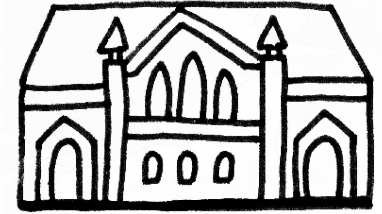


Welcome to Calvary Church, Brighton



- Phones on silent & airplane mode please -

Today 17th March 2019 speaker Philip Wells, Full-time Elder.
This morning - Psalm 1 - Two ways to live

www.calvary-brighton.org.uk

calvary-brighton.sermon.net

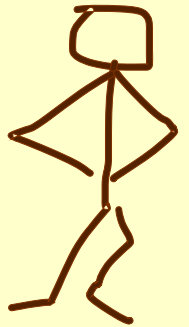
Two ways to live?

What would you say if I told you that I could show you the way:

- in which nothing you ever really went wrong*
- everything that ever happened to you was good*
- to live a life that was always fruitful*
- to have a life in which you would never dry up or wither*
- you would never be forgotten*
- you would never be alone*

You might be suspicious - but also envious!

But that is exactly the life that is described in Psalm 1 - what is this way of life, and how can I get it?



Two ways to live?

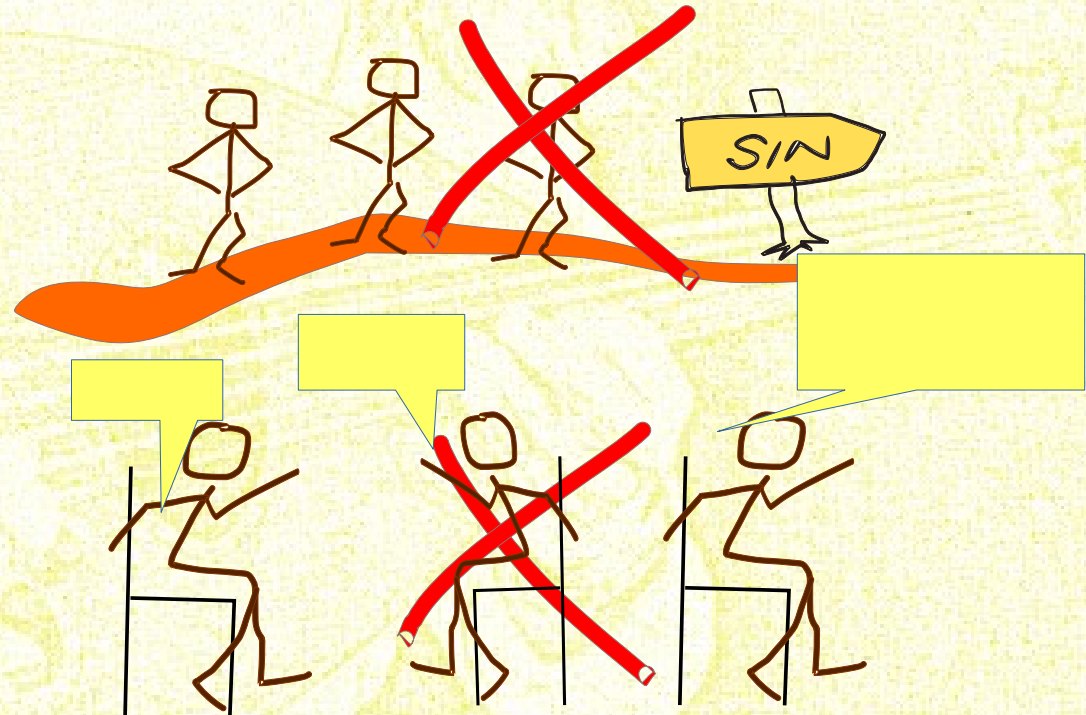
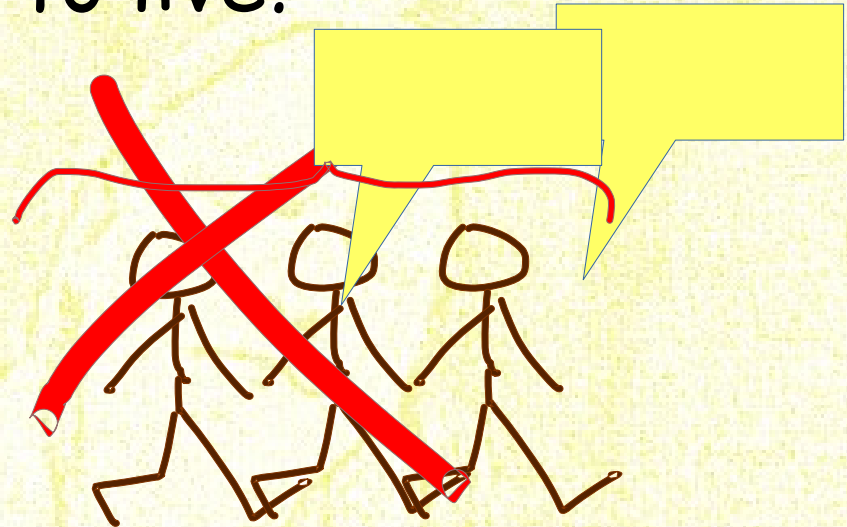
Blessed is the man (or woman) who:

Does not walk in the counsel=life-advice of the wicked (rashim)

Does not stand in the path of sinners

Does not sit in seat of the scornful

BUT:



Two ways to live?

Blessed is the man (or woman) who:

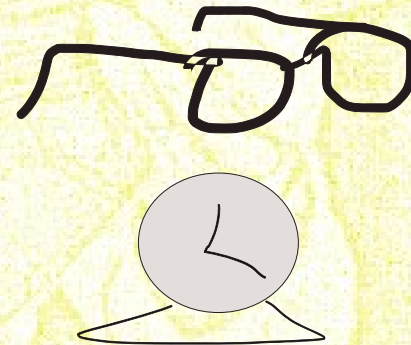
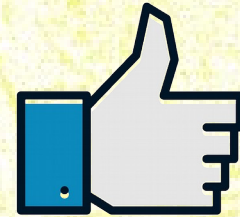
Does not walk ..stand ... sit ...

BUT:

His delight is in the law/word of the LORD

He meditates on it night and day

- "delight" = admire, enjoy, likes it, moves towards it
- "meditate" = read, listen, ponder, plan,
- "day and night" = constantly, at the beginning and end of each day / building block of life



Two ways to live?

Blessed is the man (or woman) who:

Does not walk ..stand ... sit ...

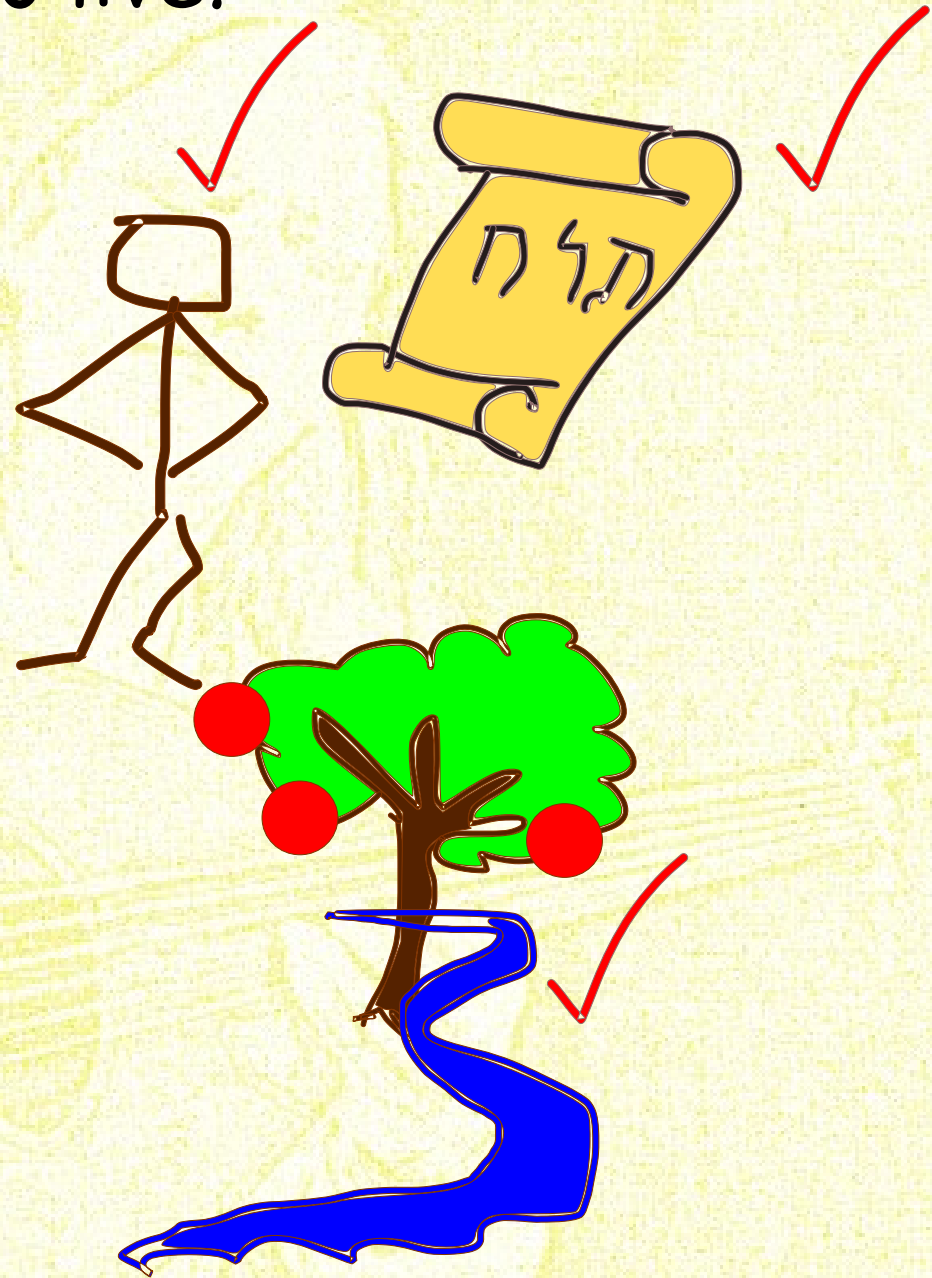
BUT:

His delight is in the law/word of the LORD

He shall be like a tree

- Planted by streams of water*
- Brings forth fruit in season*
- Does not dry up and wither*
- All that he does prospers*

=> that is a very blessed place to be!



Two ways to live?

*Blessed is the man who
... meditates in word of
LORD*

*NOT so the wicked
(rashim)*

- like chaff*
- the wind blows away*

*=> picture of
lightness, uselessness,
unwanted, impermanent*



Two ways to live?

The assembly ...

– i.e. community

- the wicked/rashim will not stand there

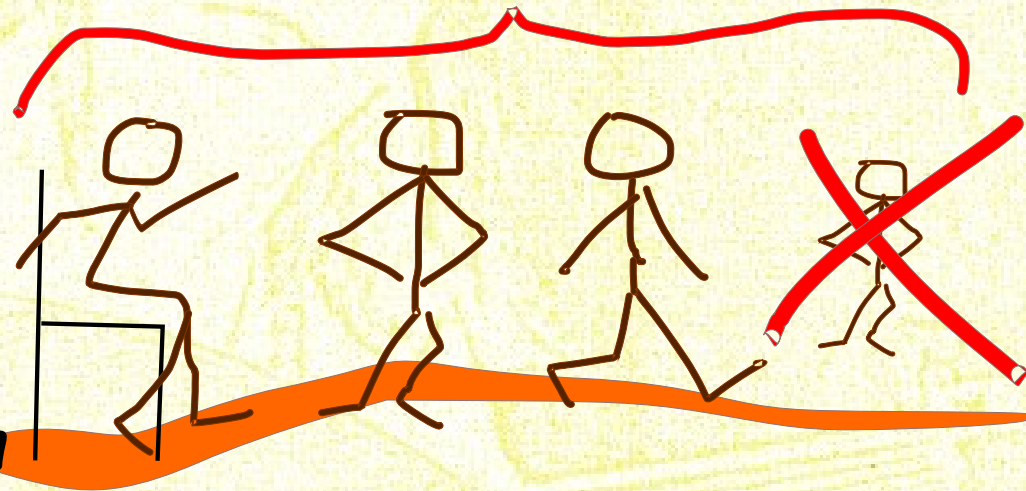
Q: Why?

A: Knows the LORD the path of the righteous ...

the path of the wicked/rashim shall perish

=> the answer lies in God knowing + understanding, approving

The assembly of rightness/righteousness



Two ways to live?

The Blessed

*The [rashim] ,[unblessed]
[unprospering], [unrooted]
[unworthy], [path is perishing]*

But how many people can claim for themselves this blessing?

– e.g. the Pharisee ...

"I [read the words of the law] [pray every day] [give tithes] ... so I claim that blessing"

– BUT - the word of God does not itself save - it is the person about whom the law and the prophets spoke = Jesus

– e.g. the normal human being

"I try to do a bit of good if I can ... I am not unkind ... I honestly want to save the planet ..." N.B. Where does God's word come in your life?

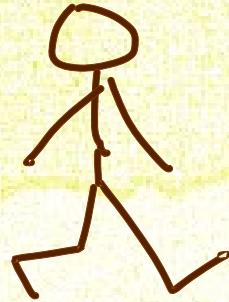
– e.g. Jesus

He loved every written word of God and kept to it even to his cost - temptations (Matt 4:4, 26:47-56)

ONLY ONE PERSON CAN CLAIM THIS BLESSING FOR THEMSELVES

Two ways to live?

*The [rashim] , [unblessed],[unprospering]
[unrooted], [unworthy], [path is perishing]*



Who are the rashim?

- *The right-wing murderer in N.Z.*
 - *Yes!*
- *Jimmy Savile - the awful sexual predator*
 - *Yes!*
- *Each one of us **without Jesus Christ***
 - *The advice that ruled us did not come from LORD, but from the world around us ... from ourselves*
 - *We sat and scorned ... disbelieved ... ungrateful*
 - *Walked in the ways of this world*

Two ways to live?

*The [rashim] , [unblessed],[unprospering]
[unrooted], [unworthy], [path is perishing]*

The Blessed ...

But what about those belonging to Christ?

- Because of him ... his work for them ... his work in them*
- they are fixed upon*
 - Being disciples of Lord Jesus Christ*
 - Via hearing and obeying THE WORD OF THE LORD*
 - "call me Lord, Lord and NOT do what I say"*
- No-one is able to claim this psalm as their own apart from through the Lord Jesus Christ*

Two ways to live?

The Blessed ... not because of themselves, but because of Jesus Christ

Blessed

- *O how to be congratulated*
- *(we need to be told this sometimes, because it doesn't always feel this way ...*
 - *"Blessed are you when people insult you, mock you ...*

"all they do prospers"

- *Give a big tick ... that was good*
- *Not necessarily financially, or emotionally*
- *God works all things together for good for those who loved God and are called according to his purpose*
- *Q: do you agree that this is blessing?*
- *Q: who would refuse to make him - the very centre of God's word - the centre of your life??*