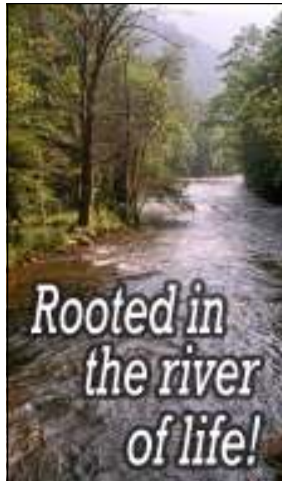


Rooted or in Ruin?

How's Your Root System?

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like a **tree planted by the waters**, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit." *Jeremiah 17:7-8*



Introduction: The Psalmist, like Jesus (*Matt 5:3-10*), says that man is blessed (*happy*) by trusting God.

A. Planted like a tree! 1:1-3 (*Living in the Counsel of God*)

There are two aspects of being rooted in God

1. The negative

a. **Walk** not.....counsel.....ungodly

[This includes ungodly believers and/or unbelievers]

Walk: Become comfortable with the world (worldliness)

b. **Stand** not.....path.....sinners

Stand: Agreeing with the ideas of the world

c. **Sit** not.....seat.....scornful

Sit: Adopt a secular worldview—philosophy of life

Trusting the Counsel of God

Ungodly Counsel: Pleasing others. works-based, performance-driven. Responsibility on our resources. **Emphasis on change for the better.**

Godly Counsel: Trusting God. **Emphasis on maturity!** God is NOT interested in our attempts to change—He has already changed us. Godly counsel encourages maturity [growth] which is a process of trusting and walking with God.

The Caterpillar!



2. The positive

The simile of the 'planted tree' is one of TRUSTING in God—our one and only source of counsel strength and power.

a. Delight in the Law

b. Meditate on the Word

c. Rooted in the Word

d. Fruit in season *John 15:1*

e. Lasting influence (evergreen)

"The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever." Isa 40:8

B. Blowing in the wind! 1:4-5 (*Living in the Counsel of Man*)

1. Unlike being rooted and planted—the ungodly are blown away by anything that happens to come along.
2. The 'blown' chaff can also be those who attend church and claim to be believers. Eph 4:14
3. They will not share fellowship with believers in heaven

Psalm 1

:1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night.

:3 He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

:4 The ungodly *are* not so, but *are* like the chaff which the wind drives away.

:5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

:6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

2Co 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.