

Sanctuary Lament Turning

Psalms of Asaph · Book III

"A Psalm by Asaph."

PICTURE WORD

Slippery Feet

IN ONE SENTENCE



My feet nearly slip as I envy the wicked, until in God's sanctuary I see that nearness to God is my good.

Remember it: Seventy-three: my feet slipped in envy until God drew me near.

MEMORY VERSE

But it is good for me to come close to God.
I have made the Lord Yahweh my refuge,
that I may tell of all your works.

Psalm 73:28 · World English Bible

HEBREW WORD

קִרְבָּת

"nearness" · verse 28

In the Psalms: once

קִרְבָּה means "nearness," from the root "to draw near."
The same root gives the word for an offering, something brought near to God. Asaph envied what the wicked had. He ends by naming the one thing he truly needs: to be near God.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

- 1-3** God is good, but Asaph nearly slipped from envy.
- 4-12** The wicked seem healthy, proud, and always at ease.
- 13-16** Was keeping my heart pure all in vain?
- 17-20** In God's sanctuary he sees the wicked's sudden end.
- 21-28** God holds his hand; nearness to God is his good.

MY NOTES



Listen. Hear Psalm 73 sung in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at ispress.de/psalms/73.

Cantillated. Sung: chanted back and forth between a leader and the people.

The Two Ways

Justice on the Wicked

FILL IN THE BLANKS

My feet nearly _____ as I _____ the wicked, until in God's
_____ I see that nearness to God is my good.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. What made Asaph envious?

- ☐ (A) The prosperity of the wicked
- ☐ (C) His brother's blessing

- ☐ (B) The king's palace
- ☐ (D) The priests' honor

2. What changed Asaph's view?

- ☐ (A) A dream at night
- ☐ (C) Entering God's sanctuary

- ☐ (B) Talking with friends
- ☐ (D) Reading the law

3. God is the strength of my heart and my what forever?

- ☐ (A) Shield
- ☐ (C) King

- ☐ (B) Song
- ☐ (D) Portion

TALK IT OVER

1. What did Asaph see in the sanctuary that he could not see before?

2. Asaph says God holds his right hand even when he acted like a brute beast. What does that say about God?

3. Whose life are you tempted to envy, and how would nearness to God change that?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 73 TEACH?

☐ I listened to the song

☐ I can say what it teaches

☐ I can say verse 28 by heart

☐ I know the picture word

Answers: Blanks: slip · envy · sanctuary · Check yourself: 1. A (v. 3) · 2. C (v. 17) · 3. D (v. 26)