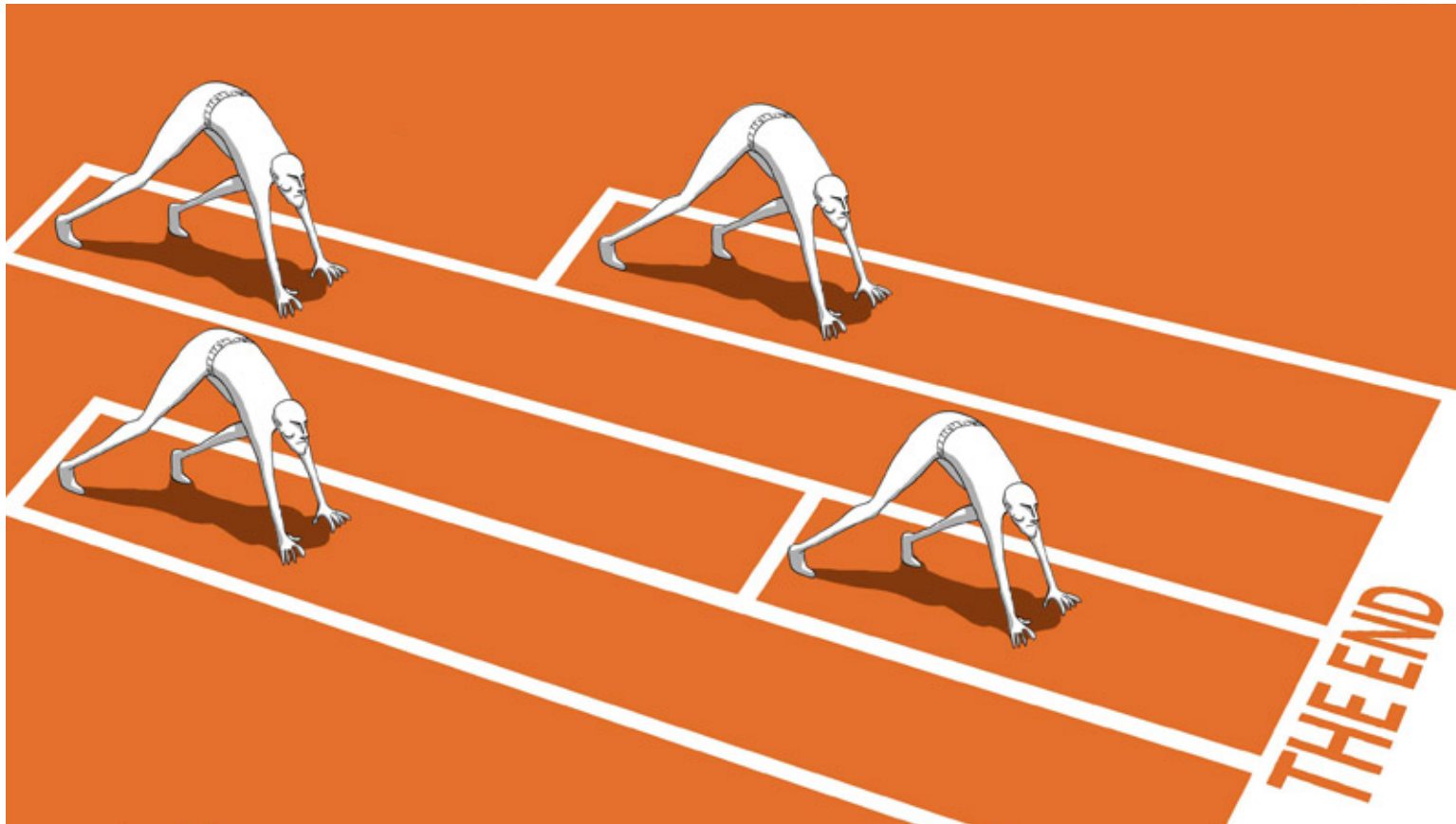


A Song for When Life Seems Unfair



Psalm 37

Does your life feel completely unfair?



**“TALENT IS GOD GIVEN.
BE HUMBLE.
FAME IS MAN GIVEN.
BE GRATEFUL.
CONCEIT IS SELF GIVEN.
BE CAREFUL.”**

JOHN WOODEN

Psalm 37 is our longest psalm to study to date. This ancient song of David is a wisdom psalm focused on maintaining a strong, persevering faith in God even when your life feels incredibly unfair. David had a theory... He believed that if he delighted in God and trusted in His plan and pursued His goodness no matter what, He would always come out ahead in the long run!

**¹ Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
be not envious of wrongdoers!**

**² For they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb.**

**³ Trust in the Lord, and do good;
dwell in the land and befriend
faithfulness.**

**⁴ Delight yourself in the Lord,
and he will give you the desires of
your heart.**

**1. Don't fret over life's
inequities... trust God,
and you won't fade,
you'll flourish!**

**A. We fret that others
have more stuff or have
life easier.**

**The root of this is not “others...” it is
us, and a spirit of discontent that
flows from under-developed faith.**

**"Content makes poor
men rich; discontent
makes rich men
poor."**

Benjamin Franklin

**6 Now there is great gain in
godliness with contentment,
7 for we brought nothing into
the world, and we cannot
take anything out of the
world.**

(1 Timothy 6:6-7)

**⁵ Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in him, and he will act.**

**⁶ He will bring forth your righteousness
as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.**

**⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait
patiently for him;
fret not yourself over the one
who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil
devices!**

- 8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!
Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.**
- 9 For the evildoers shall be cut off, but
those who wait for the Lord shall inherit
the land.**
- 10 In just a little while, the wicked will be
no more; though you look carefully
at his place, he will not be there.**
- 11 But the meek shall inherit the land
and delight themselves in abundant
peace.**



**2. Release anger and
live YOUR life
humbly!**

**God has set a course
for your life, don't
miss out on it by
becoming distracted
by others' success or
others' bad behavior.**

**Do not swerve to the
right or to the left;
turn your foot away
from evil.**

(Proverbs 4:27, ESV)

Ways even believers may miss out on the life God has for them...

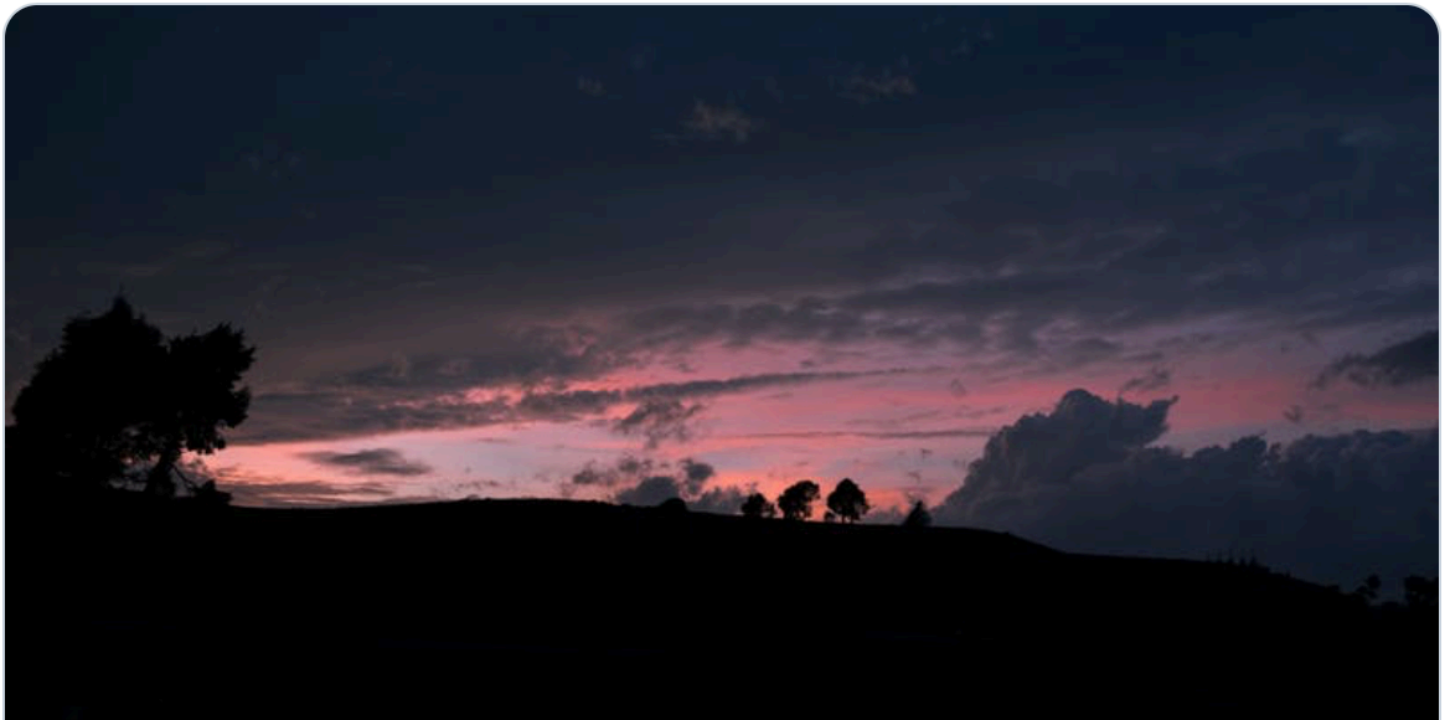
- 1. We never really commit to His way v.5**
- 2. We refuse to wait v.7**
- 3. We get too embittered to move forward v.8**



Desiring God ✓
@desiringGod



Joni Eareckson Tada: "My quadriplegia constantly clamors for my undivided attention. It's my world. Then again, it is definitively not."



My Suffering Has Not Defined Me

16 Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked.

17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the Lord upholds the righteous.

18 The Lord knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will remain forever;

19 they are not put to shame in evil times in the days of famine they have abundance.

**20 But the wicked will perish;
the enemies of the Lord are
like the glory of the pastures;
they vanish—like smoke they
vanish away.**

**21 The wicked borrows but does not
pay back,
but the righteous is generous and
gives;**

**3. Quit envying
and find
contentment in
generosity!**

One of the most certain signs of contentment is a generous life

- 1. Unlike the fruit of a wicked life which quickly fades, the contented person builds a “forever heritage.” v 18**
- 2. Generosity flows because we have learned life is not an accumulation contest, but instead a journey of faith.**

**Whoever brings blessing
will be enriched, and one
who waters will himself
be watered.**

Proverbs 11:25

**22 for those blessed by
the Lord shall inherit the land,
but those cursed by him shall be cut off.**

**23 The steps of a man are established by
the Lord, when he delights in his way;
24 though he fall, he shall not be cast
headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.**

**25 I have been young, and now am old,
yet I have not seen the righteous
forsaken or his children begging for
bread.**

**4. Finally, a huge
promise of blessing
awaits the person
who pursues a life of
faith.**

Best Inheritance ever?



No... it's actually you

**David reflects on his own life
of faith... it was hard and
terrifying at times, but....**

-blessed by God... not cursed 22

-established by God 23

-held by God 24

-helped by God 25