

A large, leafy tree stands in a field of tall grass. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm, golden glow that filters through the leaves. The text is overlaid on the scene.

The Psalms
Songs and Prayers
of Worship

Summer Sermon Series



The Psalms

*Songs and Prayers
of Worship*

Psalm 52

The Love of Evil Men & The Love of God

Timeline of Events in *1 Samuel*

Ch. 8

Israel demands to have a king

Ch. 9-11

Saul is chosen, anointed, and established as king in Israel.

Ch. 12

Samuel resigns as judge over Israel

Ch. 13

Saul sins against God and is told that his reign will end prematurely

Timeline of Events in *1 Samuel*

- Ch. 14** Jonathan becomes a national hero while Saul is publicly humiliated
- Ch. 15** Saul ignores God's command and is told that his reign is finished
- Ch. 16** David is secretly anointed as king
- Ch. 17** David becomes a national hero by killing Goliath

Timeline of Events in *1 Samuel*

Ch. 18

Jonathan and David form a close friendship; Saul becomes very jealous of David

Ch. 19

Saul attempts to kill David

Ch. 20

Jonathan and David's sorrowful parting as David prepares to flee from Saul

Timeline of Events in *1 Samuel*

Ch. 21

Doeg the Edomite (Saul's chief herdsman) observes David receiving food and supplies from Ahimelech the priest

Timeline of Events in *1 Samuel*

Ch. 22

Doeg relates this information to Saul and obeys the king's evil command to kill Ahimelech and all the priests in Nob, along with their wives, children, and livestock; David is informed by one of Ahimelech's sons who escapes.

Timeline of Events in *1 Samuel*

With this sad situation at hand,
David writes **Psalm 52**
with a firm trust
in God's steadfast love
and in the wicked's sure destruction.

BIG IDEA:

Pursue the love of God
rather than
the wicked love
of the world.

Exposition

Psalm 52:1-4

*Contrast between
the Love of the Wicked Man
and the Love of God*

Exposition

1 Why do **you** boast of evil,
O mighty man?

The steadfast love of the LORD
endures all the day.

Exposition

- 2 **Your** tongue plots destruction,
like a sharp razor
you worker of deceit.
- 3 **You love** evil more than good, and
[and] lying more than speaking
what is right. *Selah*
- 4 **You love** all words that devour
O deceitful tongue.

Exposition

Psalm 52:5

*God's Wrath Will Come
upon the Wicked*

Exposition

5

But God will break **you** down forever;
He will snatch **you** and tear **you**
from **your** tent;
He will uproot **you**
from the land of the living.

Selah

Exposition

Psalm 52:6-9

*The Reponse, Reward, and
Resolve of the Righteous*

Exposition

- 6 The righteous shall see
[and] fear
[and] shall laugh at **him** saying,
- 7 “See **the man** who would not make God
his refuge, but trusted in the abundance
of **his** riches and sought refuge in **his own**
destruction!”

Exposition

- 8 But I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God
forever and ever.
- 9 I will thank You forever,
because You have done it.
I will wait for Your name,
for it is good in the presence of the
godly.

BIG IDEA:

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rather than
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of the world.

Observations

**Four Reasons Why
We Must Pursue
the Love of God
Rather Than
the Wicked Love
of the World**

Observations

1. Because God's love is steadfast, is eternal, and will never fail those who put their trust in it.

Observations

2. Because God's wrath will come completely, swiftly, and destructively on those who commit to pursuing the wicked love of this world.

Observations

3. Because God's steadfast love is a refuge that protects us from His holy wrath.
(John 3:16)

John 3:16

For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only Son,
that whoever believes in Him
should not perish
but have eternal life.

Observations

3. Because God's steadfast love is a refuge that protects us from His holy wrath.
(John 3:16)

Observations

4. Because those who love the wickedness of this world are at war with God and are His enemies. **(1 John 2:15-17)**

1 John 2:15-17

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15-17

16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world.

1 John 2:15-17

17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Observations

4. Because those who love the wickedness of this world are at war with God and are His enemies. **(1 John 2:15-17)**

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Application

1. If you are pursuing the wicked love of the world, **repent—and turn** to the God of love, mercy, and grace —and He will forgive you, He will save you, He will change you, and He will never stop loving you!

Application

- 2.** If you have turned to God in faith and are pursuing the love of God, praise Him for His mercy, grace, and steadfast love toward you.

Application

3. If you are anxious about the spread of evil in this world, look to God and trust in His steadfast love.

He has a predetermined time when He will put an eternal end to the temporary and destructive reign of evil.

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