



### Why do the Wicked Prosper?

“For I was envious of the foolish, when I saw their prosperity of wicked. For there was no pangs in their death, but their strength is firm. They are not in trouble as other men...” Psalm 73:3-5

The prosperous wicked can evoke a certain envy in our hearts. Why is this? Could it be that secretly we desire to live as they live and to have what they have? Could it be that the facade they present to us appears strong and firm against the fears that plague us?

“Pride adorns them like a necklace; and violence clothes them like a garment. ...they have more than their hearts could wish. They set their mouths against Heaven... and they say, “Does God know?” ...behold these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.” (Psalm 73:6-12).

Pride, violence and waste follow in the trail of the prosperous wicked. For the believing Christian this should never be the case. Our lives should radiate the humility, compassion and blessing of the righteous. Mouths that spew unbelief and pride now touched by the grace and goodness of God begin to bring forth a different kind of fruit. Now His praise is followed by words of kindness and honour as the righteous are fully aware that their lives are in constant review and that they will give an account for the words spoken and the deeds done in this life.

Son, never envy the prosperous wicked. “Better is the poor that walks in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a *rich* fool.” (Proverbs 19:1)

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