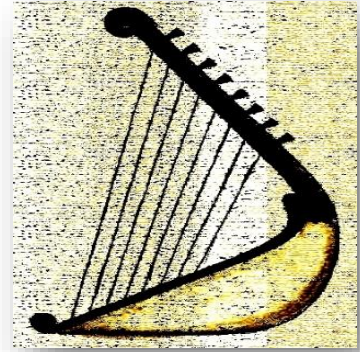


# PSALM 37 vs 1

KJV-lite™ VERSES

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Title and Subject: A Psalm of David. This word denotes the authorship; written by David in his old age. The great riddle of the prosperity of the wrong and the affliction of the right, which has perplexed so many, is here dealt with in the light of the future; and fretting and discontent are forbidden. It is a Psalm where the Lord hushes the very common miseries of His people, and calms their minds as He deals with His own chosen flock, and the wolves who surround them. The Psalm contains eight great precepts, illustrated by two of David's own statements, and abounds in remarkable contrasts.



Divisions: This Psalm can hardly be divided into large sections. It resembles a chapter of the book of Proverbs, most of the verses being complete in themselves. It is an alphabetical Psalm; the first letter of each verse follows the Hebrew alphabet. This may have been not only a poetical invention, but a help to memory. The reader should read the Psalm through without comment... before turning to our exposition – Charles Spurgeon.

## A Psalm of David,

- <sup>1</sup> **Do not fret** because of evildoers, nor be envious of troublemakers;
- <sup>2</sup> for like the grass, they will soon be cut down, and wither as the green herb.
- <sup>3</sup> **Lean** on the LORD, and **do good**; dwell on the land, and feed on His faithfulness.
- <sup>4</sup> and **delight yourself** in the LORD: and He will give you the desires of your heart.
- <sup>5</sup> **Commit your way** to the LORD; **lean** on Him; and He will make it happen.
- <sup>6</sup> And He will bring forth your rightness as light, and your justice as the noonday.
- <sup>7</sup> **Rest** in the LORD, and **wait patiently** for Him:
- do not fret** because of him who prospers in his way, because of the one who carries out wrong schemes.
- <sup>8</sup> **Cease from anger**, and **abandon wrath**: **do not fret**, it only leads to do evil.
- <sup>9</sup> For evildoers will be cut off:
- but those who wait on the LORD, they will inherit the earth.



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<sup>10</sup> For yet a little while, and the wrongdoer will be no more: indeed, you will carefully look for his place, but it will not be.

<sup>11</sup> But the meek will inherit the earth; and will delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

<sup>12</sup> The wrongdoer plots against the right, and gnashes at him with his teeth.

<sup>13</sup> **The LORD laughs** at him: for He sees that his day is coming.

<sup>14</sup> The wrongdoer has drawn his sword, and prepared his missiles, to bring down the poor and needy, and to kill those upright in conduct,

<sup>15</sup> but their swords will enter their own hearts, and their arrows will be broken.

<sup>16</sup> Better is the little of a right one, than the abundance of many wrongdoers.

<sup>17</sup> For the arms of the wrongdoer will be broken: but the LORD upholds the righteous.

<sup>18</sup> **The LORD knows** the days of the upright: and their inheritance will be forever.

<sup>19</sup> They will not be ashamed in the time of evil: and in the days of famine they will be satisfied.

<sup>20</sup> But the wrongdoer will perish, and the enemies of the LORD will be like the splendor of the pastures: they will vanish; into smoke they will vanish.

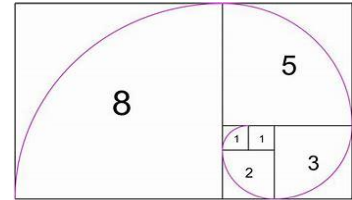
<sup>21</sup> **The wrongdoer borrows, and does not repay:** but the right one shows mercy, and gives.

<sup>22</sup> For those who are blessed by Him will inherit the earth; and those who are cursed by Him will be cut off.

<sup>23</sup> **By the LORD,** the steps of a man are ordered; and in his way He delights.

<sup>24</sup> Though he stumbles, he will not be hurled headlong down: for the LORD holds him in His hand.

<sup>25</sup> I was young, and now I am old; yet I have never seen the right one forsaken, nor his offspring begging bread.



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<sup>26</sup> He is ever merciful and lends; and his offspring is a blessing.

<sup>27</sup> Depart from evil, and do good; and you will abide forever.

<sup>28</sup> **For the LORD loves** justice, and does not forsake those who love and trust Him; forever, they are preserved: but the offspring of the wrongdoer will be cut off.

<sup>29</sup> The right ones will inherit the earth, and dwell in it forever.

<sup>30</sup> The mouth of the right one speaks wisdom, and his tongue talks of justice.

<sup>31</sup> The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip.

<sup>32</sup> The wrongdoer watches the right one, and seeks to kill him.

<sup>33</sup> **The LORD will not leave** him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.

<sup>34</sup> **Wait on the LORD, and keep** His way, and He will raise you to inherit the land: when the wrongdoers are cut off, you will see it.



→ <sup>35</sup> I have seen the wrongdoer, ruthless, and spreading like a flourishing native tree;  
→ <sup>36</sup> yet he passed away, and was no more: yes, I searched for him, but could not find him.

<sup>37</sup> Mark the blameless one, and observe the upright: for the future of that one is peace;

<sup>38</sup> but those stepping over the line will be totally destroyed: the future of the wrongdoer will be cut off.

<sup>39</sup> The deliverance of the right ones is from the LORD: He is their strength in the time of distress.

<sup>40</sup> **The LORD helps** them, and **delivers** them: He will deliver them from the wrongdoer, and **save** them, because in Him they take shelter.



Think about it: Martin Luther closes his exposition of the Psalm with the words: Oh, shame on our faithlessness, mistrust, and vile unbelief. That we do not believe such rich, powerful declarations of God, and take up so readily with little grounds of offence, whenever we hear the wicked speeches of the ungodly. Help, O God that we may once attain to right faith. Amen.

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**Every Praise**

**I Could Sing of Your Love Forever**