**Jeremiah**

*We Need to Think Like God*

*Jeremiah 12*

Why do the wicked prosper? (v 1 - 4)

* 1 ¶ <<*A Psalm* of David.>> Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; *so* shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. 4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. 5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass. 6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday. (Psalms 37:1-6)
* 1 ¶ <<A Psalm of Asaph.>> Truly God *is* good to Israel, *even* to such as are of a clean heart. 2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. 3 For I was envious at the foolish, *when* I saw the prosperity of the wicked. 4 For *there are* no bands in their death: but their strength *is* firm. 5 They *are* not in trouble *as other* men; neither are they plagued like *other* men. 6 Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them *as* a garment. 7 Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish. 8 They are corrupt, and speak wickedly *concerning* oppression: they speak loftily. 9 They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth. 10 Therefore his people return hither: and waters of a full *cup* are wrung out to them. 11 And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High? 12 Behold, these *are* the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase *in* riches. 13 Verily I have cleansed my heart *in* vain, and washed my hands in innocency. 14 For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning. 15 ¶ If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend *against* the generation of thy children. 16 When I thought to know this, it *was* too painful for me; 17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; *then* understood I their end. 18 Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them down into destruction. 19 How are they *brought* into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors. 20 As a dream when *one* awaketh; *so*, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image. 21 ¶ Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins. 22 So foolish *was* I, and ignorant: I was *as* a beast before thee. 23 Nevertheless I *am* continually with thee: thou hast holden *me* by my right hand. 24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory. 25 Whom have I in heaven *but thee*? and *there is* none upon earth *that* I desire beside thee. 26 My flesh and my heart faileth: *but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever. 27 For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee. 28 But *it is* good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works. (Psalms 73:1-28)

It’s Going to Get Harder…..Toughen Up (v 5 – 6)

* ….It’s painful for God as well (v 7-9)
* Pastors/Shepherds (those leading the people) have destroyed God’s heritage (v 10-11)
  + v 11 – “no man layeth it to heart”

Destruction is Coming Unless…. (v 12-14)

We Pursue God, His Ways with Passion (v 15-17)