

**BOOK OF PSALMS**  
**THE SUCCESS OF THE BLESSED**  
**PT 2c-HIS CONVERSATION**  
**PSALM 1:1c, 2**

**Introduction**

I've entitled this series of studies on this **PSALM**, "**THE SUCCESS OF THE BLESSED.**"

There are three **CHARACTERISTICS** given here in this *first verse* of the **BLESSED MAN!** We have been seeing and will see this evening that **HE IS KNOWN BY SOME THINGS THAT HE DOESN'T DO!**

In *verse 2* next week, **LORD** willing, we'll see that **HE IS ALSO KNOWN BY SOME THINGS THAT HE DOES DO** as and that the combination of these things is the source of his **SUCCESS** or **PROSPERITY** in his life!

We have already seen that the **BLESSED MAN** lives in stark contrast to those who are called the **UNGODLY** and **SINNERS**, and tonight we see his life stands in contrast to those called the **SCORNFUL!**

We first saw that the **BLESSED MAN DOESN'T WALK** in the **COUNSEL** of the **UNGODLY...**(The **UNGODLY** have a wrong **WORLD-VIEW** and so a wrong **GOD-VIEW** and so they are a poor choice for **ADVICE** and **COUNSEL** for life!)

Last week we saw that the **BLESSED MAN DOESN'T STAND** in the **WAY** of **SINNERS...**speaking of the well tread **WAY** or **PATH** of **SINNERS** that is **CONTRARY** to the **WAY** or **PATH** of the **LORD** for one's life! We who have been made **RIGHTEOUS** should walk in the **WAY** of our **LORD WHO IS THE WAY!** Because the **WAY** of **SINNERS** is a **WAY** that leads to **DESTRUCTION!** **JESUS** said in **HIS SERMON ON THE MOUNT** in

*Matthew 7:13-14--"13 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: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."*

Now, tonight we see the **BLESSED MAN** is **NOT** found **SITTING IN THE SEAT OF THE SCORNFUL.** What does that mean?

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There is a **PROGRESSION** (or rather I should say a **DIGRESSION**) here!

1. It begins with the **CASUAL INFLUENCE** of listening to and **FOLLOWING THE COUNSEL** of **UNGODLY** people!
2. Next, comes **HANGING OUT** with **SINNERS** in their sinful **WAYS** or being found in **AGREEMENT** with their **SINFUL WAYS!**
3. Then comes **COLLUSION** with them in their **SCORN** against **GOD** and the **RIGHTEOUS!**

We could say that the one who is **NOT** in cahoots with or characterized by these **EVIL INFLUENCES** is the one who is **BLESSED!**

**i.e. He's SEPARATED** from **EVIL INFLUENCES!** That is, he is **SEPARATED**, not only **FROM SIN** but **SEPARATED UNTO GOD!** (By the way, that is what being **SANCTIFIED** is all about!)

And because such a one is in a **RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**, we will see later in our study that he bears the **FRUIT** in his life from that **RIGHT RELATIONSHIP** and **FELLOWSHIP** with **GOD!**

This world is increasingly "**TOLERANT**" of everything except **GOD'S WORD** and **THOSE WHO EMBRACE IT!** It has gotten to a point where we are not only called to **TOLERATE** wickedness, but we are even expected to **APPLAUD** it and even to help **PROMOTE** it and call it **GOOD!** And those of us who refuse to do so, the world wants to "**CANCEL**"! But let me remind you that **GOD** calls us to **SEPARATE** from that which is evil!

When a preacher starts talking about **SEPARATION**, too many folks have a problem with that. But those who have a problem with it have a problem with **GOD** and **HIS WORD!** (Cf. **1 Corinthians 5:9-13; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18**)

Now understand that the word translated "**SCORNFUL**" in our text is a common word found in **SCRIPTURE!**

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It describes an **ARROGANT FOOL WHO REFUSES DISCIPLINE** and **CORRECTION** and even hates those who try to **CORRECT** him!  
*(Especially GOD and HIS WORD and those who follow HIM!)*

**SCORNERS** are those who **OPENLY DEFY** all that is **SACRED**!

When I say **OPENLY DEFY**, I'm talking about they are **IN YOUR FACE** with it! (Have you noticed how the world's promotion of wickedness is increasingly **IN YOUR FACE**!)

They have **NO FEAR OF GOD** and so they **MOCK GOD** and **HIS WORD** as well as those who **LOVE** and **FOLLOW GOD** and **HIS WORD**! They are at war against **GOD**. The root cause of this is **DEVILISH PRIDE**!

I say **DEVILISH PRIDE** because it goes according to the **SERPENT'S MOCKING OF THE WORD OF GOD TO EVE**! *"Yea hath God said..."*

The **BASEST** of **SCORNERS** even use **PRIDE** in their description of themselves! This **PRIDEFUL ARROGANCE** and **FOOLISHNESS** can clearly be seen in our world today and it is becoming more prevalent with each passing day!

Just look at the Hollywood and other entertainment crowds in general! In not only the programming, but also in the advertising that supports their programming, there is a great **DISDAIN** for those of us who hold **BIBLICAL POSITIONS** regarding **SEXUALITY**, **MORALITY**, and **GODLINESS**!

Even in the so-called news programs (where there is more indoctrination than reporting the news) there are repeated efforts to **CASTIGATE** those of us who hold a **BIBLICAL VIEW** regarding **ABORTION** as **MURDER**!

And let's not forget their **DISDAIN** for those of us who hold to the **WORD OF GOD** in believing and proclaiming that **FAITH IN THE FINISHED WORK OF JESUS** is the **ONLY WAY** of **SALVATION**!

**MOCKERY** is found even in the academic community.

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Here in Florida, the teachers union **CASTIGATES** our governor as bringing politics into the classroom by signing a law into effect that makes it unlawful for them to indoctrinate children in the LGBTQ+ lifestyle before the third grade! Really?

The so-called scientist, **RICHARD DAWKINS**, a celebrated atheist, wrote a book entitled *"The God Delusion,"* in which he railed against **GOD**. His words exposed the condition of his heart! He is just one of many **SCORNERS** and **SCOFFERS**, whose words expose a heart that **HATES GOD** and everything and everyone that has anything to do with **HIM**!

Now, it says here in our text that this **BLESSED MAN "SITTETH NOT"** in the seat of the **SCORNFUL**. The word translated *"sitteth"* means *"to dwell or abide"* and can have the idea of *"associating with or to being a part of."*

There are other places in **SCRIPTURE THAT SHED LIGHT ON SCORNERS** and **SCOFFERS**!: (Let me share just a few...)

1. The **SERPENT** in *Genesis 3:1-6* being the **FIRST SCORNER**! **EVE** being the first to **SIT IN THE SEAT OF THE SCORNFUL**!
2. **PHARAOH** in *Exodus 5:2*—*"And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go."*
3. **SANBALLAT, TOBIAH, and GESHEM**! *Nehemiah 2:19*—*"But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?"*
4. **HAMAN** in the **BOOK OF ESTHER**: *Esther 3:6*—*"And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai."*

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5. **JESUS' SCORNERS** as **HE** was on the **CROSS!**  
*Matthew 27:39–44*—“39 And they that passed by **reviled him, wagging their heads,** 40 And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. 41 Likewise also the chief priests **mocking him,** with the scribes and elders, said, 42 He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. 43 He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God. 44 The thieves also, which were crucified with him, **cast the same in his teeth.**”

What is the end of such a one? *Proverbs 16:18*—“Pride goeth before destruction, And an haughty spirit before a fall.”

Much more could be said about **SCOFFERS** and **SCORNERS**, but we'll close out with the admonition to not be found in their seat!

6. The **APOSTLE PAUL** and the **APOSTLE PETER** both address **SCOFFERS** and **SCORNERS** in the last days:  
**PAUL** in *2 Timothy 3:1-5*— “...boasters, proud, blasphemers, ...despisers of those that are good.”

**PETER** in *2 Peter 3:3*—“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,”

7. **THE BOOK OF PROVERBS:**  
*Proverbs 13:1*—“A wise son heareth his father’s instruction: **But a scorner heareth not rebuke.**” (i.e. A **SCORNER’S EAR** is **CLOSED TO REBUKE** and **INSTRUCTION!**)

*Proverbs 15:12*—“A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: **Neither will he go unto the wise.**” (i.e. A **SCORNER’S HEART** is full of **RESISTANCE, REBELLION,** and even **HATRED** toward the one who **REPROVES** him! He wants nothing to do with the **TRULY WISE!**)

*Proverbs 21:24*—“Proud and haughty **scorner** is his name, *Who dealeth in proud wrath.*” (i.e. A **SCORNER’S HEART** is also full of **PRIDE** and **HAUGHTINESS [CONTEMPT** and **ARROGANCE]**, and therefore **WRATH!**)