PSALM 36 vs 1

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Title and Subject: A Psalm of David. He who had the leadership of the Temple services was charged with the use of this song in public worship. What is everybody's business is never done. It was well to have one person specially to attend to the service of song in the House of the Lord. This is **THE SONG OF HAPPY SERVICE**; it contrast the wrongdoer with the righteous, and the great Lord of devout men is heartily extolled.

Divisions: David describes the rebellion (1-4); he extols the various attributes of the Lord (5-9); he addressed the Lord in prayer (10-11); and in the last verse in a vision sees the overthrow of all the wrongdoers (12) – Charles Spurgeon.



To the Chief musician,

A Psalm of David, the servant of the LORD

- ¹ Transgression / stepping over the line speaks to the fool in my heart, there is no fear of God before his eyes.
- ² For he flatters himself in his own eyes too much, to discover his crime and hate it.
- ³ The words of his mouth are trouble and deceit: he ceased to be wise, and to do good.
- ⁴ He devises wrongdoing on his bed; he sets himself in a way that is not good; he does not abhor evil.

He counts himself a fine fellow, worthy of great respect, as he smooths his own path to hell. His place of rest becomes a place of plotting. His bed is a hot-bed for poisonous weeds. He quiets his conscience, and so deceives his own judgment, reckoning himself a pattern of excellence; while the servants of God are, in his estimation, mean-spirited and narrow-minded. What a portrait of a graceless man; carefree of conscience; intent on wrong-doing, turning their thoughts, and creative to do evil.

- ⁵O LORD, Your mercy extends to the heavens; Your faithfulness to the skies.
- ⁶ Your rightness is like great mountains; Your justice is very deep: O LORD, You preserve man and beast.
- ⁷ How precious is Your mercy, O God! the children of men take shelter in the shadow of Your wings.
- ⁸ They are abundantly satisfied with the fulness of Your house; and from the stream of Your delights You give them drink.
- ⁹ For with You is the fountain of life: and in Your light we see light.

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Think about it: This verse is made of simple words, but like the first chapter of John's Gospel, it is very deep. Life is in the creature, but the fountain of life is only in the Creator. In spiritual things, the knowledge of God shed a light on all other subjects. We need no candle to see the sun, we see it by its own radiance. and then see everything else by the same lustre. God who is spirit, must be worshiped in spirit and truth.

¹⁰ Continue Your mercy to those who know You; and Your rightness to the upright in heart.

¹¹Do not let the foot of pride come against me, or the hand of the wrongdoer drive me away.

Think about it: These are some of the most wonderful words of the OT. Their fullest meaning no commentary could ever exhaust. For us, it will not be as dazzling as the brightness of Moses' face coming down Mount Sinai in Arabia; it will not be an astonishing light, as on the mount of our Lord's transfiguration; but the light of our heavenly joy will be strengthening and comforting; and enable us to soar like eagles to behold the Sun of Righteousness in His brightness and glory. (listen to the testimonies of the two men below)

12 There the doers of crime have fallen: they are thrown down, and are not able to get up.

Think about it: This is said as if the Psalmist pointed, when he said it, to a particular place with his finger. The same occurs in Psalm 14:5. When the just are satisfied with the abundance of the house of the Lord, being rewarded for worshiping our great God in it; then... there will the troublemakers fall, as they sought to violently throw down others, they will be thrown down themselves, unable to rise forever more.

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Dr James Tour: his testimony

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