

NO OTHER gODS

— 30 Days of Worship —

DAY 2

— Asherah / Fruitfulness / Body —

READ

Psalm 37

³ Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

⁴ Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

⁶ He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

¹⁶ Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked.

¹⁸ The Lord knows the days of the blameless,

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and their heritage will remain forever;

¹⁹ *they are not put to shame in evil times;*

in the days of famine they have abundance.

²³ *The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way;*

²⁴ *though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.*

²⁵ *I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.*

²⁶ *He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing.*

REFLECT

The idol Asherah promises “fruitfulness.”

What does that look like for you?

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Is it a list of your daily accomplishments that gives you a sense of value or worth?

Is it in the way that your children perform, or even that you have children?

Do you feel less value if you don't maintain a certain standard of living?

When you walk through difficult times, do you hang your head, or do you continue to look to the Lord?

Take a minute to look at the list of commands in this psalm: *trust, do good, dwell, befriend, delight in the Lord, commit, trust, be still, wait patiently...* Most of these are only effectively carried out over a span of time. Very few are things that can be checked off of any sort of "to do" list in a short period.

If you look at all of the actions that the Lord will take, he is the one who will act. He will bring forth

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your righteousness, your value...
your worth.

And we are not to concern ourselves about what the world is doing. Others may look like they have achieved some level of success, or have it all “together,” even though they are not walking with the Lord. If we are striving to keep up with them, then we are not trusting in the Father’s care for us in good and difficult times.

RESPOND

Choose a response to God’s commands in this psalm that is most appropriate for your own heart.

Do you need to lift your hands up in surrender to the Lord’s control? Do you need to stand, to symbolize that you will not be moved, regardless of your circumstances, and that you will trust in the Lord

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to proclaim your value? Or maybe you need to bow down, and literally get on your hands and knees with your forehead to the ground in submission to his Lordship in your life.

Whichever you choose, while you are expressing yourself in this physical manner, take time to reclaim any part of your heart that you have given to this idol.

Give your heart to the Lord by *trusting, dwelling with God, being still, and delighting yourself in him and waiting for him to work out his good and perfect will in you.*