trouble.

c. The godly man does not scoff and blame.

B. The godly man has learned to delight in the law of the Lord.

1. The godly man lives this way because he has discovered the truth about God and his own need.

2. He finds not only that God demands perfection, but that there is a process for that perfection.

C. The godly man has learned in the hidden parts of his life to draw on the strength and glory of God, so his roots have dug deep down to God: he is fruitful, exciting and he prospers.

1. The man with no room for God in his life is like chaff.
2. The godly man will not stand in the judgment of God.
3. The ungodly will be judged.

D. Inwardly, a life can be very empty because God knows the way of the righteous.

Application questions:

1. Which characteristic of the godly man stands out to you? Explain.

2. How can one meet God's perfect standard when he is not perfect himself?

3. Why is it so important to rely on God's strength for prosperity?
