

Old Testament Sermon Outline No: 4

Subject: Walking, Sitting and Standing

A personal walk with God

Textual context: Psalm 1

Introduction

This first introductory psalm is at once involved in a believer's attitude to his walk before the Lord. It is not what he says, or is taught but essentially how he behaves shows what he really believes.

1. Walking - ungodly

The writer of this Psalm says that the person who guards his life in the way described is 'blessed'. This means happy or happiness. So keeping oneself unspotted from the world produces happiness.

What he must not do is walk in the counsel of the ungodly. He will not attempt to seek advice from secular organisations rather than those who belong to the Church. Advice and direction from the Church should be based solidly on the Word of God. If it is not, it must be challenged. There will be times when specialist advice can only come from specially trained and qualified people. Try and seek our Christians but if not, match their advice always against the Word of God. Hence the Psalm says that his delight is in the law of the Lord.

2. Standing – Sinners

Not standing in the path of sinners is the warning. There is a suggestion that standing in the path means forming a close association with. The path leads somewhere and being on the same path can lead to destruction. Jesus suggests the gate to that path is narrow that leads to life eternal and few find it. (Mt 7:13). Sinners can deflect the will of God to a believer if on the same path.

3. Sitting – Scornful

Scornful means to mock and deride. Many are prepared to pour scorn on one's testimony or walk before God. Do not spend time with them. The attitude of sitting indicates a comfortable relationship with. Sitting indicates spending time relaxing with such people. Perhaps in the form hope of bring them to belief. The opposite is the likely outcome.

We only make an impression when we are living holy and separate lives before all people. As it has been said by many preachers, if we were accused of being a Christian, would the court gain enough information to obtain a conviction?

4. Protection from not walking, standing and sitting with sinners.

Verse 2 has the answer, 'But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.' This is really our major protection from a world that does not know God or wishes to do so.

5. The blessings of not walking, standing and sitting with sinners.

The reward equates to a tree planted by nourishing rivers of water because he shall bear fruit. He will not lose strength as his leaf will not wither. Even more the promise is that whatever he does will prosper.

Finally, He knows your way because you are righteous.