

Psalm 36 Devotions

☐ Monday - The Depraved Mind.

Psalm 36:1-4

Total depravity is not too strong a term to describe human wickedness. The one who has no fear of God is capable of anything. Not only does he not hate his sin (v. 2), or despise it (v. 4); but he is flattered by (i.e. proud of) his sinful mind-set (v. 2). But, “Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God” (1 Cor. 6:9-11).

Read Romans 8:5-9

☐ Tuesday - One Off-Ramp from the Highway to Hell.

Psalm 36:4

There are two men, one travels a narrow road that leads to eternal life and the other a broad highway to destruction (Mt. 7:13-14). How did the second man end up on that broad road? Our text here says, “He sets himself on a path that is not good” (Psa. 36:4). Here is fallen man’s “free” will: because he is a slave of sin (Jn. 8:34), all that he is truly free to do is choose evil. The sinful path he chooses even seems right to him, but its end is the way of death (Prov. 14:12). And what of the first man, is he any wiser in his path selection? No, but just as Jesus blocked Saul’s murderous path and made him the great apostle Paul (Acts 9), so Christ can redirect even the hardest heart to that narrow path that leads to eternal life. Do you believe it? Then do not cease to pray day and night until your unsaved loved ones are on that narrow road! Read John 1:12-13; Rom. 9:16

☐ Wednesday - God’s Covenant Lovingkindness.

Psalm 36:5

Here, in Psalm 36, the psalmist declares, “Your lovingkindness, O Lord, extends to the heavens” (Psa. 36:5), and elsewhere, “For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him” (Psa. 103:11). And just how high are the heavens above the earth? Today, astronomers can see objects in every direction that they estimate are around fourteen billion light years away, that’s 840,000,000,000,000,000,000 miles! The furthest man has travelled is the moon (239,000 mi.), so why did God make our universe so incredibly big? I believe that God wanted to create something big, something really big, to use to compare His lovingkindness! Great is God’s love (Hebrew: *khesed* - covenant lovingkindness) toward His covenant people. O Lord, “When I consider the heavens, the work of thy hands ... what is man, that thou art mindful of him?” (Psa. 8:3-4).

Read Romans 8:38-39

☐ Thursday - Great is Thy Faithfulness.

Psalm 36:5

The psalmist continues His praise to God, singing, “Your faithfulness reaches to the skies” (Psa. 36:5). Christian, “The Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant” (Deut. 7:9). He is “a God of faithfulness” (Deut. 32:4), and “all His work is done in faithfulness” (Psa. 33:4). This is the confession of our faith, “The Lord’s lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness” (Lam. 3:22-23).

Read 2 Timothy 2:13

☐ Friday - The Immovable Righteousness of God.

Psalm 36:6

David declared, “Your righteousness is like the highest mountain” (Psa. 36:6, NIV). God’s righteousness is a mountain whose cliffs are so steep and summit so high that none can scale, but Christ alone. And like a mountain, God’s righteousness cannot be moved, not even to save the elect; yes, not even to save His Son. But Christ, having reached the top of that mountain, bearing His cross, offered Himself up as a substitutionary atonement for our sins, to vindicate the immovable righteousness of God, “so that [God] would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (Rom. 3:26). “Thou Lord Jesus art my righteousness, and I am Thy sin. Thou hast taken on Thyself what Thou wast not and given me what I am not” (Martin Luther).

Read Psalm 11:7