

Cry out to Jesus. Counting our Blessings.

The song itself is not a worship song as we commonly sing, but it does bring praise to our Lord God. What we are going to look at this morning is more than just Scripture; it is how we can rely on and find assurance, and the warning that accompanies the promise. I would like to discuss the emotions that may accompany the promise and persecution. I am not implying that all death is to be considered persecution; it is not, and we shall look at this as we look at the emotional effect.

The Bible teaches and warns us about relying on our emotions, yet our emotions are a large part of our makeup, and we need to learn how to control and evaluate them. Not all emotions are bad, but we need to live by the Spirit. We allow and look to our hearts to guide us, but what does looking at your heart really reveal? Anxiety serves very little to do anything for the problem, but we have a great God who will provide a way out.

Jeremiah 17:19, The Bible declares in Jeremiah 17:9 (NKJV): "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"

Proverbs 15:18. ESV, A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger quiets contention. I know how quick I used to be to judge another's temper and react to it before thinking about what I said would be taken or finding out why they were so mad. It had some bad outcomes and hampered some friendships that took time to mend.

We began with the passing of loved ones, how we often feel robbed, for reasons we do not understand. How and why can tragedy happen in a devoted Christian household? Are we taught as Christians that if we confess the name of our Lord God and ask in the name of our Christ Jesus, that only good will befall us? The answer is "no," but many expect it, and some church leaders teach it.

Matthew 5:45, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. It is interesting to look here at the word structure, remembering that we have in the past looked at the sequence of word placement, most importantly, that words are very much in the order of their positions. Knowing this sheds much light on the understanding of first place, or first order. Note, **evil** comes before **good**, but then, **just** comes before the **unjust**. We find importance in who the verse is written. He is now addressing the people of God, "that you may become sons of your Father who is in heaven." The condition of the hearers has changed from the natural man (evil, our natural state to the sons of your Father, just, and changed.)

I posed the question to Coplot in order to shorten the explanation. In my studies, I looked up the meaning for both Greek and Hebrew, but the answer is not short; the

outcome is the same. Copilot, in Ancient Greek and Hebrew, is the sequence of the nouns used here, Evil and Good, Just and unjust, in proper order. Copilot's answer is, "Yes – in both ancient Greek and Hebrew, the word order 'evil and good' and 'just (righteous) and unjust (Wicked)' is proper, natural, and idiomatic, not reversed or incorrect. Here is the clear and linguistic answer, grounded in the original languages."

Knowing this, why would they reverse the order from the first description? Evil first, to righteous, then good to unjust?

Cry out for Jesus. What does this look like in our daily lives? We are told to seek out our God, **Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down, and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.**

Broken-hearted by the death of family members and friends

Praise the LORD!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;

For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.

2 The LORD builds up Jerusalem;

He gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted

And binds up their wounds.

4 He counts the number of the stars;

He calls them all by name.

5 Great is our Lord, and mighty in power;

His understanding is infinite.

6 The LORD lifts up the humble;

He casts the wicked down to the ground.

Burdens and Pain

**Charles Spurgeon "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."
This the Holy Spirit mentions as a part of the glory of God, and a reason for our declaring his praise: the Lord is not only a Builder, but a Healer; he restores broken hearts as well as broken walls. The kings of the earth think to be great through their loftiness; but Jehovah becomes really so by his condescension. Behold, the Most High has to do with the sick and the sorry, with the wretched and the wounded! He walks the hospitals as the good Physician! His deep sympathy with mourners is a special mark of his goodness. Few will associate with the despondent, but Jehovah chooses their company, and abides with them till he has healed them by his comforts. He deigns to handle and heal broken hearts: he himself lays on the ointment of grace, and the soft bandages of love, and thus binds up the bleeding wounds of those convinced of sin. This is compassion like a God. Well may those praise him to whom he has acted o gracious a part. The Lord is always healing and binding: this is no new work to him, he has done it of old; and it is not a thing of the past of which he is now weary, for he is still healing and still binding, as the original hath it. Come, broken hearts, come to the Physician who never fails to heal: uncover your wounds to him who so tenderly binds them up!**

Addictions and chains' 1 Corinthians 10:13, 13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

God is with the believer, Jesus swore He would be with us always