



TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.

Psalm 73:23-28

Satisfaction

Have you ever been jealous of how easy non-Christians seem to have it? They don't have to worry about following what God says. They get to have whatever they want, and do whatever is necessary to get it because they don't believe they're accountable to God. But it's not that way for us Christians, is it? Doing what God wants often means that we won't have it easy. We may not get what we want. Doesn't it seem like we could have so much more satisfaction if we could just ignore what God says?

That's how the writer of Psalm 73 felt. He was jealous of non-believers. They seemed to have it so good, and that's what he wanted. He struggled as he watched them in their life on easy street. In the end, however, God brought him to be satisfied with the free gift of his love: heaven.

God gave us his Son Jesus to save us from sin and give us eternal life with him! So compare what you may desire in this world with what God gives you in Jesus. Which is better? Eternal life beats anything this world has to offer.

So when you're tempted to want sinful pleasures in this world, remember that God gives you heaven through Jesus. He will strengthen you and help you as you seek to follow him. And then one day, he will bring you into heaven.

PRAYER:

Dear Jesus, thank you for dying to give me eternal salvation. Whenever I am tempted to covet what non-believers have, remind me that you died and rose again to give me heaven. Amen.