

# HOPE IN THE BATTLE

Matthew 6:13; Psalm 73 (ESV) February 2, 2025 Jon Field, Lead Pastor

#### **MESSAGE NOTES**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. — Matthew 6:13 (ESV)

#### How to pray in the battle:

For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. — Psalm 73:3 (ESV)

#### · Call out to God and get real

All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence. — Psalm 73:13 (ESV)

But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. — Psalm 73:2 (ESV)

## Enter the sanctuary of God's heart with others

But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, <u>until I went into the sanctuary of God</u>; then I discerned their end. — Psalm 73:16 — 17 (ESV)

## · Renew hope in the Word

... until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end. — Psalm 73:17 (ESV)

Truly You set them in slippery places; You make them fall to ruin. How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors! Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when You rouse Yourself, You despise them as phantoms. — Psalm 73:18 — 20 (ESV)

You guide me with Your counsel, and afterward You will receive me to glory. — Psalm 73:24 (ESV)

Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. — Psalm 73:25 – 26 (ESV)

#### Look for His Hand

I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward You. Nevertheless, I am continually with You; <u>You hold my right hand</u>. — Psalm 73:22 – 23 (ESV)

But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works.

— Psalm 73:28 (ESV)



## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Discussion Starter: Pastor Jon shared the story behind the hymn "It Is Well with My Soul." Google some lyrics from the song and discuss why it has had such an enduring impact for the last 150 years.
- Read Psalm 73:2. Why does God welcome us to be real in prayer and come as we are, even when we may be full of doubts and cynicism?
- What stands out to you most in Psalm 73?
- Why is it so important to enter the sanctuary of God's heart in worship with others, even when we lack confidence in God?
- How does immersing ourselves in God's Word renew our hope, especially when we are struggling?
- What is a promise from God or a truth about God's character that you need to be reminded of in the face of your current battles in life?
- Read Psalm 73:28. Asaph has come a long way with God by the end of his prayer. What is a step of faith God may be inviting you to take as you come to Him with your current life battles?
- Read Psalm 73:22 23. How does God "hold our hand" even when we are treating Him like a "beast"? What is the power in that message when we feel like we are spiraling away from God?
- If you participated in the 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting, what is something God taught you through it? What has God been teaching you about prayer?

