

# Psalm 73

JPS [\[Online\]](#)

BOOK III Psalms 73–89

## Surely God Is Good to Israel

- 1**A Psalm of Asaph. Surely God is good to Israel, Even to such as are pure in heart.
- 2**But as for me, my feet were almost gone; My steps had well nigh slipped.
- 3**For I was envious at the arrogant, When I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
- 4**For there are no pangs at their death, And their body is sound.
- 5**In the trouble of man they are not; Neither are they plagued like men.
- 6**Therefore pride is as a chain about their neck; Violence covereth them as a garment.
- 7**Their eyes stand forth from fatness; They are gone beyond the imaginations of their heart.
- 8**They scoff, and in wickedness utter oppression; They speak as if there were none on high.
- 9**They have set their mouth against the heavens, And their tongue walketh through the earth.
- 10**Therefore His people return hither; And waters of fullness are drained out by them.
- 11**And they say: 'How doth God know? And is there knowledge in the Most High?'
- 12**Behold, such are the wicked; And they that are always at ease increase riches.
- 13**Surely in vain have I cleansed my heart, And washed my hands in innocency;
- 14**For all the day have I been plagued, And my chastisement came every morning.

- 15**If I had said: 'I will speak thus', Behold, I had been faithless to the generation of Thy children.
- 16**And when I pondered how I might know this, It was wearisome in mine eyes;
- 17**Until I entered into the sanctuary of God, And considered their end.
- 18**Surely Thou settest them in slippery places; Thou hurlest them down to utter ruin.
- 19**How are they become a desolation in a moment! They are wholly consumed by terrors.
- 20**As a dream when one awaketh, So, O Lord, when Thou arousest Thyself, Thou wilt despise their semblance.
- 21**For my heart was in a ferment, And I was pricked in my reins.
- 22**But I was brutish, and ignorant; I was as a beast before Thee.
- 23**Nevertheless I am continually with Thee; Thou holdest my right hand.
- 24**Thou wilt guide me with Thy counsel, And afterward receive me with glory.
- 25**Whom have I in heaven but Thee? And beside Thee I desire none upon earth.
- 26**My flesh and my heart faileth; But God is the rock of my heart and my portion for ever.
- 27**For, lo, they that go far from Thee shall perish; Thou dost destroy all them that go astray from Thee.
- 28**But as for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, That I may tell of all Thy works.