**PSALM 36**

Noli aemulari.

*An exhortation to despise this world; and the short prosperity of the wicked; and to trust in Providence.*

**1** A psalm for David himself.

Be not emulous of evildoers; nor envy them that work iniquity.

**2** For they shall shortly wither away as grass, and as the green herbs shall quickly fall.

**3** Trust in the Lord, and do good, and dwell in the land, and thou shalt be fed with its riches.

**4** Delight in the Lord, and he will give thee the requests of thy heart.

**5** Commit thy way to the Lord, and trust in him, and he will do it.

**6** And he will bring forth thy justice as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

**7** Be subject to the Lord and pray to him. Envy not the man who prospereth in his way; the man who doth unjust things.

**8** Cease from anger, and leave rage; have no emulation to do evil.

**9** For evildoers shall be cut off: but they that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the land.

**10** For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: and thou shalt seek his place, and shalt not find it.

**11** But the meek shall inherit the land, and shall delight in abundance of peace.

**12** The sinner shall watch the just man: and shall gnash upon him with his teeth.

**13** But the Lord shall laugh at him: for he foreseeth that his day shall come.

**14** The wicked have drawn out the sword: they have bent their bow. To cast down the poor and needy, to kill the upright of heart.

**15** Let their sword enter into their own hearts, and let their bow be broken.

**16** Better is a little to the just, than the great riches of the wicked.

**17** For the arms of the wicked shall be broken in pieces; but the Lord strengtheneth the just.

**18** The Lord knoweth the days of the undefiled; and their inheritance shall be for ever.

**19** They shall not be confounded in the evil time; and in the days of famine they shall be filled:

**20** because the wicked shall perish. And the enemies of the Lord, presently after they shall be honoured and exalted, shall come to nothing and vanish like smoke.

**21** The sinner shall borrow, and not pay again; but the just sheweth mercy and shall give.

**22** For such as bless him shall inherit the land: but such as curse him shall perish.

**23** With the Lord shall the steps of a man be directed, and he shall like well his way.

**24** When he shall fall he shall not be bruised, for the Lord putteth his hand under him.

**25** I have been young, and now am old; and I have not seen the just forsaken, nor his seed seeking bread.

**26** He sheweth mercy, and lendeth all the day long; and his seed shall be in blessing.

**27** Decline from evil and do good, and dwell for ever and ever.

**28** For the Lord loveth judgment, and will not forsake his saints: they shall be preserved for ever. The unjust shall be punished, and the seed of the wicked shall perish.

**29** But the just shall inherit the land, and shall dwell therein for evermore.

**30** The mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom: and his tongue shall speak judgment.

**31** The law of his God is in his heart, and his steps shall not be supplanted.

**32** The wicked watcheth the just man, and seeketh to put him to death.

**33** But the Lord will not leave him in his hands; nor condemn him when he shall be judged.

**34** Expect the Lord and keep his way: and he will exalt thee to inherit the land: when the sinners shall perish thou shalt see.

**35** I have seen the wicked highly exalted, and lifted up like the cedars of Libanus.

**36** And I passed by, and lo, he was not: and I sought him and his place was not found.

**37** Keep innocence, and behold justice: for there are remnants for the peaceable man.

**38** But the unjust shall be destroyed together: the remnants of the wicked shall perish.

**39** But the salvation of the just is from the Lord, and he is their protector in the time of trouble.

**40** And the Lord will help them and deliver them: and he will rescue them from the wicked, and save them, because they have hoped in him.