

The Biblical Description of the Wicked

Introduction

- A. The realism of the Bible is often a shock to many people. Its frank account of life and piercing evaluations reveal its inspiration.
- B. One need not live long to come to the painful realization that a few people must be classified under the title "wicked."
- C. Since we are all sinful (Rom. 3:23), a correct explanation of what it means to be wicked – may prove helpful.

I. The Wicked Does Not Have God in His Thinking, Psalm 10:4.

The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God, God is not in all his thoughts.

Comment: This facet of the total picture of the wicked pierces to the very heart of the matter. Such a person does not acknowledge the existence or authority of the LORD God. This is worse than hating God.

II. The Wicked Does Not Believe He Nor His Works Will be Judged, Psalm 10:13.

Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? He hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it.

Comment: This verse reminds us that the person described as wicked is spiritually irresponsible. He believes he can live as he desires and it will not make any difference in the future. This is essentially a denial of any lasting right and wrong.

III. The Wicked Will Not Accept Biblical Instruction, Psalm 50:16,17.

But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth? Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee.

Comment: It is hard for each of us to be told we are wrong. The believer is one who has accepted the truth that he is a sinner and has turned to Jesus Christ in repentance and faith. The wicked has the opposite characteristic – he will not even believe God!

IV. The Wicked Misunderstands the Person of God, Psalm 50:21.

These things hast thou done, and I kept silence, thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself, but I will reprove thee . . .

Comment There is no greater error than this. To misunderstand the person and character of God will cause an introduction of error into all the other areas of life. This is like saying there is no final authority.

V. The Wicked Determine Their Own Failure, Psalm 9:16.

The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth, the wicked is snared in the works of his own hands.

Comment: There is an inexorable principle in the Bible which teaches that sin will mark one with its character. The Apostle Paul referred to this when he said "What a person plants he will reap." (Gal. 6:7,8) We cannot escape becoming like our sin and finally becoming involved in its judgment,

VI. The Wicked Are Characterized by Falsehood, Psalm 58:3.

The wicked are estranged from the womb, they go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.

Comment: Truth and error are a part of the very foundation of life. Meaningful communication would be impossible if truth were not held in honor. If everyone would lie at all times, there could be no society as we know it. Do you want your family and friends to be liars?

VII. The Wicked Do Not Seek the Word of God, Psalm 119:155.

Salvation is far from the wicked, for they seek not thy statutes.

Comment: The reason wicked people do not recognize the Holy Scripture as important is because of the completeness of their own wisdom. They do not need the Bible! While they may accept the opinion of a physician or lawyer – when it comes to religion – they are the experts.

VIII. The Wicked are Warned by God.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him
Isaiah 55:7

The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.
Psalm 9:17. (See also Matt. 13:49)

Comment: These verses remind us that a day of judgment is in the future of every person. No one can escape. The person who has spurned the provision of salvation in Jesus Christ will not enter Heaven. His eternal state will be Hell.

Conclusion: David prayed, "See if there be any ^wicked way in me." Psalm 139:24

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