

Psalm 49 – Facing death with Christ**Psalm 49**

The intro (v 1-4)

... because of who God is, it is wise for us ALL to listen.

... regardless of whether we are rich or poor.

Stanza 1 (v 5-12)

“Why should I fear when evil days come, when wicked deceivers surround me – those who trust in their wealth and boast of their great riches?”

verse 7 ... being wealthy will not overcome the problem of death.

verse 8 ... “The ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough.”

verse 10 ... all of them leave ALL their wealth to others.

verse 12 ... people, despite their wealth do not endure, they end up just like the beasts

Stanza 2 (v 13 – 20)

v 13... the fate of those who trust in themselves.

v 14 ... they are like sheep that are being shepherded by death.

... For those who do not trust in themselves, the upright, they will prevail in the morning.

v 15 “BUT God will redeem me from the realm of the dead”

“Surely he will take me to himself”.

v 20 ... “People who have wealth but lack understanding, are like beasts that perish”.

For us today

1) God will redeem us to eternity through Jesus

He came to give his life as a ransom for many.

... keep singing and speaking of God’s offer of life in the face of death.

How does this reality affect us?

Are we trusting ourselves or God?

2) Trusting ourselves or God

... those who think their wealth is the key to life.

Are we trusting God or are we trusting our wealth

1 Tim 6:17-19. *Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.*

Qu: Do we actively model that we have someone better to live for than the accumulation of wealth.

3) Is it OK to have wealth?

... no amount of wealth will fix the problem of your death

... But Jesus has fixed the problem of your death