



Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009: Psalm 1

Scripture: Psalm 1

Sermon Notes:

1. Psalm 1 is a Hebrew poem, written by King David, and functions as the introduction to the book of Psalms.
2. The entire message of the Bible is summarized by this short, poignant poem.
3. In David's experience and observation, the Bible is applicable to real life and it works. The Bible is consistent and coherent with practical experience.
4. People don't change, even though superficial details do. Everyone still seeks happiness.
5. The Bible's message is simple but profound. True happiness is possible.
6. Happiness seems elusive because people seek it in the wrong way. Happiness pursued apart from the way that God has directed is man-centered and futile.
7. Happiness is found in the law of God, in avoiding the path of sin. Happiness is the indirect result of holiness.
8. Sin is a slow process of compromise. The process described in Psalm 1 begins with walking, then standing, then sitting – paralyzed by sin.
9. Psalm 1:1. Don't walk in the counsel of the ungodly, or stand in the way of sinners, or sit in the seat of the scornful. In other words, stop listening to the world's advice, and avoid sin and selfish pursuit, otherwise you will soon find yourself seated in the scoffer's place, mocking the law of God.

Application Questions:

1. How should we respond to people who claim that the Bible is outdated and no longer applicable to life issues?
2. By which means (God's law or man's way) am I seeking happiness in my own life?
3. How can we encourage and inspire others to seek happiness through holiness and obedience to God's law?
4. In what areas of my life am I living by the world's advice or compromising the law of God?