

# “The Blessed Man”

Psalm 1

“The wicked  
are not so...”

“How blessed  
is the man...”





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Psalm 1

## Opening Message of the Psalter

- Purpose in its placement
  - Either composed or chosen as introduction
  - “A faithful doorkeeper” (Kidner)
- Two choices
  - Throughout psalms - those seeking and fearing God/those who aren't
  - Consistent throughout God's word
    - Moses in Deut. 30:15-20
    - Solomon in Proverbs 2:7-16a, 20-22)
    - Jesus in the gospels (sheep/goats or right/left, foolish/wise, faithful/wicked servant, serving two masters, broad/narrow way, etc.)

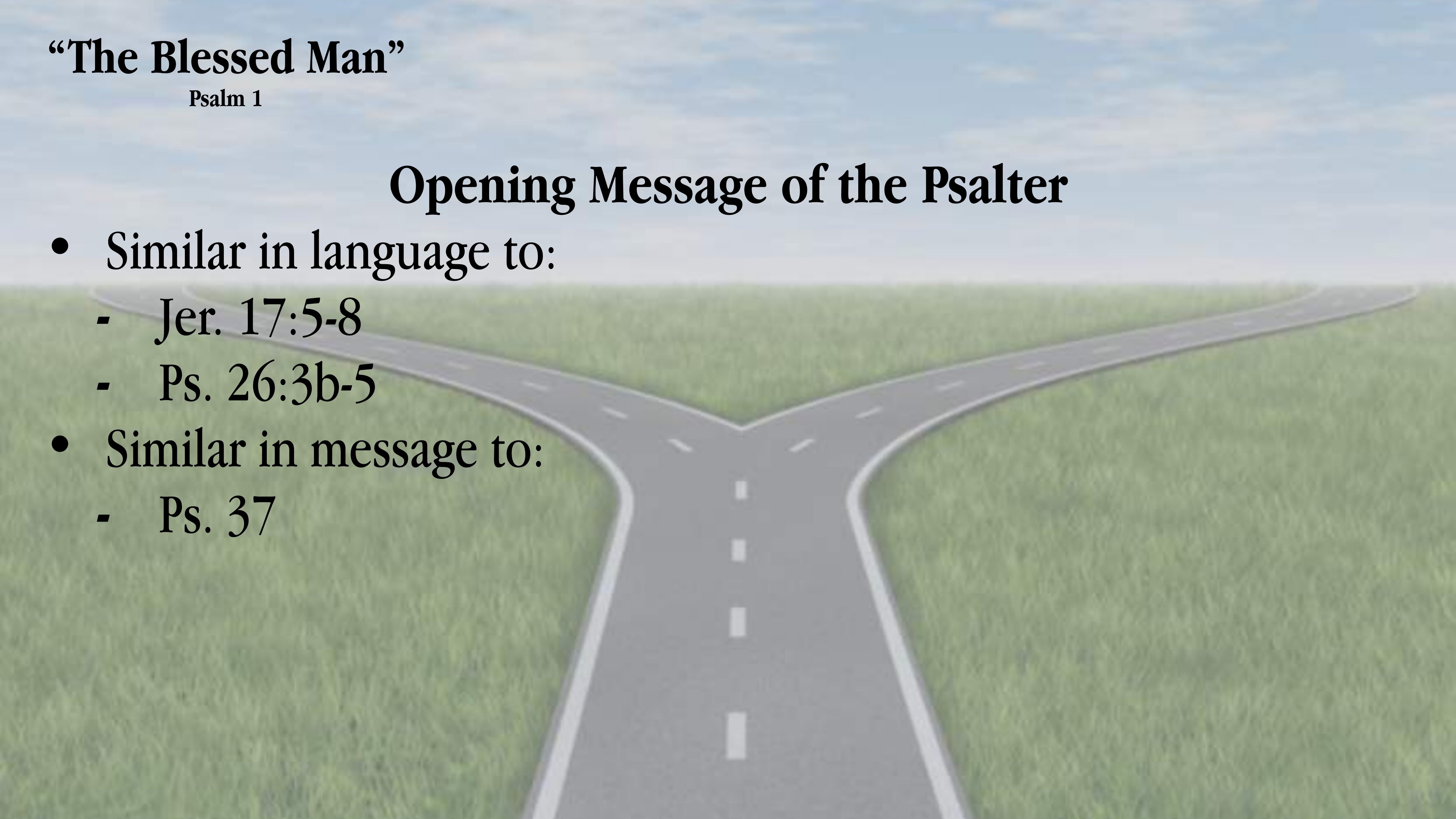


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## Opening Message of the Psalter

- Similar in language to:
  - Jer. 17:5-8
  - Ps. 26:3b-5
- Similar in message to:
  - Ps. 37





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## Opening Message of the Psalter

- Begins with an exclamation and declaration (Original Hebrew, and sometimes translated in LXX as “Oh, the blessedness of that man...”)
- “How blessed...”
- Not a promise of health, wealth, and a life free of trouble
  - Psalms penned in hiding as Saul pursues
  - Cries for help in times of sorrow
  - Penitent psalms
  - Psalms depicting destruction
- Beatitudes (poor in spirit, mourning, persecuted, insulted)



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## **Opening Message of the Psalter**

- Peace and contentment through trust (Ps. 27; 62:1-8)
- “Peace surpassing all comprehension” (Php. 4:7)
- God has always cared for the godly (2 Pet. 2:4-9)
- “All things work together for good...” (Rom. 8:28)



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## Regarding the Righteous

1. “How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked... (1:1a)
  - a) 65:4 (with 4:3)
    - The godly man
    - Chosen by the Lord
  - b) 119:1-2
    - Diligent effort; no accident
    - “Blessed... those who hear and observe” (Lk. 11:28)
    - More than lip service (Mt. 7:21)



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## Regarding the Righteous

2. “Nor stand in the path of sinners...” (1:1b)

a) 84:4,5,12

- Those dwelling with God
- Seeking His paths
- Finding strength and trusting in Him

b) 89:15-18

- Those exalted, protected, and enjoying the favor of the Lord through obedience.

c) 119:105-106

- Following a path lit by the word of God



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## Regarding the Righteous

3. “Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!” (1:1c)

a) 106:3

- Those keeping God’s justice and righteousness ever before them.

b) 15:1-5... “Who may dwell on Your holy hill?”

- Opposite of those “swearing to their own hurt”, unwilling to change