

Sunday Night Message

December 1, 2013

Psalm 49

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 49

Introduction

Psalms 42 – 49 are psalms “for the sons of Korah”. We will not see any of these psalms again until we get to psalm 84, 85, 87, and 88.

The theme of this psalm involves wealth. There is nothing wrong with wealth itself, but it has been a stumbling-block to many people. Warren Wiersbe said “It’s good to have things that money can buy, if we don’t lose the things money can’t buy.”¹ Money is not the root of all evil, but the love of it is.

The key to understanding this and other passages like it are in statements like: “they that trust in wealth” (v. 6); “and understandeth not” (v. 20). There are many wealthy men that have riches but don’t trust in them, and there also many men that are “in honour”, but they understand – meaning they know God.

Parallel passages – Luke 12:13 – 21; 1 Timothy 6:6 – 10; James 2:1 – 9; 5:1 – 6

I The Recipients of the Psalm are Identified (vs. 1 – 4)

This message is addressed to all the people – all the inhabitants of the world. There is nobody that this psalm does not apply to. It is written to rich and poor, low or high, meaning those of the lower classes, or those of the higher classes.

This psalm will admonish the rich and poor alike.

II Riches Cannot Purchase Redemption (vs. 5 – 15)

Wealthy people can buy themselves out of many problems, but they cannot beat death. Death will come eventually, and though they may sometimes be

¹ Wiersbe, W. W. (2004). *Be worshipful* (1st ed., p. 181). Colorado Springs, CO: Cook Communications Ministries.

able to postpone it, there is nothing that can be done to prevent it. Wealth cannot buy redemption.

Turn to Luke 16:19 - 31

A For Your Loved Ones (vs. 5 - 9)

v. 5 - "my heels" - enemies

B For Yourself (vs. 10 - 15)

III Riches Cannot Be Allowed Control Your Desires (vs. 16 - 20)

Turn to Matthew 19: 23 - 30

Practical points for those who are already wealthy:

- 1 Remember that all wealth belongs to God.
- 2 Invest in eternity.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:19-21)

Practical Points for those who are not yet rich:

- 1 God will bless those who are good stewards and give back to Him.
- 2 Some will be blessed with tremendous wealth.
- 3 That wealth must be used for God's glory.
- 4 Don't forget Who gave it to you.