Psalms

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Date: 19 March 1967

Preacher: Dawson, Herbert (1890-1969)

[0:00] Hymn number 1079 Tune Rose Hill 210 Eternal source of joy divine To thee my soul aspires O could I say the Lord is mine That all my soul desires 1079 Eternal source of joy divine To thee my soul aspires To thee my soul aspires

O could I say the Lord is mine In all my soul is mine ■ jag pressure

In all my soul and chapter And sa Agreed With the heart of the Lord And the sickest of man And the sickest of man Thy son can fill The shades of gold This storm is our most ye

This storm is our most ye Strength of the storm Of heaven with love And the sickest of man To see the earth How sweetest of man To see the earth How sweetest of man The day is to peace My hope my thoughts My life my own Assure me all my love, assure me all my love.

O sing the right cross, o holding heart, and did my fear tremble, and did my fear tremble, and did my fear tremble.

[5:02] Then shall I die for what rejoice, and triumph in my love, and triumph in my hope.

Till heavenly rapture, tune my voice, To spread thy praise, to spread thy praise of joy.

To spread thy praise of joy.

As the Lord shall be pleased to help me, I shall call your attention to a subject you will find in Psalm 1.

Verse 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season.

[6:55] His leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. Psalm 1 and the third verse.

All of you who have the mercy to be sinners born again, and many of you do know what that mercy is.

As you contemplate a subject like this, and it brings before us a picture of one who is godly.

He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season.

His leaf also shall not wither. As you contemplate a picture like that, you will have many searchings of heart. Many of us, alas, are painfully aware, that we do not often, according to our feelings, resemble such a picture, as the Spirit of God has inspired the Psalmist, to portray in this word before us.

[8:41] A tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season. If you are a sinner born again, the matter of fruit bearing will sometimes be very solemn to contemplate, especially if you are helped to look back over the way that you have come along and see how often you have heard and strayed like a lost sheep, and your conscience witnesses that sins in thought, word and deed, sins of omission, sins of commission, witness against you and ask for bringing forth fruit to the honour of God whose name you profess.

Oh, you can only put your mouth in the dust of self-abasement if so be there may be hope, and confess that no sinner needed mercy more that ever sought thy face.

And yet, dear friends, there may be in this word something to be searched out as grace is given that shall help you yet, however unlike the character in the text you seem to be, yet to take courage and hope in God.

I would look at it as grace is given from two or three viewpoints. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season.

His leaf also shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. And now in looking at the setting of the subject, you find the psalmist is referring in the little psalm to two characters.

[11:03] one is godly. One is going to heaven. The other is declared to be ungodly.

And if he shall go on living ungodly and ungodly die, then he will go down into eternal misery. The line of demarcation is drawn.

And it might be well to weigh matters up before God. How stands the case, my soul, with thee? For heaven are thy credentials clear.

And now the opening word deals with that wherein the godly can take courage from what is negative in the consideration of it.

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly. Nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

[12:26] And now you need grace to contemplate what is declared in that scripture.

The man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly. As I was thinking on this subject, I thought the counsel of the ungodly it simply floods the world nowadays on the radio and on television and in the daily papers and in the things that are published literature that when you look into it as to what its nature is it is just dope.

It emanates from hell itself and it is the counsel of the ungodly. And the mercy is to find in your heart a concern that you shall not walk in accordance with it.

Oh you dear young people as grace is given on that you might be the man the woman the youth the maid that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly.

if sinners entice thee consent thou not. And it speaks to not only of walking but standing in the way of sinners.

[14:17] There is a graduation blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly nor standeth in the way of sinners.

But if he should walk at first in the counsel of the ungodly then he begins to settle down. He stands in the way of sinners where they are.

And they are the company that he keeps until at length he goes from bad to worse and is found sitting in the seat of the scornful.

Which means that he is just after the flesh the things of the flesh and he wants nothing whatever to do with the things of the spirit and he scoffs at religion that would do to live by and die by and he manifests what he is by nature with living his life in the light of that declaration we will not have this man to reign over us.

And now how many among us this Sabbath morn under Union Chapel Rue desire that man to reign over us. let your conscience tell you how many of you have a feeling like one in writer when he says enter my heart redeemer blessed enter thou ever honored guest not for a transient hour alone O come and fix thy lasting throne there are many of us I trust who do desire this man to reign in our lives and in our lips and that we might as long as we live live to his honor his glory and in the light of that beautiful petition let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight

O Lord my strength and my redeemer says godly David blessed it really means in the original O the heaped up happiness of the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly nor standeth in the way of sinners nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful but if you should be that man who does walk in the counsel of the ungodly who does stand in the way of sinners and who at length sits in the seat of the scornful and scoffs at things divine and you have no concern whatever to know the blessedness of what they are when known and felt in their wondrous reality you can reverse that blessed it will be then cursed and it will be not the heaped up happiness all the heaped up misery of the man that walk it not in the counsel of the ungodly the man that walk in the counsel stand in the way of sinners sitteth in the seat of the scornful it will be heaped up misery as long as

God should God remain so long shall last hell's lingering pain so long the joys of heaven shall be oh long delights long misery and now I want to look at it from another viewpoint because the psalmist looks at the negative side of it blessed is the man that walk it not in the counsel of the ungodly nor standeth in the way of sinners nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful but here we come to something very important something I hope God will grant us grace to ponder in our hearts but his delight is in the law of the Lord and in his law doth he meditate day and night and now the wording of that might cause some of you to have searchings of heart you may begin to think your own thoughts and wonder what you may know of such an experience as to meditate in day and night in the law of the

Lord but this is the thing to consider first of all his delight and now what do you really delight in what brought you along to be found in the attitude of worship this sabbath morn was it because you had a concern to get in touch with God we would see Jesus was it that you had a hope deep down in your heart that you might enter into another word delight delight thyself also in the Lord and they should give thee the desires of thine heart did you come with a feeling like this oh Lord I would delight in thee and on thy care depend to thee in every trouble flee my best my only friend let your consciences tell you what is the element in which you desire to live and move it is if you are a sinner born again that you might live inside the covers of the word of

God that is what is to be understood by the law of the Lord not just the law that was given from Sinai's Mount and the moral law you being a sinner born again will delight in seeking to live in accordance with what the moral law enjoins upon you but you will need divine aid to do it you will not be able to do it in your own strength and on your own initiative the thing is impossible and in seeking to do it from that viewpoint you would never know the heaped up happiness of the man who does it according to how it is to be done under the gospel remember the law as it was given on

Sinai's Mount is declared to be a fiery law that means that righteousness to full perfection must be brought lacking no fearless of rejection and he that shall offend in one point is guilty of all and now you cannot delight in the law like that no it means the sinner born again is brought from being under the law as revealed at Sinai's Mount to be where the law was fulfilled in every jot and tittle on behalf of poor sinners who are solemnly aware they have no righteousness wherein to appear before God and there they are found at Calvary's Cross and there they learn what gives them the first taste shall

I say of what this delight is in the law of the Lord Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone which believeth and thus the sinner begins to delight in the law of the Lord that it is fulfilled on his behalf in every jot and tittle and he desires to know the righteousness which is of God by faith in Jesus Christ his delight is in the law of the Lord and I might mention that this word law really means doctrine the whole word of God as it sets forth doctrine and remember Jesus said my doctrine is not mine but his that sent me and that is what you will delight in in other words you will delight to realize by grace are you saved through faith that not of yourselves it is the gift of

God not of works lest any man should boast yeah you will delight in that great truth salvation is of the Lord but his delight is in the law of the Lord and now dear friends to get right down to bed rock you know in your heart your conscience how you feel regarding the law of the Lord take it for what it is for us living as we do under the gospel the holy bible book divine and in all what says the scriptures if you discern something wherein the scriptures are upheld and vindicated and where there are those who speak on their behalf it gives you a solemn pleasure oh but if you should find it to be otherwise and there you find ungodly men so called preachers undermining the word of

God as to it being the word of God leveling it down to the books of men then instead of being delighted you feel saddened and grieved in your spirit but it is the same principle that causes you to be saddened and grieved that enables you to delight in the law of the Lord when you hear it set forth and spoken well of do remember that the dead know not anything about it and if you were not a sinner born again you would not feel that sadness and grief when the word of God is trodden underfoot as to its divine original oh how needful it is ever to remember

God spake all these words and whatever men may say in the ultimate issue the word of God will be fulfilled especially one scripture therein he that rejecteth me and my words the word that I have spoken it should judge him at the last day yes it will not only be as it were before the judgment seat of Christ I say that with great reverence think of what it will be to be there you will be there and so shall I it will not only be for you to answer this question what think ye of but it will be this how did you live your life in regard to what set the scriptures did you search the word of God to find the good and right way wherein to walk did you delight therein as you search the sacred pages did you feel oh how

I love thy law it is more unto me than thousands of gold and silver and like the psalmist when he said I rejoice in thy word as one that find that great spoil but his delight is in the law of the Lord it may be dear friends and I expect preacher and people alike will all plead guilty here all who are taught of God will I am sure when you weigh matters up as to your attitude to the word of God it may be you have to feel guilty before God because of how little time you seem to be able to give to delight in it as the law of the Lord your lives are full of duties and difficulties life's responsibilities are very heavy upon you and take up much of your time but then it not only means to be having the word of

God in your hands and reading the sacred pages it tells us in this word but his delight is in the law of the Lord and in his law doth he meditate day and night meditate is not reading sometimes people in reading the word of God read too much and read too fast and read too cursorily I I will explain that because it may sound strange to you from the pulpit what I mean is this if you are helped in reading the word of God to enter into this experience to delight in what you read you will find that you will have to pause and ponder in your heart what you read and that will take up your time it will not be how much you read it is that which you read mark learn and inwardly digest then afterwards out of the abundance of the heart the mouth can speak that is what this delight really is his delight is in the law of the

Lord and in his law doth he meditate meditation does not seem to be known so much about nowadays among people taught of God as it ought to be and don't balk at that word ought I like that word and Mary pondered all these things in her heart and you need not have the word of God in your hands but you may be about your everyday duties and you may have this spirit of meditation afforded you so that even while you work you can ponder in your heart something in the word of God that is made helpful to you and profitable in your soul's experience and how glad you are when you get such meditation afforded you too often our minds are choked with the things of everyday life and you have to lament

I would do good but evil is present with me but his delight is in the law of the Lord and now I will tell you very briefly some things in which this blessed man does delight in the law of the Lord he delights in this fact that there is no other book on the earth like it and therefore he delights in its authority he believes deep down all scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable and he accepts it for what it is the word of God and he delights in its authority so that if there should be a word lodged in his breast relating to whatever his case or circumstances may be he believes it and he receives it and he can declare remember the word unto thy servant upon which thou hast caused me to hope and if that word given should be a word of counsel he delights to heed it and he seeks to fulfill whatever the word counseled him to do regarding his circumstances not only so you delight in the comfort of it oh sometimes a word is given and it is like oil on the troubled waters and it allays your fears quiets all the ifs and buts and hows which have been welling up in your troubled breast and you can be still and wait and watch the hand of

God to do for you what the word of God has declared not only so how you will delight in the law of the Lord regarding its exceeding great and precious promises oh if you should get a promise how you will delight in it you may be tempted about it the devil may suggest how do you know it came from God and he may call it into question but that should really help you to more delight in the promise whatever it may be that God has given you because if it had not come from God to comfort you and strengthen you and help your feeble faith the devil would not be opposing you regarding the possession of it do remember that he worries whom he can't devour with a malicious joy then there is this viewpoint and here you can test your religion his delight is in the law of the

Lord and now you will not only delight in the exceeding great and precious promises but you will delight in the precepts you see a promise you all like to hear about the promises because that is something which the great promiser bestows upon you something that you receive but when it comes to the precepts that is something which God expects you to be doing not to be hearers of the word only but doers also and so you will find this is a great test can you delight in what the word of God sets forth as to what your life should be in living the life of the righteous have you ever lighted on this word and delighted in it some of you might think about this make me to go in the way of thy commandments for therein

I delight make me to walk in thy commands tis a delightful road now let my head or heart or hands offend against my God when I was a little lad at school we used to often sing that in morning school and I still like to sing it and I sing it with a different viewpoint of what it means to what I did when I was a little lad at school sixty odd years ago but his delight is in the law of the Lord much might be said from that viewpoint and now if you have known what it is to delight in the law of the Lord whatever is to do with God coming into your life and if sometimes you are helped to meditate upon the things of

God this will help you to come to a conclusion as to whether you were born again or no in meditating on the things of God if you meditate a right you will always meditate concerning your own interest therein remember that you will have that feeling remember me oh Lord with the favor that thou bearest unto thy people oh visit me with thy salvation but his delight is in the law of the Lord and in his law doth he meditate day and night and now we come right down to bedrock and he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water and now the first thing to think about there is the word planted it is not just a tree that has grown casually some bird flying over has dropped the seed and the tree has sprung from it like the acorn produces the oak no this word planted sets forth divine sovereignty and you might well consider and it will help you before

God to do it and it may much encourage you if you search out how you have come to be where you are in the attitude of worship by the rivers of water which is to say the means of grace and you were planted there you were made a fixture and that is when you are in the attitude of worship in the house of prayer where you belong you feel atone there your roots are there that is the meaning a tree planted you can say sometimes with Job in the attitude of worship the root of the matter is found in me oh it is good to look back over the way God has led you and see how he has ordered all your goings that you should be found where you are as a true worshipper by the rivers of water it should be like a tree planted and there is that word the savior said every plant which my heavenly father hath not planted should be rooted up oh do get some sure work that you are planted by the rivers of water that when you are found in the means of grace you have got a concern an exercise unto godliness

I seek and hope to find a portion for my soul and it is very striking as you look through the word of God in the illustrations which the Holy Spirit has used and he never likens the godly to any tree but what that tree is dependent on water for its life and for it to bring forth fruit and to have a leaf which shall not wither so that you find it the trees the Holy Spirit uses to illustrate the godly there is the willow as willows by the water courses there is the palm tree and the cedar there were the lion aloes and there are the olive trees and all dependent on water to thrive and you as you came along did you feel my soul thirsteth for

God for the living God when shall I come and appear before God as the heart panteth after the water brooks so panteth my soul after thee O God he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season remember that these rivers of water are the means of grace and they are not only public means private means too when you are atone you have still got God to go to still the throne of grace is open still there is the word of God for you to see what saith the scriptures concerning you your case your circumstances and there is still meditation wherein you can ponder in your heart the dealings of

God with you seeking to get profit for your soul the psalmist said my meditation of him shall be sweet I will be glad in the Lord oh it is good to be found by the rivers of water and it means that you send out your roots that is to say your soul's desires those feeble desires and wishes so weak as Jesus inspires and bids you still see but there is one viewpoint of this which to my mind needs to be weighed up well and they shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season and now there is a season to bring forth fruit no fruit trees bear fruit all the year round not ripe fruit there is a season and when

God sends you something into your life you being a sinner born again I mean when he sends adverse circumstances you need to weigh that up as being a season wherein if grace is given and you find the dealings of God with you sanctified in your soul's experience you will bring forth fruit in that season and so if God sends affliction into your life that is a season when God designs you shall bring forth fruit in being submissive to his will and acknowledging his divine sovereignty in how he is ordering your life and believing that he is too wise to err and too good to be unkind it might be bereavement comes and that is a season when you can bring forth fruit to

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God's honor and glory and find it may be when you have lost the nearest and dearest to you that the Lord more than makes it all up to you so that you find in him all your salvation and all your desire and in the history of the church of Christ what a wonderful season for bringing forth fruit it has been when the martyr fires were lighted when it was persecution raging persecution and poor sinners laid down their lives for Jesus sake as well as their own determined to ask for the old paths wherein is the good way and walk therein let their yea be yea and their nay be nay lest they should fall into condemnation there are many fruitful seasons that could be named but the great thing is to find in your heart a concern to bring forth fruit you may often lament you bring forth so little it might be well to remember you are not the judge of what fruit you really do bring forth there may be more fruit brought forth in your life as

God views it in your lips your life than you are aware of you are not the judge of what it is to bring forth fruit the Lord is the judge but the great thing is to be concerned to bring it forth quicken by thee and kept alive I flourish and bear fruit my life I from thy sack derive my vigor from thy root and it goes on here is leaf also shall not wither and now the leaf is to do with our profession it means that you still follow on to know the Lord whatever your feelings may be in your soul's experience you do not give up you dare not contemplate going back from whence you hope

God has brought you out the thing is impossible and you want it to be unthinkable you think of those who did do that like Judas Iscariot and like Demas who the apostle said Demas hath forsaken me for this present evil world and yet in one or two epistles before he had spoken well of him but he had to reverse what his judgment was for Demas made it manifest he was one who did wither and so you can read two of Diotrephes who loveth to have the preeminence among us and receiveth us not in Alexander the coppersmith and like characters they had a leaf of profession but it withered it lost its greenness and now that is what you and

I must be concerned about his leaf also shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper and that means this as I must come to the amen it means that you were shut up inside that off quoted scripture we know that all things work together for good to them that love God to them who are the called according to his purpose and the prosperity referred to you will understand it right if you think of Hezekiah when he said and mind you he had passed through some seasons of affliction and sickness oh Lord by these things men live and in all these things is the life of my spirit that is the prosperity it is not to do with the things of everyday life no it is to do with your soul your soul's eternal welfare and they shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season his leaf also shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper and it says the ungodly are not so they are not likened to trees but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away and you will see what the fruit is if you look in the

Galatians epistle the fruit of the spirit is love joy peace long suffering gentleness goodness faith meekness temperance against such there is no law oh that you and I may be concerned to know more of what this delight is and if God should grant us that mercy then we should look more like what we ought to be as a tree planted by the rivers of water bringing forth fruit in its season Amen God willing the pastor will preach on good Friday morning service at 1030 hymn number 1044 tune fruit 521 water from salvation dwell thirsty sinner come and roll

Christ in Jesus fullness dwell more than men or angels know 1044 forth dry Sick season sorry siren JK for Catholics in ■■■ satu of as flu hg doses■ Egypt who Sinn hun hg ceux didnuters m■n Vamp voyez Main

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O ye glory of Him, sing Thou, O ye glory of Him, CHOIR SINGS

[56:23] CHOIR SINGS and all may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father the communion of the Holy Spirit be upon us and all who love the truth everywhere

Amen and Amen