

THAT'S A REALLY GOOD QUESTION...

Psalm 49

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INTRODUCTION: THE QUESTION

How we read something affects how we interpret the meaning of the words.

The psalmist shows the stupidity of being afraid of these sinful people in 3 points.

I. MONEY CAN'T BUY REDEMPTION VV. 6-9

? Why be afraid?

Money can't save the wicked.

Job 31:24, 28

If I have put my confidence in gold, And called fine gold my trust...That too would have been a guilty deed calling for judgment, For I would have denied God above.

The word for save in psalm 49 is "redeem" and "ransom."

Redeem

To offer something in exchange for something else.

Ransom

Something offered to redeem someone or something.

Leviticus 27:28, 29

Nevertheless, anything which someone sets apart to the Lord for destruction out of all that he has, of man or animal or of the field of his own property, shall not be sold nor redeemed. Anything set apart for destruction is most holy to the Lord. No one who may have been set apart among mankind shall be ransomed; he must be put to death.

In the psalms, redemption is synonymous with eternal salvation.

Psalm 34:22

The Lord redeems the souls of His servants,
And none of those who take refuge in Him will suffer for their guilt.

A. GOD IS TOO HOLY

B. MAN'S SIN IS TOO GREAT

C. WEALTH CAN'T SAVE YOURSELF NOR OTHERS

Matthew 16:26

For what good will it do a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what will a person give in exchange for his soul?

Mark 10:23-27; Luke 12:13-21

Proverbs 11:28

One who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like the green leaf.

II. WISDOM CAN'T OUTWIT THE GRAVE, VV. 10-15

? Why be afraid?

Wise people have no better standing before God than foolish.

A. THE GREATEST DREAMS DIE WITH THE DREAMER

B. THE UPRIGHT WILL RULE OVER THEM

1 Corinthians 6:2

C. WISE FOOLS SAVE NEITHER THE WISE NOR THE THEIR STUDENTS

III. HUMAN PRAISE CAN'T GET YOU ETERNAL LIFE, VV.

16-20

? Why be afraid?

People's opinions about you don't matter to God.

A. A HIGH OPINION OF YOURSELF DOESN'T MATTER

Isaiah 2:11, 12

The proud look of humanity will be brought low, And the arrogance of people will be humbled; And the Lord alone will be exalted on that day. For the Lord of armies will have a day of reckoning Against everyone who is arrogant and haughty, And against everyone who is lifted up, That he may be brought low.

Isaiah 5:15

Luke 14:11

For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

1 Peter 5:6

B. ANOTHER'S GOOD OPINION OF YOU DOESN'T MATTER

Proverbs 27:2

Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips.

Proverbs 31:28a

Her children rise up and bless her;
Her husband also, and he praises her...

Acts 12:20-23

It isn't merely the self-exalting that die, but any who crave the
praise of others.

Psalms 115:1

Not to us, Lord, not to us,
But to Your name give glory,
Because of Your mercy, because of Your truth.

**C. THE BEST OF NATURAL MAN IS AS IGNORANT AS AN
ANIMAL**

John 1:4; Job 33:30

CONCLUSION: THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

Psalms 27:1

A Psalm of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The
LORD is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread?

Matthew 10:28

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him
who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Romans 8:28-39

Psalm 52

? Why should I fear in days of adversity?

The only reasonable response for the Christian is, "That is a really
good question."