THE LORD WATCHES OVER THE RIGHTEOUS

I Samuel 24

Introduction

Psalm 1 contrasts two ways to live – the way of the righteous and the way of the wicked.

The righteous are those who love God, delight in his word and desire to please him.

The wicked are those who live for themselves. They don’t trust God and they have no desire to follow his word.

Psalm 1 closes with this statement, “The Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.”

We see that truth illustrated in the lives of David and Saul.

Two people – Two choices – Two ends
What can we learn from David’s example?

I. LIVE BY FAITH.
VERSES 1-7

I Samuel 24

Saul heard that David was in En Gedi, in the wilderness west of the Dead Sea. God’s hand of protection was on David. David would not raise his hand against the Lord’s anointed. Instead David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul’s robe. David’s trust was in the Lord – for Divine protection and Divine timing.
The Mice in the Piano – NIV Application Commentary by Bill Arnold

“But the pianist continued to play the piano.”

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Genesis 1:1

II. DO WHAT IS RIGHT.

VERSES 8 – 13

When faced with a choice, on this occasion, David chose to do the right thing. David proved his righteousness and faithfulness by not killing Saul when he had the opportunity. “May the Lord judge between you and me.” I Samuel 24

Weapons of the Spirit - a true story about the people of Le Chambon, France who said no to the Nazis. Pierre Sauvage

When faced with a difficult decision or when faced with temptation, trust God and do what is right.

III. WAIT PATIENTLY FOR GOD TO ACT.

VERSES 14-22

I Samuel 24
David would wait for God’s time to be king.
David would grow as a leader and in his trust in God.
Saul would move farther and farther from God and die by his own sword.
David chose to wait on God.
Sometimes that is hard for us to do.

**Conclusion**

The Lord watches over the righteous (those who trust him):
- To keep us from harm
- To guide us in decisions
- To give us wisdom and strength

WILL WE TRUST HIM?