

Psalm 125 "The Fruit and Posture of Trust"

Read Psalm 125

1. (vs. 1-2) (vs. 1-2) What is the fruit of trust? How do these images borrowed from the topographical features of the pilgrim way help us understand how trust in the Lord impacts us? Do you see this borne out in the life of faith?

This Psalm is spoken into a specific situation. The scepter or rule of wickedness appears to be resting upon the land.

2. What "wickedness" are we facing in our world today?
3. (vs. 3) This verse is the promise that God will bring wickedness to it's end. Why does the psalmist want the listener to hold onto this promise?

(vs. 4-5) These verses are written in the form of wisdom literature. Wisdom literature arises out of the conviction that just as God has knit a pattern, a fabric into physical reality, God has knit a pattern into every aspect of life. There is a pattern then to living into the trust that God will make a final end of wickedness. In the sermon a portion of the sermon on the mount was referenced that expresses what that pattern looks like in response to those who have wronged us.

Read Matthew 5:38-48

4. What is the pattern that Jesus fosters in response to wickedness? What impact do you think this would have on that wickedness?
5. (vs. 5) What is the pattern if you respond to wickedness with the weapons of wickedness?
6. Eugenie Peterson says that a colloquial yet accurate translation of the blessing that closes the Psalm (Peace be upon Israel), would be Relax. How can we rest in the security that in Jesus God is going to make a final end of wickedness?