



PSALMS

of Joy and Sorrow

Psalm 73

“A Song of Doubt”

What do you do with doubts?

“A faith without some doubts is like a human body without any antibodies in it. People who blithely go through life too busy or indifferent to ask hard questions about why they believe as they do will find themselves defenseless against either the experience of tragedy or the probing questions of a smart skeptic.”

– Tim Keller

“Faith is tossed about by various doubts, so that the minds of the godly are rarely at peace. .”

“We cannot imagine any certainty that is not tinged with doubt, or any assurance that is not assailed by some anxiety. On the other hand, we say that believers are in perpetual conflict with their own unbelief.”

– John Calvin

“A Song of Doubt”

1. HONESTLY WISHING TO BE WICKED – 73:3-15

“I was envious of the arrogant ... all in vain have I kept my heart clean”

2. HONESTLY WEARY TOWARD WORSHIP – 73:16-17

“it seemed to me a wearisome task...”

3. HONESTLY WOWED WITH GOD 73:18-26

“God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

What do you do with doubts?

“A person’s faith can collapse almost overnight if she has failed over the years to listen patiently to her own doubts, which should only be discarded after long reflection. Believers should acknowledge and wrestle with doubts — not only their own but their friends’ and neighbors’ ... Only if you struggle long and hard with objections to your faith will you be able to provide the grounds for your beliefs to skeptics, including yourself, that are plausible rather than ridiculous or offensive. And, just as important for our current situation, such a process will lead you, even after you come to a position of strong faith, to respect and understand those who doubt.”

– Tim Keller