

Psalm 49-50: Vanity Of Wicked Wealth.

This Psalm deals with the problem of the apparent prosperity, pride and the security of the wicked.

1-4: The Psalmist explained that his **words**, though wise, would be a dark saying.

5: Why should we be bothered about the increase of the wicked around us?

6-14a: Observation: even if they boast about their wealth, they can't pay God for the salvation of their relatives. They think they will last forever (naming their property after themselves) but they perish leaving their wealth behind, just like wild animals die in the wilderness.

14b-20: The righteous shall be redeemed (resurrection) and rule over the wicked.

Isaiah 48:22 - *"There is no peace," says the LORD, "for the wicked."*

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 - *Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.*

Jude 1:14-15 - *Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, "to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."*

Psalm 50: Worship and Hypocrisy In Living.

1-6: All the nations appear before God for judgment before the heavens and earth.

7-13: The LORD hates formalism in worship; He doesn't need our offerings for offering sake because He owns everything; it's a privilege for us to honour Him because we need Him.

14-15: Every offering should be made with "thanksgiving and purity of heart."

Exodus 25:2 - *"Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering*

1 Chronicles 29:6,9 - *Then the leaders of the fathers' houses, leaders of the tribes of Israel, the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the officers over the king's work, offered willingly... Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the LORD; and King David also rejoiced greatly.*

16-23 – They hated God's instruction and yet taught them; they were thieves, adulterers, deceptive, slanderous...repent and see God's salvation.

1 Samuel 15:22 - *So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams.*

John 4:24 - *"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*

We please God when we honour Him with willingness and purity in our heart.