

I. Introduction: The Psalms are a collection of God's greatest praise songs, that touch on every area of thought, emotion, theology, and ideology in life.

A. **Psalm 1** starts with a blessing for those who follow God's path, and a curse for the sinner. It is a general introduction to the Psalms, encapsulating its entire message.

II. Two Kinds of People (Psalm 1:1-6).

A. Two Paths (**vv. 1-2**).

1. The blessed man is the one who does not listen to or follow in the path of the wicked, but instead delights in God's wisdom and walks in His way.

B. Two Lives (**vv. 3-4**).

1. The righteous man's life is solid, unwavering and he blesses everyone around him. The wicked man's life is weak, vacillating, and he is a curse to everyone.

C. Two Destinies (**vv. 5-6**).

1. The wicked man is not able to stand in the day of judgment, but the righteous man is approved by the judge and receives eternal life because he knows His son.

III. Conclusion: God presents the way of wisdom that leads to life, prosperity, and blessedness. But He warns that all other ways lead to death, failure, and unhappiness.

Questions About: Two Kinds of People

1. Have you ever been on a hike and been lost? What does it feel like? How is life like a journey? What path are you on? Are you following the path of the blessed or the cursed?
2. When did Jesus speak of blessedness? (**Matt 5:3-11**) How did Jesus call His hearers to follow the path of righteousness? (**Matt 7:13-14; 24-27**) Why is following Jesus difficult?
3. What does the blessed man NOT do? (**Psa 1:1**) What is significant about the three-fold negative statements? (**v. 1**) How do they build and intensify? What does this teach us?
4. What does the blessed man delight in? (**Psa 1:2**) What does he do with God's word? What does "meditate" mean? What does the world meditate on? What do you meditate on?
5. What is the result of a life lived following God's path? (**Psa 1:3-4**) Why does this tree flourish? What do your spiritual roots go down into? What are you relying on to sustain you?
6. What is the result of the wicked man's life? (**Psa 1:3-4**) How is his life contrasted with the life of the righteous? How is this similar to what Jesus said? (**Matt 7:24-27**)
7. What is the ultimate destiny of the ungodly? (**Psa 1:5-6**) Why does God continually remind us of this reality? What does it mean that God "knows" the way of the righteous? (**v. 5**)
8. How many types of people are there in the world? (**Psa 1:1-6**). Which one are you? How do you know if you are blessed or cursed? What do you need to do if you are on the wrong path?

Prayer

1. Will you ask God to show you if you are living a blessed life or cursed life today?
2. Will you ask God to help you follow in the path of His righteousness?