

“Long Live the King: Two Ways to Live”
Psalm 1

Two Paths (vv. 1-2)

- One determined in sin.
- One delighting in the Law.
 - The blessed man has a superior pleasure that overcomes exterior pressure.

O God, I have tasted Thy goodness, and it has both satisfied me and made me thirsty for more. I am painfully conscious of my need of further grace. I am ashamed of my lack of desire. O God... I want to want Thee; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made thirstier still... Give me grace to rise up and follow Thee. (A.W. Tozer)

- The blessed man has an open Bible that is accompanied by an open mind.

Two Lives (vv. 3-4)

- The godly is...
 - Strong in the strength of Another.

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

- Fruitful in his season.

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, division, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:19-23)

- Prosperous in all he does.

Something strange began to happen to me at age 50. I had a wife who loved me, and whom I loved. I had a large estate, which, without much

effort on my part, increased. My name was respected, I enjoyed physical strength, and yet I could not live, because of death. The question which brought me to the verge of suicide sought an answer without which one cannot live, "is there any meaning in life that my inevitable death does not destroy?"

Today or tomorrow death will come to those I love and then to me. Soon not only I will not exist, but eventually no one will exist who will remember anything I have written or done. Why then go on with the effort? What is it all for? What does it all lead to? What difference will it make whether I do this thing rather than that thing or nothing at all? So I could give no rational meaning to any single action or even to my whole life. But what was so surprising was how we can fail to see this. For a time its possible to live intoxicated with life, but as soon as one is sober, it is impossible not to see that life in the face of death is a fraud, and a stupid fraud at that. (Leo Tolstoy)

I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. (Ecclesiastes 1:14)

- The wicked are not so.

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them." (Ecclesiastes 12:1)

Two Ends (vv. 5-6)

- The wicked are unable to stand in the judgment...

I saw also that [the Pilgrim, Christian] looked this way and that way, as if he would run; yet he stood still, because (as I perceived) he could not tell which way to go. I looked then, and saw a man named Evangelist coming to him, who asked, "Wherefore dost thou cry?"

He answered, "Sir, I read in the book in my hand, that I am condemned to die, and after that to come to judgment; and I find that I am not willing to do the first, nor able to do the second." (John Bunyan)

- But God knows who the righteous truly are.

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. (John 10:14)