



THE ORCHARD

From Doubt to Renewed Faith

Passage: Psalm 73

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Questions:

1. What struggle does Asaph express in verses 1–3, and how can we relate?

Text: Psalm 73:1–3 *“Surely God is good to Israel... But as for me, my feet had almost slipped...”*

Discussion: What does it mean that his “feet had almost slipped”? Have you ever felt like Asaph—struggling with doubt or envy?

Cross References: Proverbs 3:5–6 – Trusting God rather than our understanding. Jeremiah 12:1 “–Why does the way of the wicked prosper?”

2. How does envy distort our perspective?

Text: Psalm 73:4–12: Asaph envies the prosperity and comfort of the wicked.

Discussion: In what ways does social media or culture today promote this kind of envy? How does envy affect your relationship with God?

Cross References: James 3:14–16 – Envy and selfish ambition lead to disorder. Exodus 20:17 – Commandment against coveting

3. What doubts or questions does Asaph raise about living a godly life?

Text: Psalm 73:13–14 *“Surely in vain have I kept my heart pure...”*

Discussion: Do you ever wonder if obeying God is “worth it” when life is hard? How do you respond to suffering despite obedience?

Cross References: Malachi 3:14–18 – God’s people question the value of righteousness. Galatians 6:9 – *“Let us not grow weary in doing good...”*

4. What happens when Asaph enters the sanctuary of God?

Text: Psalm 73:15–17

Discussion: Why is worship a turning point for Asaph? How can gathering with other believers restore our perspective?

Cross References: Hebrews 10:24–25 – Not neglecting to meet together. Psalm 27:4 – *“To gaze upon the beauty of the Lord...”*

5. What does Asaph realize about the fate of the wicked?

Text: Psalm 73:18–20

Discussion: How does seeing the end of the wicked change his perspective? Why is eternity essential to understanding justice?

Cross References: Matthew 7:13–14 – Broad is the road to destruction. Revelation 20:11–15 – The final judgment

6. How does Asaph describe his own failure of perspective?

Text: Psalm 73:21–22

Discussion: What does it mean to be like a “brute beast” before God? How do emotions and pride cloud our spiritual vision?

Cross References: Proverbs 14:12 – The way that seems right to a man. Romans 12:2 – Be transformed by the renewing of your mind

7. What does Asaph affirm about God's presence and care?

Text: Psalm 73:23–26

Discussion: What promises about God do you see in these verses? How has God “held your hand” during difficult seasons?

Cross References: Isaiah 41:10 – God upholds with His righteous right hand. Romans 8:38–39 – Nothing can separate us from God's love

8. How does the Psalm end, and what does it teach about renewed faith and witness?

Text: Psalm 73:27–28

Discussion: What does it mean to “draw near to God”? Why is it important to “tell of all His works”?

Cross References: James 4:8 – Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. 1 Peter 2:9 – Proclaiming the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness