

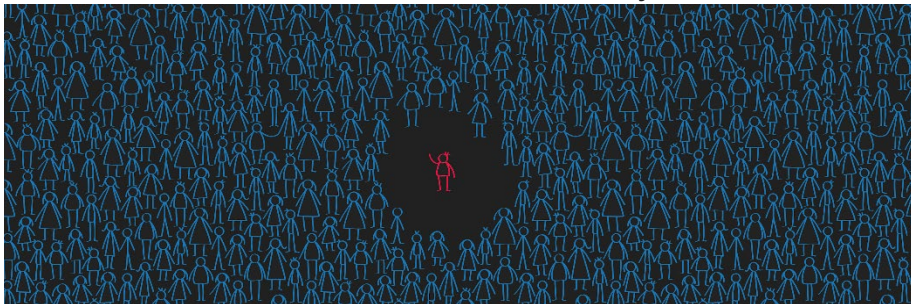
Surrounded by Wickedness

Psalm 37

We are not given an easy life, this side of Heaven. Take a look at Psalm 37, which is filled with courage-building truths that help us survive in a world where the righteous are often surrounded and outnumbered by the wicked.

- What We Know About the Wicked:
 - *They plot against the Righteous*
 - *They trust in their wealth*
 - *They take advantage of the helpless*
- The Future of the Wicked:
 - *They will soon be gone*
 - *Judgment (by God) is coming*
- Righteous - Don't Respond Like This:
 - *Don't fret*
 - *Don't envy*
 - *Don't give in to anger*
- Instead - Take Courage by:
 - *Trusting in the Lord*
 - *Delighting in the Lord*
 - *Resting in the Lord*

**"It is a safe thing to trust Him to fulfill the desire that He creates."
- Amy Carmichael**



1. Read the entirety of Psalm 37 this week. Look for more encouragement when surrounded by wickedness. It's a long psalm, and we didn't get to all of it.
2. The wickedness facing you and your family may not seem just like the examples we read about or talked about today. As you read this scripture, ask the Holy Spirit to show you how these truths and commands are relevant, no matter the type or circumstance of wickedness. How does the admonition not to fret, envy, or give in to anger apply in your situation?
3. In particular, look for the promises of God to the righteous:
 - a. How can we take courage by seeing God's promise for an inheritance that lasts? Psalm 37:27-34
 - b. How can we take courage by seeing God's promise for an influence that lasts? Psalm 37:35-38
 - c. How can we take courage by seeing God's promise for an assurance from God? Psalm 37:39-40
4. Want to know more of the Amy Carmichael story? It is FAR more than we looked at this morning, and you can read about her life and ministry in Ireland, China, Japan, and India, with 50+ years spent rescuing others from the wicked of her time. One good book on her life is called "A Chance to Die" by Elizabeth Elliott.