

Psalm 37

William Boyce (1711-1779)



Part 1

1. Do not fret yourself because of | evil- | doers; *
do not be | jealous • of | those • who do | wrong.
2. For they shall soon wither | like the | grass, *
and like the | green grass | fade a- | way.
3. Put your trust in the LORD | and do | good; *
dwell in the land and | **feed** | on its | riches.
4. Take delight | in the | LORD, *
and he shall | give • you your | heart's de- | sire.
5. Commit your way to the LORD and | put your • trust | in him, *
and | he will | bring • it to | pass.
6. He will make your righteousness as | clear as | light *
and your just | dealing | as the | noontday.
7. Be still be- | fore the | LORD *
and | **wait** | patient- • ly | for him.
8. Do not fret yourself over | one who | prospers, *
the one who suc- | ceeds in | evil | schemes.
9. Refrain from anger, leave | rage a- | lone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads | **on-** | ly to | evil.
10. For evildoers shall | be cut | off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD | shall pos- | sess the | land.

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11. In a little while the wicked | shall be • no | more; *
you shall search out their place, but | they will | not be | there.
12. But the lowly shall pos- | sess the | land; *
they will delight | in a- | bundance • of | peace.
13. The wicked plot a- | gainst the | righteous *
and | gnash • at them | with their | teeth.
14. The LORD laughs | at the | wicked, *
because he | sees their | day will | come.
15. The wicked draw their sword and bend their bow to strike down the | poor and | needy, *
to slaughter those who are | upright | in their | ways.
16. Their sword shall go through | their own | heart, *
and their | **bow** | shall be | broken.
17. The little that the | righteous | has *
is better than great | riches | of the | wicked.
18. For the power of the wicked | shall be | broken, *
but the | LORD up- | holds the | righteous.

Part 2

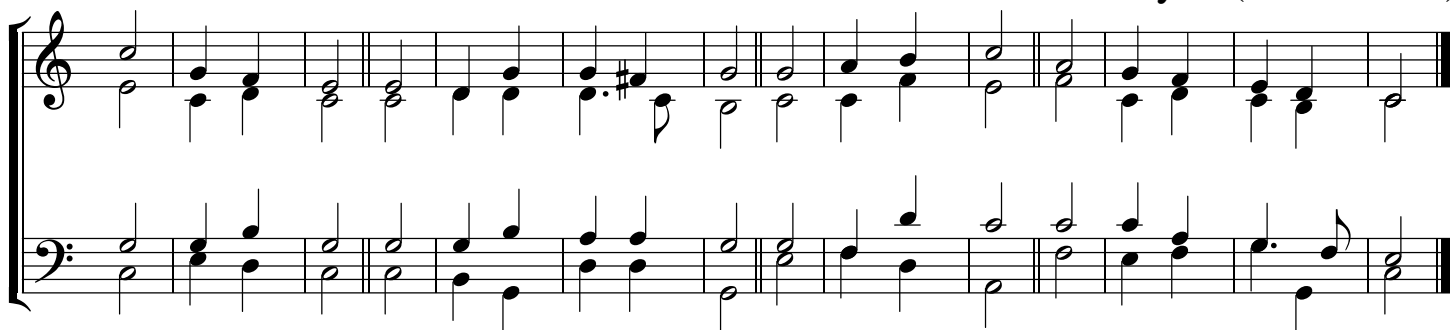
19. The LORD cares for the | lives • of the | godly, *
and their in- | heri- • tance shall | last for | ever.
20. They shall not be ashamed in | **bad** | times, *
and in days of famine | they shall | have e- | nough.

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21. As for the wicked, | they shall | perish, *
and the enemies of the LORD, like the glory of the | **mead-** | ows, shall | vanish.
22. The wicked borrow and do | not re- | pay, *
but the righteous are | gener- | ous in | giving.
23. Those who are blessed by God shall pos- | sess the | land, *
but those who are cursed by | him shall | be des- | troyed.
24. Our steps are directed | by the | LORD; *
he strengthens those | in whose | way • he de- | lights.
25. If they stumble, they shall | not fall | headlong, *
for the LORD | holds them | by the | hand.
26. I have been young and now | I am | old, *
but never have I seen the righteous forsaken, or their | children | begging | bread.
27. The righteous are always gener- | ous in | lending, *
and their | children • shall | be a | blessing.
28. Turn from evil | and do | good, *
and dwell | in the | land for | ever.
29. For the | LORD loves | justice; *
he does not for- | sake his | faithful | ones.
30. They shall be kept | safe for | ever, *
but the offspring of the | wicked • shall | be des- | troyed.
31. The righteous shall pos- | sess the | land *
and | dwell in | it for | ever.
32. The mouth of the righteous | utters | wisdom, *
and their | tongue speaks | what is | right.

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33. The law of their God is | in their | heart, *
and their | footsteps | shall not | falter.
34. The wicked | spy • on the | righteous *
and | seek oc- | casion to | kill them.
35. The LORD will not abandon them | to their | hand, *
nor let them be found | guilty • when | brought to | trial.
36. Wait upon the LORD and | keep his | way; *
he will raise you up to possess the land, and when the wicked are | cast off, | you will | see it.
37. I have seen the wicked | in their | arrogance, *
flourishing like a | **tree** | in full | leaf.
38. I went by, and behold, they | were not | there; *
I searched for them, but | they could | not be | found.
39. Mark those who are honest; ob- | serve the up- | right; *
for there is a | future | for the | peaceable.
40. Transgressors shall be destroyed, | one and | all; *
the future of the | wicked | is cut | off.
41. But the deliverance of the righteous | comes • from the | LORD; *
he is their | stronghold • in | time of | trouble.
42. The LORD will help them and | rescue | them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because | they seek | refuge • in | him.