

Do Not Fret Over Evil

Proverbs 24:19-20

1. God shows us great grace in salvation, and God shows us great grace every day throughout our lives. Any sin is a serious offense against God, but God shows us grace when we sin, and we often do not see direct consequences for our own sin. How should this reality affect my view of the grace that others receive? Instead of being upset when the wicked prosper, how can God's grace toward the wicked remind me of God's grace toward me? How can I respond with humility and thankfulness to the grace that God shows me?

2. Read Habakkuk 1:12-2:1. When I see difficulties or injustice in the world, do I turn to God and wait for Him as Habakkuk did? Am I willing to listen and submit to God's answer as Habakkuk did (see Habakkuk 3:17-19), even if it is not the answer I would expect or desire?

3. Sin should grieve us, but it should not surprise us when unbelievers act like unbelievers. But the sin of others does not negate God's commands nor give us justification to disobey God's commands in response to others. In what ways am I tempted to respond wrongly when I see the sin of others? Even as I see wickedness around me, how can I strive to be faithful to God? How can I continue to obey Him?

4. God says that there is no future for the wicked (Proverbs 24:20), but that there is a future for those who fear Him (Proverbs 24:17-18). Do I struggle to really believe that this is true? How should this truth affect the way that I live my life?