

"When Life Feels Unfair" (Psalm 73) Psalms: Pour Out Your Heart to Him August 3, 2025 by Danny Strong

Sermon Overview

Main Idea

This Psalm of Asaph presents the opposite of the common question "why do bad things happen to good people" by addressing our complaint about seeing good things happen to bad people. It addresses the danger of bitterness we experience in our heart when we see this specific form of injustice and instructs us how to course correct when that bitterness begins to well up inside of us.

Sermon Outline

- 1. The Complaint of Bitterness (vv. 1-15)
- 2. The Process of Coming Out of That Bitterness (vv. 16-17)
- 3. The Deliverance from the Bitterness (vv. 18-28)

Quotes

"Trust takes way more thinking than mistrust—faith is not a lack of thinking." Danny Strong

"If you take away God, there's still injustice in the world . . . all you have is the complaint of bitterness and nothing else." Danny Strong

Discussion Questions

Initial Engagement

- What is the main idea of the text, or what did the sermon focus on?
- What insight from the text or sermon stood out to you most, and why?

Deeper Reflection

- 1. How does Asaph view "the good life" in the opening verses of the Psalm, and how does that impact the condition of his heart / lead to bitterness?
- 2. What are the three steps to the process of coming out of bitterness presented in this Psalm? What steps in the process are you best at engaging, and what steps do you want to see improvement?
- 3. What is the correct way to complain about injustice and iniquity? Do you struggle to complain the correct way, as set forth in the Psalm?
- 4. Verses 16 and 17 utilize all thinking verbs. Where does the thinking have to occur for the transformation Asaph experienced to happen for us?



- 5. By verse 28, Asaph has a new focus and understanding on what "the good life" is. What really is "the good life" and does it require a change of circumstances to see that or to experience it?
- 6. What is the difference between an ally and a friend? Is God your ally or your friend?
- 7. How is it helpful to consider that God actually wants to be near us? How do we know that He wants to be near us?

Final Response

• What is one thing you want to remember or one way you hope to change in light of this sermon or discussion?