

DAVID'S SONG



Dr. James Paul Humphries

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Children Resources

Book 3



Wamjda

Our Story begins:

A young man named David was one of ten sons and, being the youngest, he was given the job of being a shepherd, needing to daily look after his father's sheep. Over the years this brave young man saved the sheep from wild animals such as a bear and a lion.

One day, while watching over the sheep and sitting under a tree near the river, he began to have some thoughts that just seemed to pop into his mind. David like to write songs and then play them on his harp.

As he began to reflect on these words, he could see that there were two different kinds of people. One kind was a godly righteous person, blessed in all that he did. Then there was the second person, ungodly and unrighteous, living only for his own desires.

Then, after a while, David thought that he should write out these six verses. Now, 3000 years later, we have these verses recorded in a treasured book called the Psalms. The interesting point about these verses is that they are just as relevant to us today as when David wrote them.

So, let's begin a journey of reflection and see how these words truly speak to us about how people might be living all around us in this world, just as they did in David's day.



Min Ra

This is what David wrote:

1. Happy are those who reject the advice of evil people, who do not follow the examples of sinners or join those who have no use for God.
2. Instead, they find joy in obeying the Law of the LORD, and they study it day and night.
3. They are like trees that grow beside a stream, that bear fruit at the right time, and whose leaves do not dry up. They succeed in everything they do.
4. But evil people are not like this at all; they are like straw that the wind blows away.
5. Sinners will be condemned by God and kept apart from God's own people.
6. The righteous are guided and protected by the LORD, but the evil are on the way to their doom.

Psalm 1:1-6 TEV



Vani Ra

When we are young children our parents take us to church and Sunday school. Throughout the week we might have nightly devotions, with songs, Bible reading, and prayer time. These things begin to build a foundation about what we believe concerning God and how He wants us to live.

Children often believe as truth whatever their parents and churches share concerning the Bible and faith in Jesus Christ. They trust in that truth, and they can feel God's love coming to them by His Spirit. Children like to learn more about God, so they read books and ask questions of who this God is and what He wants them to do with their lives. Children can often hear the voice of God speaking to them and calling them to live their lives for Him.

Let's look into these six verses with the eyes of a child, to see what God has to say to us about how we should live and what road we should walk down, if we hope to be blessed and be full of God's love and peace.



David tells us to examine carefully how we're living and for whom we are living. We have a spiritual enemy who wants to hurt and destroy people.

As we get older and spend time studying the Bible, we learn that it is important to meditate and keep God's word treasured in our hearts. But it's not long before it seems a battle starts in our hearts and minds. We seem to be pulled in two different directions. We think about God, but we also think about what some of our friends are doing. They always seem to be asking us to come and join them, doing various things. They tell us that these things will not hurt us. They say that it's all fun and we can walk away at any time.

My friends often go to church on Sunday but then they live differently through the rest of the week than they do on Sunday. But if you still take time to think about God's Word, you will know there's something very right about what it says, and that there is something very wrong about how my friends are living.

David teaches that we must reject the ways of the world. We must reject following after the way of sinners, and stop being with people who say there is no God.

It always seems that we are being pulled in two different directions.



David understood the importance of prayer (talking with God and God talking with us), reading His Word (studying) and meditating (thinking and reflecting) on God's Word was for everyone.

As we grow older, we need to continue reading and reflecting on God's Word and spending time praying. It is important to think about what David wrote in these verses and ask ourselves the question, "Do we want to live that way?" But sometimes, as we get older, it seems to get harder to follow God's way and His will. We have more things to do at school, at work, and at home. Our friends are calling us to come with them to go here or there.

We seem to know inside, that when we accept some of those invitations to go here or there, that it's not right and we feel inside that our heart is getting cold and dirty. It seems that we become hardhearted towards God and His ways.

It is essential to believe what David said, that if we continue to study God's Word, think about it (meditate), and pray, God will guide us and bless us in what we do. If we follow these truths, our hearts will be soft toward God and He will guide us and show us how to walk and live.



David knew that, as people continue to walk in obedience to the LORD God, what they would be like. He tells us that such a person will be as a tree beside a river. The results of such a walk can really affect our lives.

First: We will grow! Our "leaves" will not wither. Our needs will be met and we will have enough to grow and mature as a healthy tree. Our leaves do not fall to the ground, but last, continuing to bring life to the tree.

Second: We will bear fruit! There will be fruit on our branches. Fruit is a sign of maturity and health. We have the ability to bless others and to bear seed that can produce more trees.

Third: We will succeed! Because God is with us, our life actions will be a blessing to us and to others. When God's Spirit directs us and we follow His voice and direction, He will help us to move forward and grow strong in Him. We will be able to overcome the challenges and temptations of this world.

To such persons, this all happens because they are beside the river of God which is His Word, the Bible. God is life and God is refreshing. If we stay in God's presence and continue to live our lives righteously under God's strength and His love, we will be blessed.



Now David pictures for us the ungodly persons and what they are like. Instead of rejecting the bad things of the world and being obedient to God's word, we are told that these people are like chaff or straw that is blown everywhere by the wind.

They are like rubbish, like material that has no value. They are foolish in how they think and how they act. They are not spiritually grounded. Eventually the farmer will gather up all this useless material and burn it.

We need to understand that these kinds of people are blown in many different directions by the winds of the world. They even face many unnecessary challenges.

David understood that, when harvest time came, the farmer would gather up all the wheat, but that all the chaff and straw would be piled up and burned. Such people would lose all to the fire.

This is sad, because if such people had planted good seeds, they would have produced food and a good crop, this would have been a blessing to the farmer and many other people.



The ungodly become lost in the darkness of the world. Their lives are full of trials and temptations. These people begin to fall away from the truth of God and then start accepting the ways of the world. They trust people, they believe in science and in what the world system thinks and teaches. They are led astray by the foolishness of man and earthly desires.

Young people often feel that they are invincible. They feel they can bend the rules and even go astray and that they can quickly come back, with no side effects. But the truth is, when they begin to enter the dark side of the world, it's not long before they become bound by those habits. Soon they start to realize that there is a problem, but it is often too late. These "lifestyle seeds" lead to corruption and death.

Hope and peace are destroyed in their hearts. Sometimes they become full of anger and greed and their eyes become blinded to the truth of God's Word. No longer do they hear the voice of God.

There is a well-known story called "The Prodigal" where a young man asks for his share of the inheritance from his father. He leaves to go to another country to hide, a country where he will not be known by anyone. He lives an evil lifestyle with people he thinks are his friends. He learns that they were his friends until all his money was gone. Quickly he found out, "no money", "no friends" and "no help". He was totally alone.

But he was fortunate to come to his senses, and he began the long journey back to his father and family. He didn't know if they would still love him, but he thought that maybe he could get a job and so, at least, he could feed himself. But a miracle took place. He asked forgiveness from his father and, at that very moment, his father forgave him and restored him back to his rightful place as a son (Luke 15:11-32).



Wang

What most people don't realize is that the things we sow in life will produce a harvest, a harvest of either good or bad fruit (Galatians 6:7-8). Life is a journey that involves planting and harvesting. Depending on the kind of life we live with others and God, that's the kind of harvest we will receive at the end of our days.

David's story tells us that the ungodly will stand before God and be judged for what they have done here on earth. God records everything about our lives in His book in heaven. We cannot avoid that day when the book will be opened. We will come before our Creator God, and there we will stand. Our record will be opened and our life on earth will all be revealed. Then, at the end of the testimony of our life, judgment will be passed (Rev 20:12). If we have not repented and accepted God's gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, we will be found guilty of all charges and condemned to eternal death (Rom 6:23).

Death here on earth closes the books of our lives and shuts off the opportunity to change things. Without Christ's salvation, we will be lost forever. Our fate will be sealed. Christ shared a story about a rich man and a poor man whose name was Lazarus. The poor man went to heaven and the rich man went to Hades. There the rich man had no water and he was surrounded by flames and it was too late to warn others (Luke 16:19-31).



Sam Ra

The darkness that the lost will experience and the way they have lived will remove them from having fellowship with God and His people. It can also lock them up, away from their family forever. Sin binds us, destroys our freedom, and life will seem hopeless. The unbelievers will realize they are full of unrighteousness and far away from God.

They will see the people of God worshiping and praising God, helping each other and showing love to each other. They will see a family of believers in God's fold, trusting and hoping totally in Him. Such redeemed people are able to experience beautiful things because they kept their childlike faith and did not lose their love for God and His Word.

But the ungodly person will even scorn and show disrespect to the righteous people of God. They will make fun of and curse God's people, thinking that they themselves are wise and free. However, they have forgotten that the Bible teaches us that they are fools, living under great bondage. They have "built their house upon the sand". When the winds and waves do come, everything they have worked for will be destroyed (Matt 7:24-27). Indeed, when they are alone, their hearts are full of fear and anxiety, blaming many others for their problems. There is a raging war going on inside of them.



This picture of a fork in the road shows us that we have a choice to make. We are always challenged by choices. We come to a fork in our lives and we need to decide which way we will go (Matt 7:13-14). It is a choice for which we will be held accountable. We cannot blame others, but it is assuredly something that we all must face one day.

The Lord knows the righteous, and the godly know Him. They have chosen to walk the narrow road that leads to eternal life. They will spend all eternity in heaven with Jesus Christ; they have rejected the world and disobedience and, by faith, become obedient to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ.

But the ungodly have also made a choice - a choice to reject God and His love and has chosen to live according to the destructiveness of the world. The ungodly have no roots and have chosen to live a life of selfish desires, becoming like chaff or straw being blown around. That person will perish.

Listen to Moses' exhortation with which he challenged the people:

"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you ... I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessings and cursing; therefore choose life both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and length of days" (Deut 30:15-20)

If the Bible is truly Truth, before it is too late we also must choose this day which road we will take. It's our own personal choice. Please choose wisely (2Cor 6:2).

Prayer of Commitment

Dear Jesus,

I confess that I am a sinner having gone my own way and that I need You as my Lord and Savior. I believe that You paid the price for my sins when You died on the cross and shed Your blood for me, so that I might have eternal life. I am ready, willing to turn from my sin and return to You. I now invite You into my heart and surrender the control and direction of my life entirely to You. Help me to be a true disciple to you and to others. Thank you for taking my punishment and providing for me a way of escape from eternal death to everlasting life. Thank you for coming into my heart so that I can now have a close, personal relationship with You. Amen

Relationship Commitment Certificate

My Confession:

I have confessed my sinfulness to God, turned from my sin and believe that Christ has forgiven me.

My Acceptance:

I now receive the living Christ into my life as Lord and Savior.

My Commitment:

I surrender the right of my life to Jesus Christ. Jesus is my Lord.

Date of surrender to Christ: _____

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____



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