

COUNSEL OF THE UNGODLY

- Psalms 1:1** Blessed is the man **Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly**, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
- 2 **But his delight is in the law of the LORD**, And in His law **he meditates day and night**.
- 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And **whatever he does shall prosper**.
- 4 The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.
- 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, **But the way of the ungodly shall perish**.

In this psalm we are given directions from God as to how we are to conduct ourselves in this life in order to be blessed. The choice is ours and God says that the choice is to be BLESSED or to be chaff that is winnowed and blown away by the wind to eventually perish. I believe that we all want to be blessed. No one deliberately chooses to be driven by the winds of life and to ultimately be destroyed. But it does happen to many people in life because they do not hear what God is saying or they do not pay any attention to what God is saying.

There are at least three things mentioned here by God that the BLESSED man or woman **must not do** in order to be blessed and a couple of more things that **they must do** in order to maintain the blessing of God in their lives. We will not have the time here to discuss all of these. Careful consideration of the words written will provide one with a very good idea of what the Lord is talking about.

We would like for you to consider a couple of key words with us. One of the primary words in this passage is **BLESSED**. Do we want to be blessed? Blessed of God? Just what does it mean to be blessed of God? Well, it means many things and they are all good. It means to enjoy a more abundant life while here on earth. It means to have a Father child relationship with God. It means to have your sins forgiven. It means to have a guarantee of a Heavenly home. It means to have God's blessings of answered prayers in your life. It means to enjoy His provisions, His acceptance, His peace, His joy, His protection, His love, His forgiveness, His mercy and many such things that are amazing and wonderful beyond description.

Now I don't know about you but I want that for my life. I want to enjoy the fullness of God's blessing in my life all the time. I need Him to bless my going out and my coming in, the work of my hands, my job, my life, my family and everything I set my hand to do. I need Him to prosper me in whatever I do. He has promised to do so too all those who will listen to His word and live by its directions.

The second key word in this psalm I would like you to consider is the word **walks**. Specifically, "**walks not**". The word means to **conduct oneself**. The word deals with how one **thinks, acts, reacts** and **lives** in response to life and its circumstances. It is a comprehensive word in that **it deals with one's thoughts, actions and motives**. How one behaves or one's actions is always base on how one thinks. So in this case the one who is to be blessed by God **must not** conduct himself in or follow **the counsel** of the **ungodly**. Therefore we must to some extent be familiar with what ungodly counsel is.

It stands to reason that if someone does not understand what ungodly counsel is they could be walking in it without knowing what they are doing. In fact most people do just exactly that. They walk in the counsel of the ungodly without knowing it. Many are professed Christians. Some Christians even wonder why they are not enjoying the fullness of the blessings of God in their lives without realizing that they are walking to some degree in the counsel of the ungodly.

This introduces us to the third word or phrase we want to consider it is the “**counsel** of the ungodly”. What is “the counsel of the ungodly”? I believe that it is any **counsel, advice, understanding** and **knowledge** that are **against the will of God**. God has a plan, a will that He is working out in this world. His will includes specific plans for my life and yours. When we follow God's counsel for our lives we walk in His will and His power to effect His purposes is released into our lives. Ungodly counsel is in opposition to the will of God for our lives.

Ungodly counsel will also include any **information, advice, knowledge** and such like that is **contrary to the commandments of God**. God's commandments or His word is in agreement with His will or purpose for man in this life. To disregard His word and commandments is to walk in the counsel of the ungodly. So ungodly counsel includes any advice, information or instructions that are contrary to God's Word.

Ungodly counsel is all information and advice that affects our thoughts and actions **apart from the Spirit of God**. Children of God are to be led by the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God impresses upon our minds and conscience the living Word of God and will always lead in agreement with the Word of God.

You might be surprised to discover just **where ungodly counsel comes from**. One of the places ungodly counsel comes from is the **world**. It is worldly wisdom, knowledge, information and advice that is from **a system** that is totally alienated from God. It is such counsel that influences all of mankind. It is not so much taught as it is caught and permeates all of humanity by the “prince of the Power of the air”. It is like breathing in and out and can be very subtle in it's resistance to the will of God. It can also be very open and defiant to Gods will.

Ungodly counsel also has its roots **in the heart of man**. It **is natural** and **generally self centered**. It comes from **within man** and **has as it center mans soul**. Which means that man in his wisdom or intellect cannot know God. Which is exactly what the Bible and Jesus taught. Natural man apart from the Spirit of God cannot know nor do God's will. He cannot understand the things of God and he absolutely cannot please God. Left to his own understanding the natural man will go the way of the world and the prince of the power of the air in total opposition to God. Even his idea or concept of religion flies in the face of God and has its roots in Satanic information.

This ungodly counsel has as its **roots** the information that originated **in the “tree of knowledge of good and evil”** that corrupted Adam and Eve. It is information, advice, and knowledge that are gained or attained by mankind **apart from and quite independent of God**. The tree of knowledge of good and evil afforded Adam and Eve the opportunity of having an understanding of what is right and wrong apart from God. They could understand, think and act independently with out God's help. That is the spirit that tempted Eve to express her independence of God and act out of her self-will. That is the same spirit that permeates all of mankind today. That includes you and me. That is why we need a new birth or regeneration as the Bible discusses.

Therefore we can see that **the counsel of the ungodly originates in ones own understanding, reason or logic** apart from the Spirit of God. This means that what you and I think will most certainly be contrary to God if we are not enlightened by God and lean or depend upon our own understanding.

To not walk in the counsel of the ungodly means that one conducts ones self not by natural means but by complete trust in the spirit of God. It means that we resist doing what we want, when we want, and where we want. It also means that we do care about what someone else thinks about our actions and activities including God or perhaps especially God.

When someone walks in the counsel of the ungodly it is **very obvious** in his or her **walk, conduct, actions and activities**. This is equally true if they walk not in the counsel of the ungodly. The tree is known by its fruits. A corrupt tree does not bring forth good fruit neither does a good tree bring forth bad fruit.

Here are some scriptures from the Word of God that the above information is based upon:

Prov.3: 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.

Isa. 55: 6 Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.

7 Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.

8 "**For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,**" says the LORD.

9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, **So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.**

Eph. 2:1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

2 in which **you once walked according to the course of this world,** according to the **prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,**

3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and **were by nature children of wrath,** just as the others.

Eph 4: 17 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, **in the futility of their mind,**

18 having their **understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God,** because **of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;**

19 who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

20 But you have not so learned Christ,

Matt. 15: 16 So Jesus said, "Are you also still without understanding?"

17 "Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated?"

18 "But **those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man.**

19 "**For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.**

20 "These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."

Matt. 12: 33 "**Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit.**

34 "Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? **For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.**

35 "**A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.**