

*“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.*

Matthew 5:3-5

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 37

- 1 Do not fret because of evil men
or be envious of those who do
wrong;*
- 2 for like the grass they will soon
wither,
like green plants they will soon die
away.*

*3 Trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and enjoy safe
pasture.*

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

*5 Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him and he will do this:*

*6 He will make your
righteousness shine like the dawn,
the justice of your cause like the
noonday sun.*

*7 Be still before the LORD and
wait patiently for him;
do not fret when men succeed in
their ways,
when they carry out their wicked
schemes.*

*8 Refrain from anger and turn from
wrath;*

do not fret—it leads only to evil.

*9 For evil men will be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD will
inherit the land.*

*10 A little while, and the wicked will be
no more;*

*though you look for them, they will not
be found.*

*11 But the meek will inherit the
land*

and enjoy great peace.

*12 The wicked plot against the
righteous*

and gnash their teeth at them;

*13 but the Lord laughs at the
wicked,*

for he knows their day is coming.

*14 The wicked draw the sword
and bend the bow
to bring down the poor and needy,
to slay those whose ways are
upright.*

*15 But their swords will pierce their
own hearts,
and their bows will be broken.*

*16 Better the little that the righteous
have
than the wealth of many wicked;
17 for the power of the wicked will be
broken,
but the LORD upholds the righteous.
18 The days of the blameless are
known to the LORD,
and their inheritance will endure
forever.*

*19 In times of disaster they will not
wither;
in days of famine they will enjoy
plenty.*

*20 But the wicked will perish:
The LORD'S enemies will be like
the beauty of the fields,
they will vanish—vanish like smoke.*

*21 The wicked borrow and do not
repay,*

but the righteous give generously;

*22 those the LORD blesses will inherit
the land,*

but those he curses will be cut off.

*23 If the LORD delights in a man's
way,*

he makes his steps firm;

*24 though he stumble, he will not fall,
for the LORD upholds him with his
hand.*

*25 I was young and now I am old,
yet I have never seen the righteous
forsaken
or their children begging bread.*

*26 They are always generous and
lend freely;
their children will be blessed.*

*27 Turn from evil and do good;
then you will dwell in the land
forever.*

*28 For the LORD loves the just
and will not forsake his faithful
ones.*

*They will be protected forever,
but the offspring of the wicked will
be cut off;*

*29 the righteous will inherit the land
and dwell in it forever.*

*30 The mouth of the righteous man
utters wisdom,
and his tongue speaks what is just.*

*31 The law of his God is in his
heart;
his feet do not slip.*

*32 The wicked lie in wait for the
righteous,
seeking their very lives;
33 but the LORD will not leave
them in their power
or let them be condemned when
brought to trial.*

*34 Wait for the LORD
and keep his way.*

*He will exalt you to inherit the land;
when the wicked are cut off, you will
see it.*

*35 I have seen a wicked and
ruthless man
flourishing like a green tree in its
native soil,*

*36 but he soon passed away and
was no more;
though I looked for him, he could
not be found.*

*37 Consider the blameless,
observe the upright;
there is a future for the man of
peace.*

*38 But all sinners will be destroyed;
the future of the wicked will be cut
off.*

*39 The salvation of the righteous
comes from the LORD;
he is their stronghold in time of
trouble.*

*40 The LORD helps them and
delivers them;
he delivers them from the wicked
and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.*

God's Promise: not by law, but by faith

Romans 4:13-17

Introduction: vs 13

The Promise:

...was about a land!

...was about a people!

...was about a blessing!

...was about a Redeemer!

**God's Promise:
not by law, but by faith**

Romans 4:13-17

Seeking the promise by law: vs 14-15

...faith has no value!

...the promise is worthless!

...law brings wrath!

**God's Promise:
not by law, but by faith**

Romans 4:13-17

Seeking the promise by faith: vs 16-17

...it may be by grace!

...it may be guaranteed!

...to all of Abraham's offspring!