

## *“The Way of the Righteous”*

### *Psalm 1*

**Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. <sup>2</sup>**

**But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. <sup>3</sup> And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. <sup>4</sup> The ungodly *are* not so: but *are* like the chaff which the wind driveth away. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. <sup>6</sup> For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. (Psalm 1:1-6 KJV)**

*One of my favorite words in Scripture is the Word, WAY!*

#### *I. It's the way of the WORD, not the way of the World - Psalm 1:1-2*

**Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. <sup>2</sup> But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. (Psalm 1:1-2 KJV)**

*The blessed man or woman avoids like the plague, the progressive pull of sin at all its various stages – Psalm 1:1; Psalm 119:11 (worldly whirlpool)*

**Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. (Psalm 119:11 KJV)**

*1. He realizes he is vulnerable to certain temptations – Romans 7:21; Genesis 3:6; Hebrews 11:25*

**I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. (Romans 7:21 KJV)**

**And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it**

was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. (Genesis 3:6 KJV)

Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; (Hebrews 11:25 KJV)

*He avoids the path of the majority – Matthew 7:13-14*

**Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: <sup>14</sup> Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. (Matthew 7:13-14 KJV)**

*“Live fish swim upstream; dead ones go with it”*

*Alexander McClaren*

2. *He avoids what others might call small sin as he knows it leads to greater sin – Psalm 1:1; Romans 1:26-32*

**Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. (Psalm 1:1 KJV)**

*John Bunyan's Steps of Backsliders:*

*(1) They choose to put their thoughts on things other than God, His law, and the judgment to come -- Because such things are not agreeable to the natural heart*

*(2) They gradually give up their inner spiritual duties such as secret prayer, controlling their lusts, vigilant watching, and the like -- Because such things are burdensome to Him ho has taken His thoughts of Christ*

*(3) They shun the company of hot and lively Christians -- Because they remind them that they themselves are lukewarm*

*(4) They begin to grow cold to public spiritual duties such as Church and Prayer Meetings where God's word is preached and His praises sung! -- Because their thoughts and hearts are out of place there*

*(5) They begin to perceives the specks of dust in the eyes of the godly -- Because this enables them to be blind in their own eyes and gives them a reason to throw all religion to the wind*

*(6) Next they began to spend time in company with loose and wanton persons (meaning*

*people who are careless about God and Christianity)*

*(7) (A.) They begin to enjoy carnal conversation and enjoy the contemplation of sin (B.) They rejoice if they can find any evil in one who is counted honest that they may sin the more boldly*

*(8) They begin to play with little sins openly*

*(9) Lastly, They harden their hearts, and cast off all pretense of goodness! JOHN BUNYAN*

*Positively, he commits himself to the Word of God – Psalm 1:2*

**But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. (Psalm 1:2 KJV)**

*1. It is his delight – Psalm 1:2; Jeremiah 15:16*

**But his delight is in the law of the LORD;... (Psalm 1:2 KJV)**

**Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. (Jeremiah 15:16 KJV)**

*2. It gets his time, “day and night” – Psalm 1:2*

**and in his law doth he meditate day and night. (Psalm 1:2 KJV)**

*3. It gets more than reading, “meditates” – Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:11 (memorizes); 2 Timothy 2:15 A.U.G. Degree (studies)*

**Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. (Psalm 119:11 KJV)**

**Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15 KJV)**

*II. It's the Planted Tree Way vs. the Way of Blown Away Chaff – Psalm 1:3-4*

**And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. <sup>4</sup> The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which**

the wind driveth away. (Psalm 1:3-4 KJV)

1. *The blessed man's condition is like a tree – Psalm 1:3*  
And he shall be like a tree **1:3**

A. *Planted, not wild or uncared for – John 15:1-2*  
**Planted by the rivers of water 1:3**

**I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. (John 15:1-2 KJV)**

B. *Planted favorably “by rivers of water” – Romans 8:28-29 in a favorable way / place /condition*

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. <sup>29</sup> For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. (Romans 8:28-29 KJV)

B. *Planted fruitfully – Psalm 1:3; John 15:5; Galatians 5:22-23*

that bringeth forth his fruit in his season;– **1:3**

I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. (John 15:5 KJV)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, <sup>23</sup> Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23 KJV)

C. *Planted prosperously – Psalm 1:3; Joshua 1:8*  
his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. <sup>4</sup>– **1:3**

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according

to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. (Joshua 1:8 KJV)

## 2. *The ungodly are like "chaff"- Psalm 1:4*

The ungodly *are* not so: but *are* like the chaff which the wind driveth away. (Psalm 1:4 KJV)

### A. *Dry and lifeless – Ephesians 2:1*

And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins; (Ephesians 2:1 KJV)

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which *was* full of bones,<sup>2</sup> And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, *there were* very many in the open valley; and, lo, *they were* very dry.<sup>3</sup> And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest.<sup>4</sup> Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.<sup>5</sup> Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:<sup>6</sup> And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD.<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.<sup>8</sup> And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but *there was* no breath in them.<sup>9</sup> Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.<sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.<sup>11</sup> Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.<sup>12</sup> Therefore prophecy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.<sup>13</sup> And ye shall know that I *am* the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves,<sup>14</sup> And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD

have spoken *it*, and performed *it*, saith the LORD. (Ezekiel 37:1-14 KJV)

*B. Light and unstable “wind drives away”- Ephesians 4:14*

That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; (Ephesians 4:14 KJV)

### *III. It is the Way God KNOWS vs. the Way that Perishes – Psalm 1:5-6*

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. <sup>6</sup> For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. (Psalm 1:5-6 KJV)

- 1. The ungodly have no strength to stand in judgment – Psalm 1:5; Leviticus 26:27-37; Joshua 7:12-13; Judges 2:11-14; Psalm 5:4-6; Psalm 130:3; Isaiah 28:18; Nahum 1:5-6; Revelation 6:17*

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. (Psalm 1:5 KJV)

And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me; <sup>28</sup> Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins. <sup>29</sup> And ye shall eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters shall ye eat. <sup>30</sup> And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your images, and cast your carcasses upon the carcasses of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you. <sup>31</sup> And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries unto desolation, and I will not smell the savour of your sweet odours. <sup>32</sup> And I will bring the land into desolation: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it. <sup>33</sup> And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste. <sup>34</sup> Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate, and ye *be* in your enemies' land; *even* then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths. <sup>35</sup> As long as it lieth desolate it shall rest; because it did not rest in your sabbaths, when ye dwelt upon it. <sup>36</sup> And upon them that are left *alive* of you I will send a faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; and the sound of a shaken leaf shall chase them; and they shall flee, as fleeing from a sword; and they shall fall when none pursueth. <sup>37</sup> And they shall fall one upon

another, as it were before a sword, when none pursueth: **and ye shall have no power to stand before your enemies**. (Leviticus 26:27-37 KJV)

**For thou *art* not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.** <sup>5</sup> **The foolish shall not stand in thy sight:** thou hatest all workers of iniquity. <sup>6</sup> **Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man. (Psalm 5:4-6 KJV)**

If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? (Psalm 130:3 KJV)

The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein. <sup>6</sup> **Who can stand before his indignation?** and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him. (Nahum 1:5-6 KJV)

For the great day of his wrath is come; and **who shall be able to stand?** (Revelation 6:17 KJV)

*2. The Lord knows the way of the righteous – Psalm 1:6*

For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: ... (Psalm 1:6 KJV)

*A. It is a way lighted by God's word – Psalm 119:105*

NUN. Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105 KJV)

*B. It is the narrow way – Matthew 7:13-14*

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: <sup>14</sup> Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. (Matthew 7:13-14 KJV)

*C. It is the WAY which is Christ – John 14:6*

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh

unto the Father, but by me. (John 14:6 KJV)

*D. It is opposite of the way that “seems right to a man” – Proverbs 14:12; 16:25; Judges 2:19 “My way” Frank Sinatra*

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. (Proverbs 14:12 KJV)

And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, *that* they returned, and corrupted *themselves* more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way. (Judges 2:19 KJV)

*E. It is the way of those who “trust in the Lord” – Proverbs 3:5-6*  
Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.<sup>6</sup> In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6 KJV)

*F. It is the way to teach our children – Genesis 18:19*

**For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him. (Genesis 18:19 KJV)**

*F. It is a way for which we should pray “show me now Your way” – Exodus 33:12-13; Psalm 86:11*

**And Moses said unto the LORD, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight.<sup>13</sup> Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation *is* thy people. (Exodus 33:12-13 KJV)**

**Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name. (Psalm 86:11 KJV)**

*G. It is the way God promises to make prosperous – Joshua 1:8*



**This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. (Joshua 1:8 KJV)**

*I. It is the way God preserves – Joshua 24:17*

For the LORD our God, he *it is* that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed: (Joshua 24:17 KJV)

*J. It is the perfect way, the way of victory – 2 Samuel 22:31-37*

**As for God, his way *is* perfect; the word of the LORD *is* tried: he *is* a buckler to all them that trust in him. <sup>32</sup> For who *is* God, save the LORD? and who *is* a rock, save our God? <sup>33</sup> God *is* my strength *and* power: and he maketh my way perfect. <sup>34</sup> He maketh my feet like hinds' feet: and setteth me upon my high places. <sup>35</sup> He teacheth my hands to war; so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms. <sup>36</sup> Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great. <sup>37</sup> Thou hast enlarged my steps under me; so that my feet did not slip. (2 Samuel 22:31-37 KJV)**

*K. It is a way to hold to – Job 17:9*

The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger. (Job 17:9 KJV)

*L. It is the way the Lord knows – Job 23:10-12; Psalm 1:6; 37:23*

But he knoweth the way that I take: *when* he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. <sup>11</sup> My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined. <sup>12</sup> Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary *food*. (Job 23:10-12 KJV)

**For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. (Psalm 1:6 KJV)**

**The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. (Psalm 37:23 KJV)**

*M. It is the way God will teach the humble SINNERS— Psalm 25:8-12;*  
Good and upright *is* the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.<sup>9</sup>  
The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.<sup>10</sup>  
All the paths of the LORD *are* mercy and truth unto such as keep his  
covenant and his testimonies.<sup>11</sup> For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon  
mine iniquity; for it *is* great.<sup>12</sup> What man *is* he that feareth the LORD? him  
shall he teach in the way *that* he shall choose. (Psalm 25:8-12 KJV)

*N. It is the way to be revived to – Psalm 119:37*  
Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; *and* quicken thou me in thy  
way. (Psalm 119:37 KJV)

*O. It is the way EVERLASTING – Psalm 139:24 (opposite: “the way of the ungodly  
shall perish”)*

**And see if *there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way  
everlasting. (Psalm 139:24 KJV)**

*Arnold Brevick*