



## Blessed is the one who prospers...

### Read

“That person is like a tree (trans)planted by streams of water, which yield’s its fruit in season, and whose leaf does not wither – whatever they do prospers.” (Psalm 1:3)

### Consider

When we looked at Psalm 1:1-2, we found that we are blessed because Jesus kept the law of the Lord perfectly when we couldn’t. As a result, we share in the delights of being in God’s family. Jesus is *the* Blessed One, and because of *his* death and resurrection we are also blessed ones.

Psalm 1:3 continues on to explain that because of Jesus, we are like trees. Huh? Let me explain. Trees don’t plant themselves, but are *planted* by the person doing the gardening. In our case, we have been ***transplanted*** from the sin-polluted soil that was killing us – to clean and life-giving soil. God Himself has done this for us. He has saved us! He has planted us in his family! He will not let us *wither* because God’s saving work can never “spoil or fade (1 Peter 1:3-4). God plants us and keeps us.

And what’s the result? We *prosper*. But wait a minute! How does this work? John Piper puts it this way: “*Because Jesus died in our place, he guaranteed that every good deed prospers — sooner or later.* “Whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord” (Ephesians 6:8). “Blessed are you when others revile you. . . . Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven” (Matthew 5:11-12). Reviled here. Rewarded there.”

This means that ***although we might look around and see people who aren’t Christians living up the “good life” while we are having a tough time, this won’t last.*** God has saved us forever. When our lives on earth come to an end and we are with him completely, our troubles on earth will fade. This is good news for us, *because* Jesus has given us a reason to look ahead and know that whatever we are facing now, God has appointed a Day when all things will be made right again.

How can you be the blessed one who prospers? The one who prospers in God is one who has been transplanted into His family. Once you are in His family, you grow and mature as you learn from your Heavenly Father. This heart-growth is the real deal. It’s real prosperity.

### Pray

Dear Father, thanks for making me a part of your family. Help me to learn from you. Help me to listen to you. I want to be prosperous at a heart-level, so I ask for your help to make this a reality each day. I know I can’t do this without you. Amen.