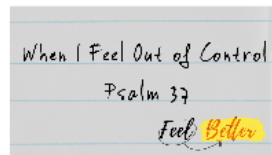


PSALM 116:1-2 (NIV)

- 1 I love the Lord, for he saved my voice;
he saved my cry for mercy.
- 2 Because he turned his ear to me,
will call on him as long as I live.



Acrostic

(Hebrew)
a poem, word puzzle, or other composition in which certain letters
in each line form a word or words.

(Line Hebrew Alphabet)
Psalms 26, 34, 37, 111, 112, 146,
Proverbs 31, Lamentations

Neg: Don't allow your heart to be kindled in anger and envy.
Pos: Trust in the Lord and do good. Delight yourself in the Lord.

fret
verb
1. be constantly or wildly worried or anxious.
"he fretted about the cost of groceries"
synonyms: worry, be anxious, feel uneasy, be distressed, be upset, spend one's mind, concern oneself, a state of anxiety or worry.

Envy of the wicked
(vs 1)

Anger and wrath at scheming
(vs 10)

How do you do this?
(Trust and delight in God when the world seems out of control)

Attack the anger and envy that frets
our heart into foolish blindness.

Lies + Emotion must be faced with Truth + Emotion

3 truthful cures for the fretting blindness of anger and envy:

1. The distinction between the righteous and the wicked brings humility and hope.

2. See God's deeper wisdom through the apparent foolishness of his governance.

3. God works actively on a different time scale for different ends.



Psalm 116
I thank you, O Lord, for your goodness,
for you have answered my prayer.
My heart was troubled, but you answered me,
O Lord, and my prayer came to you.
You have turned my mourning into dancing,
you have changed my sackcloth into a robe of praise.
You have brought me out of the tomb,
you have taken me from the power of death.
Blessed be the Lord, who does not let us see death,
nor let his angels take us into captivity.
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nor let his angels take us into captivity.

Present providence for a specific end:

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Psalm 37:25-27

I was young and now I am old, yet I have never
seen the righteous forsaken or their children
begging bread. They are always generous and
lend freely; their children will be blessed. **Turn
from evil and do good; then you will dwell in
the land forever.**

← an invitation



PSALM 116:1-2 (NIV)

- 1 I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;
he heard my cry for mercy.
- 2 Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.



Feel

Better



When I Feel Out of Control

Psalms 37

Feel Better

Acrostic

(noun)

a poem, word puzzle, or other composition in which certain letters in each line form a word or words.

"The world is too out of control for me
to trust in the governance of God."

In truth: Psalm 37

The world isn't out of control. It's just out of OUR control.

That is the thing we can't handle.
It emotionally erodes our trust.
It tempts us to attack God.
It kindles a craving to turn to the idols of control and power.

(Use Hebrew Alphabet)

Psalm 25, 34, 37, 111, 112, 145,
Proverbs 31, Lamentations

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Neg: **Don't allow your heart to be kindled in anger and envy.**

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verb

1. be constantly or visibly worried or anxious.

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Envious of the wicked
(vs 1)

**Anger and wrath
at scheming**
(vs 8)

How do you do this?

(Trust and delight in God when the world seems out of control)

**Attack the anger and envy that frets
our heart into foolish blindness.**

Lies + Emotion must be faced with **Truth + Emotion**

3 truthful cures for the fretting blindness of anger and envy:



1. The distinction between the righteous and the wicked brings humility and hope.

2. See God's deeper wisdom through the apparent foolishness of his governance.

3. God works actively on a different time scale for different ends.



Psalm 37:12-14

The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them, but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming. You will not draw the sword and bend the bow to bring down the poor and weak, for they have refused to be afraid. But their souls will perish from their own hearts, and their bows will be broken.

Better the little that the righteous have than the wealth of many wicked, for the power of the wicked will be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous. The days of the blameless are known to the LORD, and their inheritance will endure forever.

Present providence for a specific end:

Common Grace and Virtue
Universal gifts and natural restraints during time of grace

Present governance and natural consequences with intermittent judgment and blessing

Ultimate Salvation and True Virtue
Glorification of what was made in the forge of redemption and destruction intertwined

Ultimate judgment and complete and perfect judgment and blessing

Measures for the fretting blindness of an

Let's look at the text of the book of Job and see how it is structured. The book of Job is divided into three parts: the prologue, the dialogue, and the epilogue. The prologue (chapters 1-2) describes the fall of Job, a righteous man who loses everything. The dialogue (chapters 3-31) is the main part of the book, where Job and his friends argue about the meaning of his suffering. The epilogue (chapters 32-42) describes Job's restoration and his final words.

Distinction and Love/Charity
Popular morality: "charity is the greatest of virtues"
Christian Bible: "righteousness is the greatest of virtues, leading to eternal life" (1st John 2:17)

Character: Virtue or "being good" in the Bible?
Old Testament: "righteousness" (Hebrew: *tsedeq*)
New Testament: "righteousness" (Greek: *dikaioσύνη*)

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... wisdom through the
... of his governance

3. God works actively
scale for different

Leviticus 20:25 You must therefore ***make a distinction between*** clean and unclean animals and between unclean and clean birds.

Leviticus 10:10-11 ***You must distinguish between*** the holy and the common, between the unclean and the clean, and you must teach the Israelites all the decrees the LORD has given them through Moses."

Also Leviticus 11:14, 1 Kings 3:9 (Solomon's prayer),
Ezekiel 22:26, 44:23, Hebrews 5:14

Hebrews 5:11-14 You need milk, not solid food!...solid food is for **the mature**, who by constant use have **trained themselves to distinguish good from evil**.

Distinction and love/discrimination:

Popular secularity:

"Distinctions lead to discrimination."

Christian Bible:

"Right distinctions reveal illegitimate ones, revealing discrimination and its alternative goal."

Clarification: Who are "the righteous" in the Bible?

God brings
us to faith
and makes
us faithful

(continuity)

God brings
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Old Testament

New Testament

Good people
are righteous
and God
loves them

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God loves people
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2. See God's deeper wisdom through the apparent foolishness of his governance.

Psalm 73:1-17

I have staggered when I saw the path of the wicked,
when they thought no trouble in their end;
they thought that they were secure and safe,
that they would not be moved. I am like a fool,
and I have been foolish, for I have not seen
the end of their way, nor have I understood
their counsel, nor have I seen their end.

Expository concepts of wealth and safety

Expository concepts of wealth and safety	Expository concepts of wealth and safety
1. The wicked are not secure in their end.	2. The wicked are not secure in their end.
3. The wicked are not secure in their end.	4. The wicked are not secure in their end.
5. The wicked are not secure in their end.	6. The wicked are not secure in their end.
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Economic conceptions of wealth and safety:

Modern/popular ideas of wealth:

1. **legal wealth** – my rights and entitlements under law
2. **technological wealth** - use of technology for my comfort and protection
3. **liquid wealth** - money and assets
4. **privilege** - gift and position

Ancient/wisdom's ideas of wealth:

1. **human capital** - my capacities, skills and personal character
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Psalm 37:12-18

The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming. The wicked draw the sword and bend the bow to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose ways are upright. But their swords will pierce their own hearts, and their bows will be broken.

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