

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 **B**e ^{d)}caufe ^{d)}they shal quickly wither as graffe: and as the bloffomes of herbes they shal foone fal.

³ **H**ope 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 **R**euele 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 fubiect 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 compofed in order of the Alphabet, euerie diftick beginning vvith a diuers letter, to moue the reader to diligent attention, which may ferue in place of a larger cōmentarie.

^b For Dauid and euery iuft mans inftruction.

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

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

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

^f & he wil geue thee that is neceffarie.

^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 efpecially in the next world.

⁹ Because they that are malignant, shall be cast out:
but they that expect our Lord, the same shall inherit
^athe land.

¹⁰ And yet a little while, and the finner shall not be:
and thou shalt see his place, and shall not find it.

¹¹ But the meeke shall inherit the land, and shall
be delighted in multitude of peace.

¹² The finner shall observe the iust: and shall gnash
upon him with his teeth.

¹³ But our Lord shall scorn him: because he foreseeth
that his day shall come.

¹⁴ Sinners have drawn out the sword; they have
bent their bowe;

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

¹⁵ Let ^btheir owne wordes enter into their hartes:
and let their bowe be broken.

¹⁶ Better is a little to the iust, above much riches of
finners.

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

¹⁸ Our Lord knoweth the daies of the immaculate:
and their inheritance shall be for ever.

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

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

²¹ The finner shall borrow, and not pay: but the
iust is merciful and will give.

²² Because they that blaspheme him shall inherit the
land: but they that curse him shall perish.

²³ With our Lord the steppe of man shall be di-
rected: and he shall like well of his way.

^a The land of the living.

^b By way of imprecation (as in many other places) the prophet
forsheweth that wicked men shall fall into the evils, 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 forsake 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
inhabite 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. *Prou. 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.*) exemplifi-
eth 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 therefore thefe fo iuft perfons fought their
bread in neceffitie, he expoundeth this holie Scripture in the Al-
legorical 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.