

What may we say of all God's judgments? (Psa. 19. 9.)

### Practical Teachings.

Where in this lesson do we find—

1. That companionship with the wicked brings moral degradation?
2. That kings are not sure of happiness?
3. That what we think reveals our character?
4. That no man can fail who is on the Lord's side?
5. That the sinner's life is a wasted life?
6. That God sits always on his throne of judgment?

### Hints for Home Study.

Find from the Bible historic illustrations of—  
The gradual growth of sinful character.  
The true prosperity of the righteous.  
The ultimate overthrow of the wicked.

### QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

1. **The Way of the Righteous, v. 1-3.**  
Whom does the lesson pronounce blessed? (GOLDEN TEXT.)  
Where does the righteous man not walk?  
With whom does he not stand?  
In whose seat is he not found?  
In what is his delight?  
What is the subject of his meditation?  
What did the Lord say to Joshua about the law? (Josh. 1. 8.)  
To what is the good man likened?  
When will such a tree bear fruit?  
In what will the righteous have prosperity?  
What says Paul of the prophet of righteousness? (1 Tim. 4. 8.)
2. **The Way of the Ungodly, v. 4-6.**  
To what are the ungodly likened?  
Where will they not stand?  
Who cannot appear with the righteous?  
Who knows the way of the righteous?  
What fate will befall the ungodly?  
What may we say of all God's judgments? (Psa. 19. 9.)

### General Statement.

A fitting introduction to the Book of Psalms is this exquisite song. It is a worthy preface, for it expresses a thought which like a thread of gold is interwoven through the entire psalter—the thought of the blessedness of God's service, pictured all the more brightly because of its contrast with the sinner's life and fate. Who wrote this psalm is uncertain. Some have suggested Ezra as its author, but Jeremiah's apparent reproduction of its best portions in his prophecy against Jehoiakim would seem to fix the date of its composition before the captivity of Judah; and it is not unlikely that the first Psalm comes to us from the gifted pen of Solomon. See Critical Notes.

### EXPLANATORY AND PRACTICAL NOTES.

**Verse 1. Blessed.** In the original this word is in the plural form, and the connecting verb is omitted, making the sentence an exclamation, "O, the blessednesses!"—*Spurgeon*. (1) *God's grace to men is a source of perennial wonder and gladness to the converted soul.* **The man.** That man. (2) *The*

### Teachings of the Lesson.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. What we ought to shun?
2. What we ought to seek?
3. What we may become?

### Home Work for Young Bereans.

Find a passage in the seventeenth chapter of Jeremiah which resembles this psalm.  
Find and read the beatitudes of Christ.

### QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

- What is a psalm? **A song of praise.**  
Who wrote many of the psalms? **King David.**  
What is he sometimes called? **"The sweet singer of Israel."**  
What is this lesson like? **A picture.**  
What does it show? **Two ways of life.**  
What is the first? **The good way.**  
What does the man who walks in this way avoid? **All evil.**  
In what does he delight? **In the law of the Lord.**  
What is he like? **A tree growing by the river-side.**  
What does he bring forth? **Fruit.**  
What will prosper? **All that he does.**  
What is this man said to be? **"Blessed."**  
What are wicked people like? **Chaff.**  
In what way do they walk? **An evil way.**  
What becomes of chaff? **It is blown away.**  
Where will the evil way end? **In ruin.**  
Who sees and knows all our ways? **God.**
- Words with Little People.**  
God's way is—Straight, clean, safe, and blessed.  
Satan's way is—Crooked, rough, dangerous, and unhappy.  
In which way will you walk?
- Whisper Prayer.**  
"Lead me in the way everlasting."

*blessed man is a marked man, made prominent by God's goodness.* (3) *"The psalmist's estimate of the good man's condition is the result of a life-time of observation confirmed by the experience of innumerable generations."*—*Joseph Purker.* **Walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly.** Here