



## SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

### “He is My Success”

Psalm 1

September 1, 2013 A.M. Worship

#### THE GODLY MAN IS SUCCESSFUL

##### ✓ His Path – He is Separated from the World

*He Does Not:*

- Listen to the Ungodly Man
- Linger with the Sinful Man
- Laugh with the Scornful Man

##### ✓ His Pleasure – He is Satisfied with the Word

*God’s Word Has:*

- Captured His Full Affection
- Claimed His Full Attention

##### ✓ His Promise – He is Situated By the Water

- His Permanence
- His Position
- His Productivity
- His Perpetuity
- His Prosperity

#### THE GODLESS MAN IS STOPPED

##### ✓ He is Driven

##### ✓ He is Doomed

##### ✓ He is Damned

#### Our Response:

1. Has there ever been that moment where you have prayed to the Father and asked Him to come into your heart and take control of your life? **The Lord’s desire is to give you Security in knowing Him today as Savior and Lord!!** Would give Him your heart & life today? Remember it is as simple as **ABC!** **Admit** to God you are a sinner, **Ask** for His forgiveness, **Believe** Jesus is God’s Son, **Confess** Him as Savior & **Commit** Your Life to Him as Lord. (the Boss/Shepherd of your life)
2. Have you asked Christ into your heart but never made it public. Have you not been baptized? You can come & make that decision today public today. Be obedient!
3. Are you a part of a church family? If not, you need one! Is the Lord calling you to **Petal FBC** today? Why wait any longer? Step over the line and join us in reaching this community with the gospel of Jesus Christ!
4. Ask yourself the difficult yet important question today? Which man or woman are you – the Godly Man or Godless or Worldly Man? Take a long hard look at your life and see what you are building your life upon? Do you measure your success by the world’s standards or by God’s Standards? If you are on the world’s standards, would you repent and confess that and get back on the Lord’s Standards? If you have never done that, see #1!!
5. Believer, make certain this week that you stay in that secret place, that you stay by that stream of living water and there that your soul may be captured with your full affection toward the Word of God and may it have your full attention.
6. Make any necessary changes in your life to be certain that you are being successful by God’s standards? Evaluate what needs to be let go so you can spend more time in the Word, time with other believers, and then time spent telling others how they can truly be successful in this life!

## SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

“The Lord is My Success”

*Psalm 1*

September 1, 2013 AM Service

**Define Success** – favorable or desired outcome or result; the attainment of fortune , favor, or fame.

The real question is not how you define success but how you measure it.

**Measure Success** – **ILLUS:** My Thumb Ruler, Yardstick, Clothes Measuring Tape, Small Measuring Tape, Large Measuring Tape

**There must be a Standard to measure by** – There are a lot of standards that can and are used today to determine success, but there really can be only one standard that will help us clearly define it - It must be His Word

**Who Measures the Success** – It Must be the Lord Jesus, not the world

So this morning we have a choice to make, how we will measure our success for eternity hangs in the balance. And further, will we as believers choose to live a successful live based on God’s standards or the worlds?

Will you and be the godly man or woman, or the worldly man or woman?

So we see a contrast setup here before us – 2 ways of living, 2 roads to choose, 2 different people – a dichotomy and it is ours to choose today – will we be the godly man/woman or ungodly man/woman. Most of us would of course say, well I’m godly, but here the Psalmist clearly lays out what that looks like. Which one reflects your life? And be reminded each of these lead to two different destinies. Which is yours?

### **THE GODLY MAN IS SUCCESSFUL - Why?**

Because he is blessed. The word blessed is the **Hebrew Word** *Ashreey* meaning oh how happy, blissful. We see the same word used in Matthew 5 it is from the **Greek Word**, *Makarios*, means happy, fortunate, blissful, joyful over the top happiness.

Blessed used to refer to God Describes that joy which has its secret within itself, that joy which is serene and untouchable, and self contained, that joy which is completely independent of all the chances and changes in life.

This is the kind of happiness God desires for His children, a state of joy and well-being that does not depend on physical or temporary

circumstances. It is not available to use unless we have asked Jesus Christ into our hearts. Obviously, then only believers can truly be blessed.

To be blessed is not a superficial feeling of well-being based on circumstances, but a deep supernatural experience of contentedness based on the fact that one's life is right with God. Blessedness is based on objective reality, realized in the miracle of transformation to a new and divine nature.

This is in direct opposition to what the world says, I will be happy if... The world says, happy are the rich, noble, successful, the famous, the macho, the glamorous, the popular, the aggressive, however here we see that being blessed goes in direct opposition to the world's idea of what it means to be blessed!

### **Why is the Godly Man Blessed? There is a condition as last week**

#### ✓ **His Path** – He is Separated from the World

**He Does Not:** The Blessed Man is marked by things he does not do, the place to which he does not go, the books he does not read, movies he does not watch, the company he does not keep. Seems to be a strange way to begin, but let us look closer. The Blessed man is joyful by avoiding certain things in life, things which make it impossible for joy to flourish because they are poisonous, destructive, and counterproductive. “So it is with God's people today: we are in the world but not of the world ([John 17:11-17](#)). We must beware of friendship with the world ([James 4:4](#)) that leads to being spotted by the world ([James 1:27](#)) and even loving the world ([1 John 2:15-17](#)). The result will be conforming to the world ([Rom 12:1-2](#)) and, if we don't repent, being condemned with the world ([I Cor. 11:32](#)).” Wiersbe Remember Lot, though saved, he lost everything when God destroyed Sodom and Gomorah. We move into sin and disobedience gradually. If you follow the wrong counsel, then you will stand with the wrong companions and finally sit with the wrong crowd. So he sets out a lifestyle that the godly man avoids in his daily life. Really a picture of the progression of sin and depravity. Don't ever start the journey Notice the progression here – walking, standing, then sitting. It's like the progression of sin in our lives described in [James 1:13-16](#)

- **Listen to the Ungodly Man** The "ungodly" are people who are willfully and persistently evil and he doesn't listen to them nor make

his decision by what they tell him or dare him to do. When in a difficult situation, he doesn't seek their advice or counsel.

- **Linger with the Sinful Man** Sinners" are those who miss the mark of God's standards but who don't care. He doesn't hang out with those who are in rebellion against God and His ways. His identify and lifestyle are no longer determined by them.
- **Laugh with the Scornful Man** He doesn't learn nor judge from the perspective of the cynical and prideful, those who make light of God's laws and ridicule that which is sacred

**But Instead, He lives differently –**

✓ **His Pleasure – He is Satisfied with the Word**

**God's Word Has:** It is now something he does

- *Captured His Full Affection* - I delight in it, it brings joy to my soul not duty to have it and be able to read it. It is not something I avoid or do last, but instead something I enjoy deeply and immensely. Did the opportunity to come and worship the Lord and read and study His word arouse your complete affection and passion today?
- *Claimed His Full Attention* Great Word here as well, I meditate on it, spend time in it, make preparations to be with it and not be interrupted by anything so I can completely soak it in. Reading the Word of God with the idea of letting it speak to me, challenge me, encourage me, confront me, transform me, reading it for application in my daily life.

**ILLUS: Football Saturdays at the Eubank House** I know some of you don't care and this ok, and my life will not end with who wins or loses, but something I enjoy. It has my full affection and will have my complete attention this coming week and I have made preparations for it. Will you and do the same for the Lord today, tomorrow, this week?!

✓ **His Promise – He is Situated By the Water** A Tree is...

*A Fixed Thing* – trees do not plant themselves, God plants them

*A Growing Thing* – by the water – nutrients, best position to be in

*A Living Thing* – during the winter and summer keeps on developing – leaf shall not wither – God-imparted life

*A Beautiful Thing* – like a tree – few objects in nature are so pleasing as a prosperous tree – that which provides fruit (peach trees)

- **His Permanence** – **Tree planted** Roots go down deeply into the Word of God – grass blows away, tree stays. It is the most important part of his life even though it that which cannot be seen.
- **His Position** – **by the rivers of water** Life drinks deeply from the Spirit of God – even when the drought and difficult times come, others fall away, go barren, he will not because of the unfailing source of life that he is connected to. Are you connected?
- **His Productivity** – **brings forth in his season- fruit** What is fruit good works, blessing those around him. Serving the Lord, blesses everyone around him. Share the gospel with others, his life multiplies in the lives of others, just a seed in a fruit does. By the way, we don't make fruit, it is a byproduct of Christ's work in us!
- **His Perpetuity** – **his leaves shall not wither** He is like the evergreen tree, leaves don't fall away and become barren, but because his roots are down deep and he is constantly refreshed by being connected to the Spirit of God, he has the power to walk no matter what is happening in the world around him.
- **His Prosperity** – **whatever he does shall prosper** Great news here, doesn't mean money, but instead he will be blessed, his needs will be met and God will provide all that he needs, and that which he is a part of will be also be blessed. Just a natural progression.

### **THE GODLESS MAN IS STOPPED – He is not blessed!**

Now we see the contrast, and really have seen it already, for the opposite is true of the worldly or godless man, though successful perhaps in the world's eyes, in the short term and eternal perspective is not. He will be stopped, whether now or in the end. God's Word is clear and offers abundant words of caution for anyone who would choose to live this way. Our challenge here is see what lies ahead of the worldly man and avoid it at all costs and also to help our family members, friends, classmates, co-workers, neighbors and other avoid this fate.

✓ **He is Driven** In contrast to the righteous, who are like trees, the ungodly are dead, rootless, blown about, and destined for the fire. Chaff is worth nothing. When the grain is winnowed, the wind blows the chaff away, and what chaff remains is thrown into the fire. John the Baptist used these same images of the tree, fruit, and chaff to warn sinners to

repent in [Matt 3:7-12](#). The wicked of this world seem rich and substantial, but from God's point of view, they are cheap, unsubstantial, and destined for judgment. The chaff is so near the grain, but in the end, the two are separated, and the chaff is blown away or burned. He is not the master of his own soul and his destiny as he thinks he is, for Satan and his demons are in control and driving him relentlessly and his powerless to stop it unless he would turn his life over to Christ.

- ✓ **He is Doomed** When the day of judgment does finally come and it will, make no mistake, there will be no one to stand up for him and say, this one's with me. All he has built his life upon will be as nothing, it will come crumbling down and been burned up, someone else will take it away.
- ✓ **He is Damned** Here the contrast it marked clearly, and one that Satan does his best to hide from this world, for if the world could clearly see this picture, everything would change. There are only two ways, the way of the Cross and the way of the world. It is the broad road and narrow road. Those on the broad road are doomed to an eternal hell and those on the narrow road, the Lord knows His way and will take him to eternal glory in heaven. But notice one other thing, and it is in the here and now, The Lord knows the way of the righteous. The word know is the Hebrew word *yada*, means to know, to have an intimate relationship with. The Lord not only will take care of us in eternity to come, but He promises as we talked about last week that He is our security now and knows our ways, provides for our every need and He will Shepherd us home!