

## TREATED BADLY FOR DOING RIGHT

When it rains, it pours. Sometimes it seems like we are bombarded by bad even though we are trying our best to do good. I believe that David felt this way when he wrote Psalm 4. Ultimately, we have to decide that we are going to trust in the LORD, even if those around us don't and scorn us for our belief.

In Psalm 4, we see an unwavering trust in the LORD. David is able to hold onto his faith because of past experience (v 1). He remembers what God has done for him and that gives him the confidence to know that God will continue to be faithful and listen to him.

David understands that the faithlessness of others does not negate nor will it overcome the LORD's faithfulness to keep his promises (vv 2-3). People may not understand why we would follow the teachings of a collection of really old writings. Instead of doing things the world's way, we try to do things God's way. Because of this, the world may call us foolish or many other things, however, we know that we are set apart for the LORD and he hears us.

Our message to the world is there is a better way (vv 4-5). But the world only trusts in what it can see and experience (vv 6-7). The "good life" to most is having more of the physical things that they desire. We must show them that God has blessed us with everything we need and the truly good life is sharing what we have with others. That will bring more joy than our hoarding up wealth and possessions for ourselves.

Most of all, people want to feel secure (v 9). We may never feel completely secure with our situation here in this life, but by trusting in God we can know that he will deliver us no matter what others say or do to us in this life. Am I trusting in God enough to be at peace with whatever happens to me, good or bad? Can I say, like Paul did, *For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain* (ESV)?

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