SERMON NOTES
Series: The Psalms of Our Lives
Title: The Life that Excels
Text: Psalm 36
Topic: Victory
Teacher: Pastor Barry
Time: 11/1/26
File Under: Christian Living



What does it take to attain a life that excels? First, the life that excels understands…

THE FUTILITY OF SIN: "Futility" means vain, useless, ineffectual, frivolous.

Your creed will determine your deed.

In the first four verses sin has convinced this man to adopt a false creed and push God out of his life. This is seen in two ways: first, in his attitude: (1-2)

His attitude is one of rebellion and arrogance toward God.

Second, in his actions. (3)

When one does not believe in God there is no one to whom he/she is ultimately accountable.

Sin is progressive and it's deadly.

THE FULLNESS OF SALVATION: David launches into the attributes of God; His mercy, faithfulness, righteousness, and judgment.

God's salvation is described in terms of *sufficiency*, *shelter*, and *satisfaction*.

God not only wants to give you pleasures, He wants to give you an abundance of pleasures… *"…a river of delights."*

THE FAITHFULNESS OF THE SAVIOR: God remains true to His Word. He is dependable. You can count on God.

Two specific ways God will always be faithful: He will delight the saints (10) and denounce the sinner (11 & 12).

DIGGING DEEPER: What difference do you see I the thoughts of the "wicked" and the "righteous"? How do thoughts give birth to actions? From verses 1-4 what qualities characterize the wicked? David's thoughts about the wicked move him to reflect upon God's character: Why is that? What is the point of each word picture in verses 5-9?
FOR FURTHER REFLECTION: In the Psalms the "righteous" seem to be those who may do evil but are generally seeking to please God. The "wicked" are those who, despite good they may do are generally rejecting God's ways. What aspects of each do you see in your own life? Using your own literary license, re-write verses 5-6 in terms of your own experience of God. To what can you compare God's love? His faithfulness His justice? What have you tasted of God's fest recently? How ha she refreshed or enlivened you?