

Psalme 36

An exhortation not to enuie nor imitate the euil, who for moft part prosper in this world, and are damned eternally: but to flee euil and doe good, duly confidering that God diuerfly permitteth and punisheth the wicked, and likewise comforteth and afflicteth the iuft, al for their good.

An exhortatiō
to contempt of
this world.
The 7. key.

A ^{a)}Pfalme ^{b)}to Dauid him felf.

Hauē ^{c)}no emulation toward the malignant: neither enuie them that doe iniquitie.

² ^{d)}Because they ſhal quickly wither as graffe: and as the bloffomes of herbes they ſhal foone fal.

³ ^{e)}Hope in our Lord and doe good: and inhabite the land, and thou ^{f)}ſhalt be fed in the riches therof.

⁴ Be delighted in our Lord: and he wil geue thee the petitions of thy hart.

⁵ ^{g)}Reuele thy way to our Lord, and hope in him: and he wil doe it.

⁶ And he wil ^{h)}bring forth thy iuftice as light: and thy iudgement as midday: ⁷ be ſubiect to our Lord, and pray him.

Haue no emulation in him, that proſpereth in his way: in a man that doth iniuftices.

⁸ Ceafe from wrath, and leaue furie: haue not emulation that thou be malignant.

^a This Pfalme is compoſed in order of the Alphabet, euerie diſtick beginning vvith a diuers letter, to moue the reader to diligent attention, which may ſerue in place of a larger cōmentarie.

^b For Dauid and euery iuſt mans inſtruction.

^c Neither be thou offended that the wicked do proſper in this world, nor imitate them that thou maift alſo proſper.

^d For al this life, and confequently the proſperitie therof is ſhorte, and vncertaine.

^e Put thy truſt in God, liuing content in this world:

^f & he wil geue thee that is neceſſarie.

^g Commend al thyn affaires to God.

^h Partly making vertue appeare to the comfort of the vertuous, and example of others in this life, but eſpecially in the next world.

⁹ Because they that are malignant, shal be caft out:
but they that expect our Lord, the fame shal inherite
a)the land.

¹⁰ And yet a litle while, and the finner shal not be:
and thou shalt feeke his place, and shal not find it.

¹¹ But the meeke shal inherite the land, and shal
be delighted in multitude of peace.

¹² The finner shal obferue the iuft: and shal gnash
vpon him with his teeth.

¹³ But our Lord shal fcorne him: because he forefeeth
that his day shal come.

¹⁴ Sinners haue drawn out the fword; they haue
bent their bowe;

That they may deceiue the poore and needie: that
they may murder the right of hart.

¹⁵ Let b)their owne fwordes enter into their hartes:
and let their bowe be broken.

¹⁶ Better is a litle to the iuft, aboue much riches of
finners.

¹⁷ Because the armes of finners shal be broken in
pieces: but our Lord confirmeth the iuft.

¹⁸ Our Lord knoweth the daies of the immaculate:
and their inheritance shal be for euer.

¹⁹ They shal not be confounded in the euil time,
and in the dayes of famine they shal be filled: ²⁰ because
the finners shal perish.

But the enemies of our Lord forthwith as they
shal be honoured and exalted, vanishing shal vanish as
fmoke.

²¹ The finner shal borrow, and not pay: but the
iuft is merciful and wil geue.

²² Because they that bleffe him shal inherite the
land: but they that curfe him shal perish.

²³ With our Lord the fteppe of man shal be di-
rected: and he shal like wel of his way.

^a The land of the liuing.

^b By way of imprecation (as in manie other places) the prophet
forszeweth that wicked men shal fal into the euils, which they
prepare for others.

24 When ^a)he shal fal, he shal not be brufed: be-
caufe our Lord putteth his hand vnder.

25 I haue bene yong, for I am old: and I haue not
fene the iuft forfaken, ^b)nor his feede feeking bread.

26 Al the day he is merciful and lendeth: and his
feede shal be in bleffing.

27 ^c)Decline from euil, and doe good: and ^d)inhabite
for euer and euer.

28 Because our Lord loueth iudgement, and he wil
not forfake his fainctes: they shal be preferued for euer.

The vniuft shal be punished: and the feede of the
impious shal perish.

29 But the iuft shal inherite the land: and shal in-
habite for euer and euer vpon it.

30 The mouth of the iuft shal meditate wifedom,
and his tong shal fpeake iudgement.

The law of his God in his hart: and his fteppes
shal not be fupplanted.

^a Though the iuft fal of frailtie or ignorance into venial finne, yet
Gods grace shal ftay him that he fal not into mortal. The iuft
falleth feuen times in the day, & rifeth. *Pro. 24.*

^b So king Dauid obserued: and it very rarely happeneth, that the
iuft or their children are deftitute of neceffarie fuftenance in this
vworld. If it chance in fome, it is to their greater merite,
and is maniftly recompensed in fpiritual giftes. In which fenfe
Eccle. 2.
Pro. 31.
Ifa. 51.
S. Bafil expoundeth, that it is alwayes verified. For God euer
rewardeth good workes either temporally, or fpiritually, or both
wayes. S. Auguftin alfo (*conc. 3. in hunc Pfal.*) exemplifieth in
Abraham, Ifaac, and Iacob with al his familie, who were forced
to goe into other countries by reafon of famine, and by Gods
prouidence were there fuftained, *Gen. 12. 26. 46.* and S. Paul
among his other tribulations mentioneth famine and thirft. *2. Cor. 11.*
v. 27. Seing therfore thefe fo iuft perfons fought their bread in
neceffitie, he expoundeth this holie Scripture in the Allegorical
fenfe, that the Church from her beginning in Ierufalem to the
end of the world, neuer wanteth the true word of God, true faith
and doctrin, which is the fpiritual bread vvhervvith the foule is
nourifhed.

^c In thefe tvvo p̄nciples, declining frō euil and doing good, true
iuftice confifteth,

^d and he that finally obserueth thefe tvvo pointes, meriteth and fhall
poffeffe heauen.

31 The finner confidereth the iuft: and feeketh to
a)murder him.

32 But our Lord wil not leaue him in his handes:
neither wil he condemne him, when iudgement shal be
geuen of him.

33 Expect our Lord, and keepe his way: and he wil
exalt thee, that thou mayeft inherite the land: when the
finners shal perish thou shalt fee.

34 I haue feene the impious highly exalted, and ad-
uanced as the cerers of Libanus.

35 And I paffed by, and behold he was not: and I
fought him, and his place was not found.

36 Keepe innocencie, and fee equitie: becaufe there
are b)remaynes for the peaceable man.

37 But the vniuft shal perish together: the remaines
of the impious shal perish.

38 But the faluation of the iuft is c)of our Lord: and
he is their protectour in the time of tribulation.

39 And our Lord wil helpe them, and deliuer them:
and he wil take them away from finners, and faue them:
becaufe they haue hoped in him.

^a To draw him to mortal finne, which is death of the foule.

^b Rewardes.

^c Mans iuftice and wel doing is not of his owne powre but of Gods
grace.