

WE MUST CHOOSE OUR PATH WISELY

Psalm 1:1-6

1. We are blessed when we choose NOT to follow the way of sinners. Ps. 1:1; Jos. 24:15; Matt.7:13-14; Prov. 4:23

blessed = esher = happy, fortunate, well-off

walk = halak = go, come, walk; fig., how one behaves in life, a person's typical, everyday practices

path = derek = a road (as trodden); fig., a course of life or mode of action

heart = leb = the heart; also used (fig.) very widely for the feelings, the will and even the intellect; likewise for the [control] center of anything

2. We are blessed when we cultivate and live by God's Word. Ps. 1:2-3; 56:4; 138:2; Jos. 1:8; Jer. 17:7-8

delight = chephets = pleasure; hence (abstract) desire; concrete a valuable thing; hence a matter (as something in mind)

meditates = hagah = to murmur, ponder

have success = sakal = to be (causative make or act) circumspect and hence intelligent, wise

3. We bear kingdom fruit when we choose to know and live by God's Word. Ps. 1:2-3; Luke 8:15; Gal. 6:7-8; John 6:63; Heb. 4:12; Eph. 5:26; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Jas. 1:22-25; John 15:7-8
4. The wicked lead empty, destructive lives. Ps. 1:4; Jer. 17:5-6; Luke 6:46-49; Ps. 37:9-11; Gal. 5:19-21
5. The wicked will face eternal separation from God. Ps. 1:5, 6b; Matt. 13:36-43
6. The Lord sees His own, and He keeps them secure—now and forever. Ps. 1:6a; John 14:6; 2 Tim. 1:12; Eph. 5:15-16

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. *Am I careful to guard against listening to ungodly counsel? Do I heed the Holy Spirit's warnings against actions that could be part of a sinful lifestyle? Do I make certain my advice and teaching line up with God's Word?*
2. *Am I actively cultivating God's Word in my life? Am I seeking to know the Word of God so that I can better know the God of the Word?*
3. *Am I allowing God's Word to mold and shape me to produce fruit for His kingdom?*
4. *Do I place my hope in God and His promises, knowing that evildoers will not inherit the kingdom of God?*
5. *Do I understand that those who reject God and His Word face eternal separation from Him? Do I encourage others to know the Word and the Author of it?*
6. *Do I trust that the Lord sees me and keeps me secure now and for all eternity? Will I continue to walk wisely until I see Him face to face?*