

WHAT'S THE DEAL, GOD?

Psalm 73:1-28

Jeff Schreve

What's going on here? Is God out to lunch? Nobody's tending the store. The wicked get by with everything; they have it made, piling up riches. I've been stupid to play by the rules; what has it gotten me? A long run of bad luck, that's what—a slap in the face every time I walk out the door. Psalm 73:11-14 MSG

Is serving the Lord really worth it?

1. We begin to question when we begin to compare.

Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart! But as for me, my feet came close to stumbling; my steps had almost slipped. For I was envious of the arrogant, as I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Psalm 73:1-3

- A. Comparison produces one of two things: pride or envy.

Do not let your heart envy sinners, but live in the fear of the LORD always. Proverbs 23:17

- B. Comparison means you have gotten your eyes off the Lord.

And let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith Hebrews 12:1-2

2. We begin to question when we begin to assume.

They [the wicked] do not suffer pain; they are strong and healthy. They do not suffer as other people do; they do not have the troubles that others have. Psalm 73:4-5 GNB

- A. Are the wicked really enjoying peace and tranquility?

"There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked."
Isaiah 57:21

- B. Are the wicked really living satisfied lives?

"Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher, "Vanity of vanities! All is vanity." Ecclesiastes 1:2

3. We begin to see when we begin to seek God.

When I pondered to understand this, it was troublesome in my sight until I came into the sanctuary of God; then I perceived their end.

Psalm 73:16-17

A. No one gets away with sin.

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. Galatians 6:7

B. The wicked are one heartbeat away from eternal hell.

Surely You set them in slippery places; You cast them down to destruction. How they are destroyed in a moment! They are utterly swept away by sudden terrors! Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when aroused, You will despise their form.

Psalm 73:18-20

C. There is nothing more wonderful than His presence.

But as for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works.

Psalm 73:28

Know for certain that it is worth it to serve the Lord.