

Part 5 – Consider This

In part 4 we learned what truly worshiping our Heavenly Father is about. And it is not *outward* worship that He wants because that's *fake*. He wants *sincere* worship from our 'inward man', which means putting His Word (truth) in our heart (desires and emotions) and mind (thought process) so that we not only know *how* to obey His Word (because we sincerely study it) but also want to obey it wholeheartedly. And therefore, He warned Israel that their sacrifices and burnt offerings (which they were required to give Him back then) would *not* be accepted if they didn't truly worship Him *inwardly*. He pointed out that He doesn't *need* their burnt offerings, because *He owns the whole world*. So truly, when Israel gave Him animal sacrifices, they were not giving Him something He didn't already own. And when they gave Him sacrifices without the 'inward' worship He *really* wants, the sacrifices actually became quite offensive (even abominable) to Him. That's why He told them (and us) that He really wants us to offer spiritual sacrifices like thanksgiving and keeping our word (vows) to Him. However, we also learned Jesus Christ taught us not to make vows (swear to do something by using God's Holy name) but to simply give your word (yes or no) that you will, or will not, do something; and then *stick with it*. Because there are times we simply cannot keep our vows, it's better not to do so. And we also learned He wants us to call upon Him for help when we have trouble and *not* to look to man, riches or false gods and idols. He promises to deliver us when we do trust in Him enough to call upon Him (ask in prayer) for help, and that He wants us to glorify *Him* when He does help us, not to give glory to our self, riches, other people or false gods and idols. So, now that our Heavenly Father has taught us what *true* worship is, He's going to direct His attention to the wicked ones. And within His reproof to them, He's also going to explain how their wicked works are *not* truly serving Him...

Psalms 50

16 But unto the wicked God [430] saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?

17 Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee.

The *Companion Bible* points out that the question here ('what' onward) are two figures of speech combined. One is called *Erotosis* (Apx 6), which is asking a question, not for an answer but *to make a point*. And the point is the Lord (YHWH) is giving them admonishment here. The second figure of speech is called *Apodiosis* (apx 6) and it's an expression, or feeling, given by way of detestation. So, our Heavenly Father asks why the wicked ones why they are declaring His Laws *when they don't even obey them*. The answer is because they like to use (twist and pervert) His Word to suit them (their sins) so they can look 'holy', *when they really are not*. Again, outward worship is not what our Heavenly Father wants. If we don't take His Word 'to heart' then *we'll end up using it in an evil way*. Which is what many back then did, and have done since then, and *still* do yet today (Ecc 1:9). Paul spoke about this in several places; but in Rom 2:17-29 He really admonished the Roman 'Jews' for boasting themselves in the fact that they knew the law, because *they did not obey it from the heart*. Let's take a look at what he wrote...

17 Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest [trust] in the law, and makest thy boast of God.

18 And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law;

19 And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness,

20 An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law.

21 Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?

22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?

23 Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?

24 For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written. [written in Ezek 36:20,23]

25 For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.

26 Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?

27 And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?

28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

29 **But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.**

Rom 2:17-29

Again, outward worship is not *true* worship. People in Paul's day really cleaved to (trusted in) rituals, and circumcision was one of them. While this was a statute given by God to Abraham, in Gen 17, which *was* to be obeyed forever, the true purpose was long forgotten. The physical circumcision was much like all the other ritualistic sacrifices and burnt offerings. It was only to be performed *until* the Messiah (Jesus Christ came). So, if they circumcised, their flesh – *but not their heart* – they were not pleasing to God any more than when they sacrificed animals to Him, but disobeyed His Laws. In other words, they 'talked the talk' but they did not 'walk the walk', as we say today. That's why Paul – after reproving them for not keeping the law which they preach – then said that to be pleasing to God you *must* circumcise *your heart*. Those who do are the people God calls His 'saints' (Ps 50:5). And this admonition is much like the one Jesus Christ gave the hypocritical 'religious' men in Jerusalem too, in Matt 23:2-7. Jesus pointed out that, while the Scribes and Pharisees 'sit' in Moses' 'seat' (they make themselves the law givers *and* judges), they are truly *fakes*. They love the glory and honor (and the riches through tithes) that comes from being a religious leader, but they didn't even try a *little* bit (not even with one of their fingers) to obey the same laws they tell everyone else to obey. You see, the religious men of Jesus' days were much like the religious men of the days when Israel was still in the Promise Land (yea truly, as many religious leaders *still* are today). They glorified *themselves* as being 'learned' in God's Law and *they held that 'education' over the common people* who were not

‘learned’ *as they were*. They told the people how righteous *they were* and what sinners *the common people were*. But the reality is that they were not righteous. Even though their flesh was circumcised (per Gen 17), *their heart was not*. And it’s the circumcision of *the heart* that **really** counts with God, as even Moses pointed out in Deut 10:16. In other words, these jerks were hypocrites (as Jesus went on to call them in Mth 23). They pretended to be righteous but they were really the worst sinners! And **they used God’s Laws to try and justify their authority** so they could continue to get filthy rich with the tithes they told the people they *had* to give to God if they didn’t want to ‘go to hell’. Oh, how some things never change! (Ecc 1:9) Many Churches *still* do this today. And that’s essentially what God is condemning here in Ps 50:16-17. He’s simply asking why they talk about obeying the law when they don’t even obey it themselves. You could even translate this first question in verse 16 as: *it’s not befitting for you to teach (preach) my Law, because it’s not in your heart*. The truth is that they **hated** God’s instruction and ‘cast’ His Words behind Him. They claimed to be religious ‘holy men’ but, as Jesus said...

6 He answered and said unto them, **Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.**

7 **Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.**

8 **For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.**

9 **And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.**

10 **For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:**

11 **But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.**

12 **And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother;**

13 **Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.**

Mark 7:6-13

Jesus was quoting from Isaiah 29 and He boldly pointed out the hypocrisy (even calling them hypocrites to their face) of the Scribes and Pharisees who claimed they had God’s Word; but what they really had was a *perverted form* of it called the Talmud. This was (and still is today) a combination of the Torah (the Pentateuch, the first five books in the Bible) and *many* traditions of the ‘elders’ from when they were in Babylonian captivity. Therefore, their ‘traditions of the elders’ was *not actually the Word of God* but a *very perverted* form of it, which means (again) *it was not really God’s Word* (and still is not today). And this is what Jesus taught against. He taught people what God’s Word **really** says and what they **really** had to do to be pleasing to the Lord (YHVH). **And this is why Jesus was hated so much**. He was severing the dependance of the common people from the Jewish ‘scholars’ who claimed they were so holy and righteous (but were inwardly ravening wolves, Matt 7:15). And even back in the days when this Psalm was written, the ‘religious’ men claimed they had God’s Word (and obeyed it) but *they did not do* what God’s Word said (Mth 7:21-27). And frankly, this really pissed God off (still does to this

day) because it gives Him a ‘bad name’ when people teach ‘traditions’ – which are truly *lies* (perversions of His Word) - and claim they came from Him. In several places He calls it ‘polluting’ His name (Jer 7:30, Ezek 13:19, 20:39). We simply cannot hate God’s instruction (His true Word) and ‘cast it’ behind our back (totally ignore it) and think we’re still pleasing to Him. Proverbs 1:22-33 gives a very strong warning what will happen to those who do so...

Psalm 50

18 When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers.

So, our Heavenly Father begins to point out (He’s detailing) things the wicked ones *did* that *proved* they really were *not* worshipping Him. Thus, He’s explaining why He refused to accept their sacrifices for atonement of their sins – i.e. because they were *not at all* repentant for their sins, and their evil actions (which He’s now beginning to describe in detail) *proved* they were not repentant. The word ‘**thief**’ here simply means *a stealer* (#1590) but comes from a prime root that also means *to deceive* (#1589). So, there’s much more to theft than simply stealing someone’s possessions; it also includes deceiving someone in order to rip them off. And the word ‘**consentedst**’ means *to be pleased with* (#7521). So, not only did they not report the theft, they were pleased by it, which also implies they were benefitting/partaking in it too. Note that this is breaking the **Eighth Commandment** [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Exodus/102]. And then our Heavenly Father points out that they are ‘partakers’ with adulterers. The word ‘partakers’ here means *smoothness* (of the tongue) but also *an allotment* (#2506). It’s also been rendered as flattery, inheritance, part and portion. And the word ‘**adultery**’ indeed means to *commit adultery* in the physical sense but it also means *to apostatize* (#5003). This, of course was in direct disobedience to the **Seventh Commandment** [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Exodus/99].

As with all of God’s Laws, the manifestation of physical sin is simply a symptom of the sin that goes on in our ‘inner man’. That means, in order to truly stop the physical sin we must clean our heart (desires, emotions) and mind (thought process). And it’s also important to understand that our Heavenly Father considers even the thought (desire) of sin in our heart and mind a sin, even if we don’t actually ‘act on it’. Case in point is when Jesus told us that *whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart* (Matt 5:28). The word ‘**lust**’ here means *to set the heart upon*, i.e. *long for* (rightfully or otherwise) (#1937). It’s also been translated as ‘covet’; which, as Col 3:5 points out, is *idolatry*. And there’s also more to theft and adultery than just the physical means of doing so. We can also steal the truth from people; as God points out in Jer 23:30, that’s exactly what the false prophets (and preachers) do. That’s why the ‘traditions of the elders’ (i.e. any traditions of man) anger Him so much. They are stealing His Words (the truth) from people. And this angers Him because we need the truth to *live*, as Jesus pointed out in John 6:63. And many times our Heavenly Father uses sexual relationships of the flesh to explain how He feels about us having an intimate spiritual relationship(s) with other spirits (i.e. evil) than His. He thus compares *adultery to apostasy* (Ezekiel 16 and the book of Hosea speak of this a lot) and *fornication to idolatry* (1 Sam 15:23, Ezek 6:9-14, 14:2-7, Rev 2:14, 20, Col 3:5). And while much physical and spiritual theft and

adultery (and fornication) goes on today (just as it did back then), the worst of this is yet to come. For when Satan comes to earth with his fallen angels (Rev 12) they will be stealing God's Words from His children and trying to get everyone to commit both spiritual adultery and fornication with Him. As 2 Thess 2:4 warns us, Satan will be *exalting* (and opposing) *himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God*. Those who believe in Satan's lies will commit either spiritual fornication with him (if they don't know the true God) or adultery with him – which only Christians can commit because adultery can't be committed unless you are already betrothed (united) to our Heavenly Father. But either way, doing so (worshiping Satan) disqualifies you from being able to spiritually marry Jesus Christ when He returns; for He will only marry those who are *spiritual* virgins, which means those who have not worshiped false gods or idols and remained loyal to Him. Mth 7:21-23 gives us a stern warning about this, among many other places. So, this verse looks forward *prophetically* to the time when those who are happy to see Satan (who is the antichrist, <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/345>) steal God's throne (2 Thess 2:4, Isa 14:13-14, Rev 13, Dan 9:27) and commit spiritual adultery (or fornication) with Satan when they worship him, as though he is God himself. Remember, these are reasons God doesn't forgive the people, no matter how many outward offerings and sacrifices they give him. Only true (sincere) repentance (and faith in God/Jesus) brings forgiveness...

Psalm 50

19 Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit.

20 Thou sittest and speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son.

The next detail the wicked do, which causes God to reject their shallow (fake) outward worship of Him, is that they use their mouth for evil and their tongue to frame deceit. The word 'frameth' here means *to link*, i.e. *gird*; figuratively, *to serve*, (mentally) *contrive* (#6775) and the word 'deceit' means to *fraud* (#4820) and comes from a prime root that means *to delude or betray* (as if causing to fall) (#7411). Note that this one breaks the **Ninth Commandment** which tells us we are not to bear false witness [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Exodus/105]. Now, this sort of thing is done by many people in many aspects of society. And is probably most often done through **Gossip** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1038>]. As we learned in the study on **Our Lips are a Tool** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1473>] we should use our lips (tongue and mouth) for good, not evil. Back in Psalm 12:2 we learned how people *speaking vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak*. This is the consequence of ungodly people abounding in society. When you kick Jesus Christ (yea, even the mention of 'God') out of all aspects of society, you are not going to get anything good from it. This is why so many people speak 'vanity' to each other, *even to their own family* (as verse 20 above points out). This is obvious to see in the governments and media (even in the entertainment industries) but it's also prevalent in schools, the medical community, economics and *even Churches* today. And the book of James speaks about how terrible this is...

8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

9 *Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.*

10 *Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.*

11 *Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?*

12 *Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh. [Mth 7:15-20]*

13 *Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? **let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.***

14 *But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.*

15 ***This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.***

16 *For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.*

17 ***But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.***

18 ***And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.***

James 3:8-18

How well does James explain the detriments of using our tongue for evil. And it's due to 'bitter envying and strife' in our own hearts that we consistently speak bad about people... even though many times we're 'nice' to their face. James points out that this 'wisdom' is not from God Himself, it's from the Devil himself. True wisdom (which only comes from God's Word) is without partiality and without hypocrisy. We should treat all people (good, bad and the ugly) according to God's Laws, not according to how we 'feel' about them... after all, our 'feelings' are very subject to change and rarely based on facts. And, as bad as this is for the 'common' people to do, it's *especially* offensive to our Heavenly Father when it's done by those who claim they represent Him because (again) it 'pollutes' His holy name, by causing people to think God condones this sort of thing, when He most assuredly does not. Check out what God has to say about that...

25 *I have heard what the prophets said, **that prophesy lies in my name**, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.*

26 *How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart;*

27 ***Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams** which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal.*

28 *The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and **he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully**. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.*

29 ***Is not my word like as a fire?** saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?*

30 *Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, **that steal my words every one from his neighbour.***

31 *Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith.*

*32 Behold, I am **against** them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and **cause my people to err by their lies**, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore **they shall not profit this people at all**, saith the LORD.*
Jer 23:25-32

Notice that, when the prophets (or preachers, priests, etc.) lie they actually *steal God's Word from the people*. Again, the Lord (YHVH) *hates* this because it harms His children, both physically and spiritually. It causes them to believe and trust in lies, *which cannot help, or save, them*. And, of course, this is done much today from the pulpits, who teach people to believe in (among other false doctrines) a 'fly away' doctrine [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/457>] that will *never happen*, and (worse yet) actually sets them up to worship the first supernatural being that comes to earth, which is going to be SATAN, *not* Jesus Christ (2 Thess 2). And their lies also spiritually disarm people because, faith in lies is *not* faith in God's Word. They, therefore, don't know *how* to fight against evil (because they're being taught *to embrace it*) nor how to claim God's promises. It's because they don't how to obey His Word that they cannot 'claim' His promise simply because they don't know what His Word *really* says. Truly, this is a very valid point our Heavenly Father has made. Much evil has been done with the lounge and the 'father of lies' (Satan, John 8:44) is the one we can blame for teaching people how to do such evil things with their mouths. But that doesn't take away from our responsibility to cease using our tongue for evil. This is one of the things we must strive hard to stop if we want to be pleasing to our Heavenly Father. As Jesus Himself warned...

*34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for **out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh**.*

35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

*36 But I say unto you, **That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment**.*

37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.
Matt 12:34-37

Jesus really 'hits the nail on the head' in verse 34 when He points out that the wicked ones can't speak 'good things' (the truth) because it's 'not in their heart'. So, while they claim they are speaking God's Word, they really are not – because a perverted form of God's Word ceases to be God's Word, and is instead, simply the traditions of man. Jesus also points out that those who have 'good treasure' in their heart (i.e. God's Word) brings forth good 'things' (actions) while an evil man only brings forth evil things (actions) because he (or she) only has 'evil treasure' (lies, lusts, pride, etc.) in his heart. And Jesus goes on to point out that we will be accountable for every 'idle' word that we speak. Therefore, our words will either justify, or condemn us. This goes back to the 'timeless lesson' the Psalm (yea, all of God's Word) tells us, that the wicked truly don't get away with anything. The wicked *will* be 'brought down' *by their own wicked words and works*, as we learned in past Psalms such as 2 and 37, among several others. But, the point we must not overlook is what the word '**idle**' here means. In the Greek it means *inactive*,

i.e. **unemployed**; (by implication) **lazy, useless** (#692). It's also been translated as 'barren', as in **unfruitful**. So, it's very important to learn to use our mouth (tongue/lips) for good instead of evil. As Prov 15:28 says, *the heart of the righteous studieth [ponders, #1897] to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things!*

Psalms 50

*21 These things hast thou done, **and I kept silence**; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself: **but I will** reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes.*

Now, the Lord (YHVH) is still speaking to the 'wicked' ones. And He points out that, even though they've been doing wickedly, He 'kept silence'. Remember, this subject of this Psalm is about our Heavenly Father 'breaking silence'. And then He points out that they mistook His silence to mean that He approved of their wickedness. In fact, the word 'altogether' even means *to become* (#1961) one of them... they thought the Almighty God was not only approving of their wickedness but that He was as one of the wicked ones! Of course, that's not true at all. Which is why He promises to '**reprove**' them, which actually means **to convict** and has often been translated as *judge* and *rebuke* (#3198). And the words '**set them in order**' mean **to set in a row**, i.e. **arrange, put in order** (#6186). In other words, by judging, convicting and then punishing them, He would put righteousness back in order. Today we call this 'law and order'. When the leaders of a nation break the law, only our Heavenly Father has the power to punish them so that righteousness prevails (is put back in order) again. As David asked earlier in the Psalms...

3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Ps 11:3-7

If (when) the foundations for a righteous society are destroyed – meaning, when the government becomes incorrigibly corrupted – what can the righteous citizens do? They don't have the power to stop the government from doing wickedly, or to restore 'law and order' in the country. Our job, in this situation, is simply to keep doing what's right (obey God's Word) and continue to share the truth and warn people of their sins, as the opportunities arise. But, when the moral corruption of a nation has gotten *that* bad (unfixable), only our Heavenly Father can help. And that's why David goes on to say that the Lord (YHVH) is still in His holy temple, in heaven, and He sees all that's going on – even what's in the hearts and minds of the children of men. And He promises to punish the wicked, as this Psalms 50 goes on to say. But, just because punishment doesn't come *right away*, many people take this to mean that God either doesn't care what's

going on or that He's not able to stop it. Both are in error. As the great book of Ecclesiastes points out...

*11 Because sentence against an evil work **is not executed speedily**, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.*

*12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, **yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him:***

*13 **But it shall not be well with the wicked,** neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.*

Eccl 8:11-13 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Ecclesiastes/11]

Just because judgement is not executed upon the wicked *speedily*, doesn't mean it's not coming. Our Heavenly Father has knowledge and understanding far superior to ours and He knows better than us when, where and how judgement should be executed. So, we should *wholeheartedly trust* that He's not only able to execute judgment righteously, but that He will do so. As Isa 3:11 promises: *Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.* And the great Psalm 37 goes on to say...

7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

*9 **For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.***

*10 For yet a little while, and **the wicked shall not be:** yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.*

*11 But **the meek shall inherit the earth;** and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.*
Ps 37:7-11

Again, in the end, wickedness does *not* pay. Only those who 'wait' (#6960, bind their heart and mind to) the Lord (YHVH) will inherit the earth; all the wicked ones will be 'cut off', which means they'll initially be deposed from power and lose all their wealth when Jesus Christ returns. But, if they don't sincerely repent before the Millennium, they'll be 'cut off' from life itself when they are totally blotted out of existence (Rev 20, Ps 37:20). All the 'goodies' they lusted after in this flesh life won't mean a dang thing when their body, soul and spirit is consumed away in the lake of fire. And the Proverbs also tells us this...

19 Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the wicked;

20 For there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out.

Prov 24:19-20

Again, we're repeatedly (over and over again) told (and warned) that wickedness does not pay. Just because it seems like it does right now, it truly doesn't. We have to learn to think about more than living for the 'moment' and remember God's long-term plan to save His children. As Peter

so succinctly pointed out, *the Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance* (2 Peter 3:9). Our Heavenly Father allows the wicked to sin only to allow them to fulfill the ‘negative’ part of His plan of salvation – which is to test all people. And everyone *has* to come to the flesh to be given the chance for salvation (John 3:5). But, once all is fulfilled, then our Heavenly Father’s patience will ‘run out’ and it will indeed be time for His ‘cup of wrath’ to be poured out when Jesus Christ returns to take vengeance upon the wicked ones (Isa 34; Lk 21; 2 Thess 1:6-12; Mth 13:37-43, 47-50; Rev 19:11-21, etc.).

Psalm 50

22 Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver.

The word ‘**God**’ here is one we’ve not seen used much in the Psalms. It’s ‘**Eloahh**’ (shortened sometimes to ‘**Eloah**’) (#433, apx 4 V.) and means *a deity* or **the Deity**. Eloah *is to be worshiped*. Eloah is God *in connection with His Will* rather than His power. The first occurrence associates this name with worship (Deut 32:15,17). Hence it is the title used whenever the contrast (latent or expressed) is with false gods or idols. ‘**Eloah is essentially ‘the Living God’ in contrast to inanimate idols**’ (Ps 96:4-5). So, our Heavenly Father now warns the wicked to consider what He’s just said about reproving (judging and executing that judgment) them because, when He returns He’ll ‘tear them to pieces’ and there won’t be *anyone* to deliver them at that time! As the Lord (YHVH) prophesied clear shortly before Isreal went into the Promise Land...

39 See now that **I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me**: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: **neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.**

40 For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever.

41 If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; **I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me.**

42 **I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh;** and that with the blood of the slain and of the captives, from the beginning of revenges upon the enemy.

43 Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: **for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.**

Deut 32:39-43

This sums up the return of Jesus Christ rather well. For indeed, the Lord (via Jesus Christ) will avenge the blood of His servants and render vengeance to His adversaries when Jesus Christ finally does return. And, importantly, there’s nothing anyone can do to stop Him. No one can stop Jesus Christ, and His faithful army of ‘angels’ (servants in the heavenly dimension) from returning to earth and taking it over. Not even Satan will be able to stop this (he’ll actually be arrested and thrown in a pit as Rev 20:1-3 says). Even though he’ll try hard to gather all the kings and leaders of the earth together to fight Jesus and His angelic army – it won’t work (Rev 16:11-21). Jesus Christ will *still* return and take over. He’ll *still* pour out the cup of God’s wrath upon His enemies, and *no one* (in heaven or earth) *will be able to stop this*. But, on the flip side, that also means that He will save His faithful servants from Satan, the fallen angels and all the

wicked people of earth, who have been persecuting them because they refused to bow a knee to Satan (2 Thess 1:6-12). As Isa 61:2 says, the return of Jesus Christ IS what comforts the righteous who mourn for the wickedness going on. As Psalms 145:20 also says, *the LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.*

Psalm 50

23 Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

The word ‘**praise**’ here means *an extension of the hand*, i.e. (by implication) *avowal*, or (usually) *adoration*; specifically, *a choir of worshippers* (#8426). It’s actually the same word that was translated as ‘thanksgiving’ back in verse 14, when the Lord (YHVH) said to *offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High*. And the word ‘**glorifieth**’ means (in the context of this verse) *to make honorable* (#3513). So, those who truly worship our Heavenly Father, from the heart, glorify Him because they don’t say they love Him and then disobey Him (John 14:15). As Jesus pointed out to the hypocrites of His day...

*27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed **appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.***

*28 Even so ye also **outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.***

Matt 23:27-28

THAT does not glorify God; it only ‘polluted’ His holy name when people sin ‘in the name’ of God. But, those who faithfully obey Him, from the heart, **do** glorify our Heavenly Father. Their words and works reflect His Word and **that’s** what glorifies Him. As Jesus told us in Matt 5:16, *let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.* Our good works truly **do** glorify our Heavenly Father; because when we obey Him, we show people what He’s like. We show them what true love and righteousness really is, as Paul also pointed out in his letter to the Corinthians...

4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

1 Cor 13:4-7

The word ‘**charity**’ here simply means *love* (#26). And when we have the love of God within us (His Word and Holy Spirit) – meaning the Word of God is the desire of our heart – then we too will learn to be patient (suffereth long), kind, not envious, not proud or boastful, greedy of gain, acting foolish, easily angered and so forth. We’ll love truth, strive hard not to sin (and repent

sincerely when we do) and learn to endure the hard times that come from doing what's right; because that not only helps us to grow stronger inside, but it sets forth a good example to others. James also explains this rather well...

*13 Who is a wise man and endowed with knowledge among you? let him shew out of **a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.***

14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

*17 But **the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.***

*18 And the **fruit of righteousness** is sown in peace of them that make peace.*

James 3:13-18

So, James also explains what true love is but calls it 'wisdom from above'. Indeed, it is. And that's what those who truly worship our Heavenly Father will do. While putting off our 'old man' (the carnal, sinful side of us) and putting on the 'new man' (who has the Word of God and Holy Spirit within) *takes time*, these 'fruits' of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5) *will* manifest themselves within us **if** we 'stick with it' and don't ever give up striving to learn of, and obey, our Heavenly Father. And the promise for doing so is quite wonderful, as the second part of this last verse in Psalm 50 says: *to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.* The word '**ordereth**' here means **to put** and the word '**conversation**' is actually usually translated as 'way' or 'path' or even 'journey'. It's *derek* (#1870) in the Hebrew and means **a road** (as trodden); figuratively, **a course of life or mode of action**. So, it's the way we live our life. We can live according to God's Word or according to the 'ways of the world', which are satanic. But, John gives us a stern warning about choosing the wrong 'path' in life...

*15 **Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.** If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

*17 And **the world passeth away, and the lust thereof:** but **he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.***

1 John 2:15-17

And this is the very same promise our Heavenly Father gives us here in vs 23 of Psalms 50, for He promises to show the **salvation (liberty, deliverance, prosperity, #3468) of God (#430 'Elohim)** to those who to walk in His 'way' (John 14:6) *and* glorify Him. So, we have a choice in life; we can choose to do evil (follow the 'ways of the world' which is truly following Satan) or we can learn to control (discipline) our carnal inclinations (to sin) and do what's right, from the heart. As Gal 5:24 puts it, *they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.* And, in Deut 30 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Deuteronomy/121] Moses set forth this choice quite clearly; and it's been reiterated over-and-over again in God's Word. Our

Heavenly Father has given us free will to choose to obey, or disobey, Him **but** we will receive the consequences (good or bad) of our choices. So, we should *choose wisely*.

To the chief Musician,

This beautiful (and instructional) Psalm now ends with a ‘subtitle’ we’ve seen quite a bit in the Psalm. So, by now we know that it means ‘to He that has the victory’ or ‘to He that gives the victory’ – which, of course, is Jesus Christ (apx 64). So, this Psalm – which teaches us what truly worshiping, and serving, our Heavenly Father is all about – was handed over to the Chief Musician because truly, He’s the only one that can help us understand the Word of God as we study It, so we can obey it *from the heart*. As our Lord and Savior said...

15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

John 14:15-18

12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

John 16:12-15

When we first come to Christ (in sincere repentance) we probably don’t know God’s Word very well. And it’s therefore hard to understand it at times. But, as we continue to study His Word - sincerely, diligently and consistently - we *gradually* change inside and learn to put off that ‘old man’ that wants to sin. But, just like a plant that grows – it takes time. But, with time, we *will* begin to produce fruit IF we stay connected to our heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, which is to say, through consistent, diligent and sincere study of His Word (John 15). And, when our Heavenly Father sees that we are sincere in our walk with Him, He’ll give us His Holy Spirit to help us understand His Word, and the strength to obey Him; which again, is what glorifies Him. And one day (truly, in the not-so-distant future) He will give us the ‘salvation’ we so eagerly wait for, when Jesus Christ returns to give eternal life to those who have remained faithful to Him. But, let’s never forget that hard times are coming before that. And just as so many people in the past have held tight to their faith – by continuing to faithfully follow and obey the Lord – we too must ‘keep the faith’ and ‘fight the good fight of faith’ in order to obtain that precious salvation we desire so much. So, *don’t ever give up*, no matter how hard it gets; and continue to study and

serve our Heavenly Father wholeheartedly. The wicked won't get away with their sins and we will not forever be persecuted for doing what's right...

16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

1 Peter 4:16-19

AMEN.