

Psalm 36 - Dealing With Difficult People

February 6, 2020

Psalm 36:1-12 ESV *To the choirmaster. Of David, the servant of the LORD.*

- 1 Transgression speaks to the wicked deep in his heart; there is no fear of God before his eyes.
- 2 For he flatters himself in his own eyes that his iniquity cannot be found out and hated.
- 3 The words of his mouth are trouble and deceit; he has ceased to act wisely and do good.
- 4 He plots trouble while on his bed; he sets himself in a way that is not good; he does not reject evil.
- 5 Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.
- 7 How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
- 8 They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.
- 9 For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.
- 10 Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your righteousness to the upright of heart!
- 11 Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me, nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.
- 12 There the evildoers lie fallen; they are thrust down, unable to rise.

In the evil done to you by man, there is great appreciation for the goodness done to you by God.

Commentary by A. R. FAUSSET - Psalm 36

"The wickedness of man contrasted with the excellency of God's perfections and dispensations; and the benefit of the latter sought, and the evils of the former deprecated."

Commentary by Matthew Henry - Psalm 36

"It is uncertain when, and upon what occasion, David penned this psalm, probably when he was struck at either by Saul or by Absalom; for in it he complains of the malice of his enemies against him, but triumphs in the goodness of God to him.

If, in singing this psalm, our hearts be duly affected with the hatred of sin and satisfaction in God's lovingkindness, we sing it with grace and understanding."

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Psalm 94:6-10

6 They kill the widow and the sojourner, and murder the fatherless;

7 and they say, "The LORD does not see; the God of Jacob does not perceive."

8 Understand, O dullest of the people! Fools, when will you be wise?

9 He who planted the ear, does he not hear? He who formed the eye, does he not see?

10 He who disciplines the nations, does he not rebuke?

Ecclesiastes 8:11-13

11 Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil.

12 Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and prolongs his life, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, because they fear before him.

13 But it will not be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong his days like a shadow, because he does not fear before God.

2 Corinthians 5:9-11 ESV

9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience.

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James 3:6-8 ESV

6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind,

8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

James 3:13-18 ESV

14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.

15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

2 Timothy 3:1-5 ESV

1 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty.

2 For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good,

4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

Toxic People:

- **The Manipulator** - tries to control people's decisions and behavior by psychological and emotional tricks such as guilt, shame, obligation, belittling, rejection, flattery, etc.
- **The Narcissus** - over-inflated ego, superiority, deprecating, self-absorbed, blind towards others
- **The Critical** - fault-finding to either exalt or excuse themselves, false sense of superiority
- **The Angry** - angry about life, targets objects of opportunity for momentary relief
- **The Paranoid** - persecution complex, suspicious, defensive
- **The Evil** - derives pleasure from the pain, harm and destruction of others

John 2:23-25 ESV

23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing.

24 But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself (*pisteuō* - to think to be true, place confidence in, credit) to them, because he knew all people

25 and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

Romans 12:18-21 ESV

18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

20 To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.