

The Apple of God's Eye



Psalm 17

**What does a life that pleases God look like?
Should we desire to be the apple of his eye?
Yes!**



Psalm 17 is full of little treasures and familiar phrases. But at its core it is a song of contrast... the righteous path of eternal life vs. the destructive path of a wasted life. David's little song is a prayer for help to stay on the righteous path and resist the distraction of temporary pursuits.

¹Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry!

**Give ear to my prayer
from lips free of deceit!**

**² From your presence let my vindication
come! Let your eyes behold the right!**

**³ You have tried my heart, you have visited
me by night, you have tested me, and you
will find nothing; I have purposed that my
mouth will not transgress.**

**⁴ With regard to the works of man, by the
word of your lips I have
avoided the ways of the violent.**

**⁵ My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.**

**⁶ I call upon you, for you will answer me, O
God; incline your ear to me; hear my words.**

**⁷ Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O Savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries
at your right hand.**

⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye;

1. David declares his intention to live a life that invites God's blessings...

**(to live in such a way where blessings will
naturally flow into David's life) vv. 1-8a**

A life that invites God's blessing:

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

(Mathew 5:5-9, ESV)

**A. God will thoroughly
test the underpinnings of
your life... why?
He loves you!**

B. God loves us enough to give us what we need, not everything we want, so that he can turn our affections to Him and away from temporary things.

**...hide me in the shadow of your wings,
9 from the wicked who do me violence, my
deadly enemies who surround me.**

**10 They close their hearts to pity;
with their mouths they speak arrogantly.**

**11 They have now surrounded our steps;
they set their eyes to cast us to the
ground.**

12 He is like a lion eager to tear, as a young lion lurking in ambush.

13 Arise, O Lord! Confront him, subdue him! Deliver my soul from the wicked by your sword,

14 from men by your hand, O Lord, from men of the world whose portion is in this life. You fill their womb with treasure; they are satisfied with children, and they leave their abundance to their infants.

**2. To live a life that
invites God's blessing I
will have to fight
everyday to resist a life
that invites God's
opposition. vv. 9-14**



**God opposes a
proud life**



**God opposes a
selfish life**



**God opposes a
wasted life**

**15 As for me, I shall behold
your face in righteousness;
when I awake, I shall
be satisfied with your
likeness.**

**3. I will ultimately
live for what I love
most... so I must
make certain that
will be God! v. 15**

Conclusions:

- I can live my life in such a way that invites God's blessings
- That type of life will be "unnatural" and a hard swim upstream
- My desire draws my heart, and I choose to desire God!