

## PSALM 1 - *THE TWO WAYS*



### THE PSALMS

- Ancient Hebrew Poetry – 150 songs, hymns and prayers of the Israelites
- Psalm 1 and Psalm 2 operate as a gateway into the Psalter
  - Psalm 1 tells us who the Psalter is intended *for* and Psalm 2 tells us who the Psalter speaks *of*. (Waltke)

### PSALM 1

- [1] How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,  
Nor stand in the path of sinners,  
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!
- [2] But his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
And in His law he meditates day and night.
- [3] He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water,  
Which yields its fruit in its season  
And its leaf does not wither;  
And in whatever he does, he prospers.

### PSALM 1

- [4] The wicked are not so,  
But they are like chaff which the wind drives away.
- [5] Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
- [6] For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
But the way of the wicked will perish.

### PSALMS 1

- Main point –
  - The path of the righteous is one of a *rooted-delight* in God's word and ends in a *luscious-blessed* eternal state.

### PSALMS 1

- Approaching the text
  - The two ways presented
  - The illustration of the two ways
  - The eternal destiny of the two ways

**THE TWO WAYS**

- The way of the wicked is one of *progressive indulgence* in the values, beliefs and pleasures of the world
- The way of the righteous is characterized by:
  - An attitude of delight in God's word
  - Sole devotion to God's word

**THE TWO WAYS ILLUSTRATED**

- The psalmist is eliciting Edenic imagery to direct our minds to eternal realities (cf. *Ezek. 47:12, Rev. 22:2*)
  - The righteous like a tree – *firm* and *fruitful*
  - The wicked like chaff – *untethered* and *withered*

**THE ETERNAL DESTINY OF THE TWO WAYS**

- The two ways will end in judgment with the righteous *known* and *blessed* by God and the wicked sent into eternal *destruction*

**JESUS IS THE BLESSED MAN IN PSALM 1**

- It is *by His* righteous life that we can enter the congregation of the righteous

**IMPLICATIONS**

- We must become people who are rooted and delight in God's word
- Thinking about our eternal future is a means of perseverance