**SERMON NOTES**

**Overview of Psalm 1: Comparing and contrasting two different people/paths**

1. **The way of the righteous**
2. **The way of the wicked**
3. **These are the only two categories in which all people fall into. There is no “third” group! You either love God and his word or you reject God and his word.**
4. **Two different groups of people with two different destinations!**

**The character/description of the righteous man (vs 1-3)**

1. **He is a blessed man (vs 1a)** 
   1. “Blessed” means happy! He is full of joy and happiness in the Lord.
   2. God’s favor and protection is on his life because God is with him.
2. **He avoids corruption (vs 1)** 
   1. **Three different ways…**
      1. **NOT walking in the counsel of the wicked (vs 1b)**
         * He rejects the man’s wisdom and the philosophies of this world.
         * **2 Cor. 10:5 – we** *“demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, taking captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”*
      2. **NOT standing in the way of sinners (vs 1c)** 
         * He refuses to stand with sinners and participate in their sins**.**
         * **1 Cor. 15:33 –** *“bad company corrupts good character”*
      3. **NOT sitting in the seat of scoffers (vs 1d)** 
         * **He refuses to endorse and adopt the lifestyle of the ungodly.**
         * **Psalm 26: 4-5 –** *“I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites. I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.”*
   2. **There is a downward spiral (black hole) for the way of the wicked.** 
      1. **Walking (i.e., listening), standing, sitting!**
      2. Begins in the mind **(listening to the counsel) …**then leads to playing with sin **(standing with sinners) …**then eventually leads to full blown adoption and open rebellion **(sitting with scoffers).**
3. **He loves God’s word (vs 2)**
   1. If you love God, you will love the revelation of God (his word).
   2. The righteous man delights himself in the law of God and cherishes it.
   3. **Psalm 19:7-10 –** *“The law of the Lord is perfect…refreshing the soul, more valuable than gold, sweeter than honey…”*
4. **He is strengthened by God (vs 3)** 
   1. He’s “like” a tree “planted” by streams of water. “Planted” denotes an action by another, NOT himself!
   2. God has “transplanted” us by his grace! Salvation is a work of God!
   3. They flourish because their roots are nourished by streams of grace!

**The character/description of the wicked man (vs 4-6)**

1. The wicked are NOT so (complete opposite from the righteous).
2. They are useless and will not stand at the judgement because they do not have the righteousness of Christ!
3. But God **“KNOWS” (intimately)** the way of the righteous (**2 Tim. 2:19** – “*God knows those who are his*.”) but the way of the wicked will perish!