Psalm 37.27-29 Persecuted but not Forsaken May 27th, 2012

v27, 28, 29 ~ "forevermore" ~ "forever" ~ "forever"

- In this portion David uses the term <u>forever</u> 3 times
- It was used <u>only once</u> before in **v18** referring to inheritance
 - But here it refers to our eternal future with God
- Forever as a concept is <u>overused</u>, "Diamonds are forever!"
- <u>Wedding song</u> earlier this week: Groom wrote song "Forevermore"
 - Wedding <u>vows</u> are much more practical: "until death do us part"
 - O "I, Adam, take you Eve, to be my wife, for better or for worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, (forever \sim as long as we both shall live)."

This Portion of Text differs from Previous Portion

- This portion can be titled, "The Righteous walk with God forever"
- The prior portion (v23 v26) "The Righteous walk with God on Earth"
- God encourages us to persevere . . .
 - \circ He distinguishes between us ~ between good and evil
 - He affirms that He rewards the righteous with eternal life

"Are you past - present or future oriented?"

- This text and the one prior tests our time orientation . . .
- Do we tend to focus on the <u>past</u>, <u>present</u> or <u>future</u>?
- <u>*Ill*</u>: <u>MindTimeMaps</u> ~ I tested my time orientation . . .
 - o I'm 30% past, 30% present and 40% future oriented
 - <u>Ill</u>: <u>Fiddler on the Roof</u> "Your're right!" Not both . . . "You're right too"
- <u>Ill</u>: "Tipping Point" <u>birth order</u>: Applies only in context of family . . .
- Of what time orientation are you?
 - Are you balanced ~ do you have a healthy focus on each?
 - We cannot change the <u>past</u>, so God encourages us to let it go
 - In the present God wants us to "redeem the time"
 - And God wants this promised <u>future</u> blessing to motivate us

The table causes us to look <u>back</u> at Christ's finished work To consider our <u>present</u> need of Christ And our <u>future</u> with Him forever in Heaven