



## Psalm 73: Asaph's Journey into the Great Life

### 1. The Great Life

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Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. <sup>2</sup> But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. <sup>3</sup> For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. <sup>4</sup> They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong. <sup>5</sup> They are free from common human burdens; they are not plagued by human ills. **Psalm 73:1-5** (NIV)

### 2. The Great Life

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<sup>6</sup> Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence. <sup>7</sup> From their callous hearts comes iniquity; their evil imaginations have no limits. <sup>8</sup> They scoff, and speak with malice; with arrogance they threaten oppression. <sup>9</sup> Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth. <sup>10</sup> Therefore their people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance. <sup>11</sup> They say, "How would God know? Does the Most High know anything?" <sup>12</sup> This is what the wicked are like— always free of care, they go on amassing wealth. <sup>13</sup> Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence. <sup>14</sup> All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments. **Psalm 73:6-14** (NIV)

### 3. The Great Life

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<sup>16</sup> When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply <sup>17</sup> till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny. <sup>18</sup> Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. <sup>19</sup> How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! <sup>20</sup> They are

like a dream when one awakes; when you arise, Lord, you will despise them as fantasies. **Psalm 73:16-20** (NIV)

### 4. The Great Life

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<sup>21</sup> When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, <sup>22</sup> I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. <sup>23</sup> Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. <sup>24</sup> You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. <sup>25</sup> Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. <sup>26</sup> My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. <sup>27</sup> Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. <sup>28</sup> But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign LORD my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds. **Psalm 73:21-28** (NIV)

## Three Keys to Living an Authentically Great Life

### 1. The Great Life is possible

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<sup>17</sup> I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me. **Proverbs 8:17** (NIV)

<sup>8a</sup> Come near to God and he will come near to you ... **James 4:8a** (NIV)

### 2. The Great Life is possible

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<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. <sup>17</sup> God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** (NLT)

### 3. The Great Life is possible

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<sup>11</sup> So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. **Ephesians 4:11-13** (NIV)

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