

PSALM 37:1–9, 39–40 (NIV)

- ¹ Do not fret because of those who are evil
or be envious of those who do wrong;
- ² for like the grass they will soon wither,
like green plants they will soon die away.
- ³ Trust in the Lord and do good;
dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.
- ⁴ Take delight in the Lord,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in him and he will do this:
- ⁶ He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn,
your vindication like the noonday sun.
- ⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;
do not fret when people succeed in their ways
when they carry out their wicked schemes.
- ⁸ Refrain from anger and turn from wrath;
do not fret—it leads only to evil.
- ⁹ For those who are evil will be destroyed,
but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.
- ³⁹ The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord;
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- ⁴⁰ The Lord helps them and delivers them;
he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

1. Growing our confidence in God. (v. 1-2)

Do not fret because of those who are evil...

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. **Hebrews 11:1-3**

2. Increasing our trust in God. (v. 3-6)

Take delight in the Lord...

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. **Romans 12:17-19**

3. Surrendering ourselves to God. (vs 7-9; 39-40)

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him...

My child, if you accept my words and treasure up my commandments within you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; if you indeed cry out for insight, and raise your voice for understanding; if you seek it like silver, and search for it as for hidden treasures—then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. **Proverbs 2:1-5 (NRSV)**