

## PSALM 49

Psalm 49 deals with a riddle (v. 4), namely why the wicked prosper and most struggle and all die, and the needed wisdom to understand and make sense of this.

Verses 1-2 The call for everyone to pay attention because no-one will be excused from understanding what is to be revealed.

Verses 3-4 “My mouth shall speak wisdom...” -

- A. I Cor 1:18-31 with emphasis on verses 18, 24, 26-30. Prov. 24:13,14 - only God’s wisdom can solve the ultimate riddle involving why this world is filled with such wickedness as those who use their riches to exploit and cheat others, followed by death, followed by....?
- B. Prov. 8:10-14.

And so . . . .

Verses 5-6 Prov. 10:15-16, Eccl. 7:1-6.

Verses 7-9 I Tim. 2:5-6.

Verses 10-14 “For he sees that even the wise die...”

- A. Ps. 37:12-13, 16-17. Again, Ecc. 7:2-6.
- B. The wisdom of God discerns: Ps. 73:3,16-20, 23-26.
- C. Matthew Henry: “Alas! that all (the wicked) shall be *consumed in the grave from their dwelling*; all that upon which they valued themselves, and for which others caressed and admired them, was adventitious and borrowed; it was paint and varnish, and they will rise in their own native deformity. The beauty of holiness is that which the grave, that consumes all other beauty, cannot touch, or do any damage to. Their beauty shall consume, the grave (or hell) being a habitation to every one of them; and what beauty can there be where there is nothing but the blackness of darkness for ever?” (Matthew Henry’s Commentary On the Whole Bible, Hendrickson Publishers, Peabody, Mass, 1991, p. 344.)

Verse 15 Prov. 14:32 Ps. 73:24,25

Verses 16-20 The riddle has been answered.