

The Flesh Might Fail, But...

I. Introduction: **Psalms 39:1-5** and **Mark 4:19** (cf. **Proverbs 12:25; 15:13**).

A. Unless Jesus comes first (**Mark 13:31-37**), death is a certainty (**Psalms 89:48**).

1. We should know that we have NO control over time and chance (**Ecclesiastes 9:1-12**).

2. But our focus is not on that certainty (**I Corinthians 15:22-23**).

B. We prepare for death, but what comes after is worthy of the greatest preparation (**Hebrews 9:27**; cf. **Philippians 3:20-21**).

1. Living with hope (**I John 3:1-3**).

2. Not with carnal fear (**I John 4:17-18**).

3. Why is not living in carnal fear so important (**Revelation 2:10; 21:8**)?

II. Body: At The End Of A Psalm Wherein The Psalmist Realized Not To Envy The Wicked That Carnally Prospered (**Psalms 73:2-3**), Think On What Was Said (**Psalms 73:24-28**).

A. This Psalmist came to realize his envying of the prosperity of the wicked wasn't good (**Psalms 73:13-23**).

1. No matter the amount of their wealth, the wicked perish (**Psalms 37:16-20**).

2. The counsel of the Lord is to invest in true wealth (**Revelation 3:14-19**; cf. **Hebrews 11:24-26**).

B. The wrong counsel will not save anyone (**Isaiah 47:10-13**).

1. The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord (**Psalms 37:23**).

2. His counsel stands (**Proverbs 19:21**).

3. It comes down to understanding what information saves us (**Acts 13:24-39** and **Romans 1:16-17**).

C. Recognizing the sure failure of things earthly, while clinging to the surety that comes from the Lord (**Psalms 62:5-8**).

1. Living so that when Christ returns, we'll be ready in confidence (**I John 2:28-29**).

2. Even of old, trusting in God made the faithful unmovable (**Psalms 125:1-2**).

3. Not looking for Him to provide earthly things, but things eternal (**John 12:25**).

III. Conclusion: The Psalmist had to weigh the prosperity of the wicked to come to a realization that He needed to draw near to God (cf. **Proverbs 21:12; Proverbs 11:3-5**). Let's look at all those in fear around us and remember that we need to be trees planted by the waters of God so that we have no anxieties in times of draught (**Jeremiah 17:7-8**).