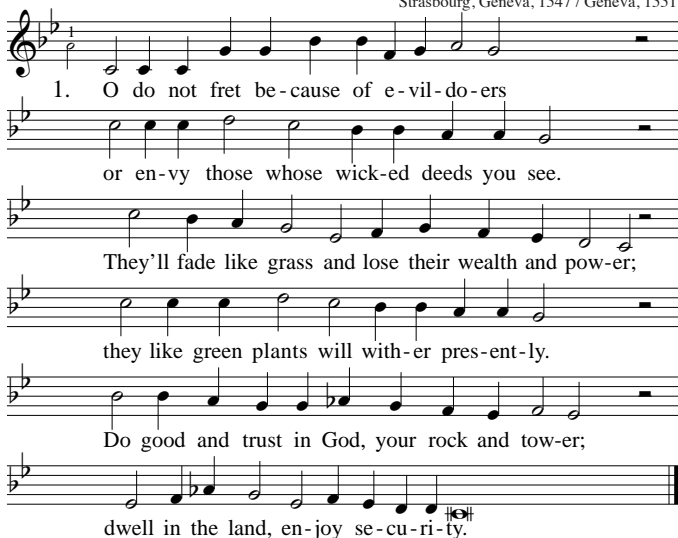


PSALM 37

Play the Melody 

Of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1547 / Geneva, 1551



1. O do not fret be-cause of e-vil-do-ers
or en-vy those whose wick-ed deeds you see.
They'll fade like grass and lose their wealth and pow-er;
they like green plants will with-er pres-ent-ly.
Do good and trust in God, your rock and tow-er;
dwell in the land, en-joy se-cu-ri-ty.

2. The *LORD* will grant your heart's desire as favour when you make Him your joy and your delight. Commit your way to Him. The *LORD* will ever let vindication dawn for the upright. He richly will reward your just endeavour; your cause will like the noonday sun shine bright.
3. Rest in the *LORD* with patient expectation, and when the wicked prosper in their way, do not be envious of their wealth and station. Let anger never in your heart hold sway and do not be embittered by vexation. It only leads to trouble and dismay.

4. Those *hoping in the LORD for vindication* will *as their heritage possess the land*.
But *evildoers, to their consternation,* will *be cut off by God's almighty hand*.
Soon you will see their former habitation laid waste, reduced to nothing in the end.
5. The *humble will possess the land forever* and *will enjoy great peace within their gates*.
The *wicked, ready with their bow and quiver,* may *gnash their teeth at them in angry hate,*
but *God looks down and laughs at their endeavour,* for *He has set the day of their defeat*.
6. The *wicked draw the broadsword of oppression* and *bend the bow to bring the needy down,*
to *slay the upright by their bold aggression*.
But *when the LORD comes, they'll be overthrown;*
He'll break their bows and drive them to perdition.
Their *swords will merely pierce themselves alone*.
7. Far *better are the just man's few possessions* than *all the wealth that evildoers hoard*.
Shattered will be the strong arm of oppression, but *all the just find refuge in the LORD*.
He knows their days, and them He in compassion will *with a lasting heritage reward*.
8. They *are not put to shame in days of trouble* and *will in famine have enough to eat*.
As for *God's foes, the glory of the rebel* will *fade like meadows in the summer's heat*
and, *vanishing like smoke of burning stubble,* they *all will perish, humbled in defeat*.

Psalm 37



9. The wick-ed bor-row, but with-out re-pay-ing;
as for the just, they give with o-pen hand.
Those whom God curs-es, He will be de-destroy-ing;
to those He bless-es He will give the land.
The LORD de-lights in those who with-out stray-ing
walk in His ways; on Him they can de-pend.

10. When *in their steps they falter and are shaken*,
the *LORD Himself will grasp them by the hand*.
Young *once, now old*, I've seen how God has taken
good care of those who *on His help depend*:
I've never known the just to be forsaken
or seen their children *begging in the land*.

11. They're *always freely giving, freely lending*;
blest are their children, *praised by everyone*.
Like them, do good, to those *in need attending*;
turn from all sin and paths of evil shun.
Then you will have as home through time unending
the pleasant land that God for you has won.

12. *The righteous man to wisdom gives expression;
his tongue speaks only what is just and right.
Within his heart, God's law is his possession.
his walk will never wander from its light.
Though evil men have made his death their mission,
the LORD will come to save him from his plight.*
13. *The LORD will never fail to show His favour,
nor let the just by judges be condemned.
Walk in His way; hope in the LORD your Saviour.
He will exalt you, giving you the land,
and when the wicked are cut off for ever
you'll see the outcome of what He has planned.*
14. *I've seen a wicked man whose ruthless power
was firmly rooted like a native tree,
a tree whose top above all others towered.
But soon no trace of him was left to see;
although I tried to find this evildoer,
I searched in vain: forever gone was he!*
15. *Observe the upright and the just consider;
there is a future for the man of peace.
Transgressors will be wiped out altogether;
the line of their posterity will cease.
Then will the just rejoice with one another
in blessings that will evermore increase.*
16. *The just look to the LORD for their salvation;
He is their shelter in the time of stress,
the fortress where they seek their preservation
when by the wicked hounded and oppressed.
In Him they place their hope and expectation
and find a refuge in His faithfulness.*