



Message Reflections

July 30, 2023

"Affliction is generally accompanied by dejection, and dejection issues in doubt, and doubt gives rise to mental conflict, and then the struggle becomes intense." - John Calvin

Read: Psalm 73

Asaph, author of Psalm 73, was deeply disturbed and upset by the prosperity of the wicked and the oppression of the righteous. It led him to question God's goodness and greatness. He struggled with the sin of "envy."

Envy causes us to compare and compete with others in an unhealthy way. It robs us of contentment and causes us to feel ungrateful.

- What currently triggers the strongest feelings of envy for you? Is it social media, work, family, or something else?
- How does this Psalm encourage you even in your doubts? What characteristics of God are revealed in how He cares for you in your doubts?

Listen to and reflect on the song, "Good, Good Father":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfJrxvVnmkE>

- **Re-read Psalm 73:16-17.** Have you ever had a "sanctuary" experience? What happened?

Pray: Father, keep me from envy. Let me humbly do what You tell me to do. Keep me from comparing myself to those around me that You may be blessing and using. Help me to humble myself before You; trusting You to use me as You desire. Amen.