

## Psalm 37

4. <sup>7</sup>Be still therefore and steadfastly  
on God see thou wait, then.  
Not shrinking for the prosperous state,  
or lewd and wicked men.  
<sup>8</sup>Shake off despite, <sup>8</sup>envy and hate:  
at least in any wise,  
Their wicked steps avoid and flee,  
and follow not their guise.
5. <sup>9</sup>For every wicked man will God,  
destroy both more and less:  
but such as trust in him, are sure  
the land for so to possess.  
<sup>10</sup>Watch but a while, and thou shalt see,  
no more the wicked's train:  
No, not so much as house or place,  
where once he did remain.
6. <sup>11</sup>But merciful and humble men,  
enjoy shall sea and land:  
In rest and peace they shall rejoice:  
for nought shall them withstand.  
<sup>12</sup>The lewd men and malicious,  
against the just conspire:  
They gnash their teeth at him as men  
which do his bane desire.
7. <sup>13</sup>But while that lewd men thus do think,  
the Lord laugheth them to scorn.  
For why? He seeth their term approach  
when they shall sigh and mourn.  
<sup>14</sup>The wicked have their sword out drawn,  
their bow eke have they bent,  
To overthrow and kill the poor,  
as they the right way went.
8. <sup>15</sup>but the same sword shall pierce their hearts  
which was to kill the just:  
Likewise the bow shall break to shivers<sup>9</sup>  
wherein they put their trust.  
<sup>16</sup>Doubtless the just man's poor estate,  
is better a great deal more,  
Than all these lewd and worldly men's,  
rich pomp and heaped store.
9. <sup>17</sup>For be their power never so strong,  
Go will it overthrow:  
Where contrary he doth preserve,  
the humble men and low.  
<sup>18</sup>He seeth by his great providence,  
the good men's trade and way,  
And will give them inheritance,  
which never shall decay.
10. <sup>19</sup>They shall not be discouraged,  
when some are hard bested:  
When other shall be hunger-bit,<sup>10</sup>  
they shall be clad and fed:  
<sup>20</sup>For whosoever wicked is,  
and enemy to the Lord,  
Shall quail,<sup>11</sup> yea, melt even as lamb's grease  
or smoke that flyeth abroad.
11. <sup>21</sup>Behold the wicked borroweth much,  
and never payeth again:  
Whereas the just by liberal gifts,  
maketh many glad and fain.<sup>12</sup>  
<sup>22</sup>For they whom God doth bless, shall have  
the land for heritage:  
And they whom he doth curse, likewise  
shall perish in his rage.
12. <sup>23</sup>The Lord the just man's ways doth guide  
and giveth him good success:  
To everything he taketh in hand,  
he sendeth good address.  
<sup>24</sup>Though that he fall, yet is he sure,  
not utterly to quail,  
Because the Lord stretcheth out his hand  
at need, and doth not fail:
13. <sup>25</sup>(I have been young and now am old,  
yet did I never see,  
The just man left, or else his seed  
to beg for misery)  
<sup>26</sup>But giveth always most liberally,  
and lendeth whereas is need:  
His children and posterity  
receive of God their mead.

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<sup>8</sup> Animosity, ill feeling, spite, hatred or strong dislike.

<sup>9</sup> A fragment; splinter.

<sup>10</sup> Famished, starved.

<sup>11</sup> To lose heart or courage in difficulty or danger; shrink with fear.

<sup>12</sup> Glad, pleased.

14. <sup>27</sup>Flee vice therefore and wickedness,  
and virtue do embrace:  
So God shall grant thee long to have,  
in earth a dwelling place.  
<sup>28</sup>For God so loveth equity,  
and showeth to his such grace,  
That he preserveth them alway,  
but 'stroyeth<sup>13</sup> the wicked race.
15. <sup>29</sup>Whereas the good and godly men,  
inherit shall the land,  
Having as Lords all things therein  
in their own power and hand.  
<sup>30</sup>The just man's mouth doth ever speak  
of matters wise and high:  
His tongue doth talk to edify  
with truth and equity.
16. <sup>31</sup>For in his heart the law of God,  
his Lord doth still abide:  
So that wherever he goeth or walketh,  
his foot can never slide.  
<sup>32</sup>The wicked like a ravening wolf  
the just man doth beset.  
By all means seeking him to kill,  
if he falls in his net.
17. <sup>33</sup>Though he should fall into his hands,  
yet God would succour send:  
Though men against him sentence give,  
God would him yet defend.  
<sup>34</sup>Wait thou on God and keep his way,  
he shall preserve thee then,  
The earth to rule: and thou shalt see  
destroyed these wicked men,
18. <sup>35</sup>The wicked have I seen most strong,  
and placed in high degree,  
Flourishing in all wealth and store,  
as doth the laurel tree.  
<sup>36</sup>But suddenly be passed away,  
and lo, he was quite gone:  
Then I him sought, but could scarce find  
the place where dwelt such one.
19. <sup>37</sup>Mark and behold the perfect man,  
how God doth him increase:  
For the just man shall have at length  
great joy with rest and peace.  
<sup>38</sup>As for transgressors, woe to them,  
destroyed they shall all be:  
God will cut off their budding race,  
and rich posterity.
20. <sup>39</sup>But the salvation of the just  
doth come from God above:  
Who in their trouble sendeth them aid,  
of his mere grace and love.  
<sup>40</sup>God doth them help, save and deliver,  
from lewd men and unjust,  
And still will save them while that they  
in him do put their trust.

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<sup>13</sup> Destroyeth.