

Psalms 19-03-07b

Let's resume our study now in Psalm 37 and I have Been working over the break to see if I can get the document available for those of you that are at a distance And I've renamed it, but it doesn't seem to be coming up I'll put a link up and you'll have to look at it later But you can do this even if you just got a pen and you're not squeamish about marking your Bible Because we have the entire Hebrew alphabet here minus one letter and I gave you the structure of this last time, but The first letter olive you can circle in verse 1 do not fret Do not fret that's the olive and That's the theme of both of those verses don't fret and then it tells you how not to do it the in verse 3 the First word there is trust and This is this is the bait one. So just circle trust don't fret trust olive bait When you get down to verse 5 and you have the gimmel The first word in that verse is commit Commit that's the gimmel word it starts with G So you've got an eye on the document here. I've got them highlighted in yellow.

So you've got do not fret trust commit Then you get down to verse 7 and it's it this is the pair that begins with Dalit the letter D in Hebrew and This is the word rest It's even the first word in English rest just circle it do not fret trust commit rest and Then finally you have the letter. Hey Which is the letter H and? Your word there is cease Stop quit cease begins with the letter H And You can see that these are the key concepts in each pair of verses and This is the formula. This is the quick response Because Why would David spend all of this time writing this song? With all of these verses in it.

It's got almost 40 verses In fact, it does have 40 verses Why would he do that How disastrous is fretting and frustration How distracting is it how debilitating is it very much It's an important thing to avoid we think you know, everybody gets their shorts in a knot from time to time Everybody gets put out and you know a little righteous indignation and some anger here The reason David writes this relatively long psalm about this is this stuff will kill you It will extinguish your spiritual life, which Takes big chunks out of your future Our spiritual life now Determines the future it determines the future in this life and it determines the future in the next life So this is no small thing it's not an idle nice if you can do it sort of a thing We've got 40 verses here Because it's really important to get a grip on this So, how do you do it? If you're not going to fret you've got to trust which is looking to God Why would you trust God well, he's a pretty good person to trust in he's trustworthy Worthy of trust you've got to commit Trust is toward God right commit is me How committed am I how dedicated am I how much of a camel going down the road am I going to be Am I? Inconsistent to my various am I on today and off tomorrow? Rest is the result of trusting in God and committing my way, right? I know who he is and what he's going to do. I know who I am and where I'm going to do I can relax The first two this is progressive Here's the here's the solution to not fret Trust God look to him spend time thinking about him dwell in his house Bait right commit be the camel that just you know, it's kind of ugly spits Makes noises, but it gets where it's going. It's it's faithful.

It sticks to the road Dalit rest in the Lord and wait patiently for him He'll decide when to cut the

evil grass down. He'll decide when to reward and vindicate the righteous Let him figure it out his his timing and his means are always always always better than ours because he knows more than we do and then finally Cease from anger and forsake wrath because that's what fretting leads to You start fretting. This is why I quit watching the evening news.

I started fretting and pretty soon. I found myself being angry and What good does that do? Nobody in Washington cares if I'm angry Nobody overseas is going to do anything different because of my feelings All I'm doing is spinning myself up. I'm harming myself and those around me and I'm putting a big divot in my own spiritual life.

I could be useful. I could be growing in grace I could be getting prepared to be a good steward and a good servant of the Lord Jesus so rest and Cease from anger forsake wrath and look how it ends like it began do not fret You can just run this thing like a tire. Do not fret trust commit rest cease from anger stop fretting Trust commit rest It comes right back and ties into itself It's it's a circle you can take these first five verses and five is the number of completion in the human realm In the Bible, that's why there's five books of the law.

That's why there's five fingers on your hand and five toes on your foot it's When you enumerate five things you've got it done the Ten Commandments There's five on each tablet two tablets five commands on each one because each tablet is a completion There's five that are more or less directed toward God and five that are more or less directed toward man Love the Lord your God love your neighbor as yourself five and five Five toward God five toward man and you got it figured out So these first five verses I'll if bait gimble doll at hey, that's your formula Now you can start working this all the rest of the way down So number six there and you see I numbered them on your document Yet a little while notice that the pattern is broken here after the first five we had Imperatives at the beginning of each of those five things One's a negative don't fret trust is positive commit is positive rest is positive and cease is positive Right. This is what you do. Don't sit there and stew Do something? Do don't stew That can be your refrigerator magnet for this week then we it breaks the pattern because you've got that completion of five and so number six here the letter Wow is Yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more The letter Wow in Hebrew is is a hook It looks like a wall with a little hook sticking out the top that you hang your robe or your shepherd's crook or something on It's it's a straight upward line with a little hook at the top And and Wow is the hook sometimes they think it's the shepherds crook But it's a hook and so many sentences in Hebrew begin with it and their chance translated variously and now but then When it's a conjunction it's standing by itself.

It's a conjunction in Hebrew. It hooks two sentences or two ideas together There's also a Wow conversive that will take a perfect Hebrew verb and turn it into an imperfect or if you put it in front of an imperfect that makes it perfect It's it's a hook it takes it and flips it over It's reminds me of grilling burgers. You know, you get that little thing You just flip it over turn it from one thing to another in this case Yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more indeed.

You will look carefully for his place, but it shall be no more he will be no more and You

remember that thing about you know boo on you and the horse you rode in on Well, he is gone and the place where he was is gone. There's a crater where the wicked used to be He's not there The ground he stood on is not there take off your shoes the place where on you stand is holy ground Well the place where on the wicked stands is unholy ground and God's going to get him and it and there's just this divot That's the picture in Hebrew He will be no more you'll look you'll look diligently, where did he go? I see a crater here But I don't see the guy and I don't see any of his works or any of his advantages or any of his not only was he cut down, but then they came and and got a Shovel and took up the sod and everything. There's just Not even topsoil there but and If you wonder where Jesus got some of the material for the Sermon on the Mount it's right here the meek shall inherit the earth and The meek shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace If you can figure out how to put away this fretting how to trust to commit to rest and to let go of anger Just disinvest let it go Just let the embers die don't fan them don't feed them don't pour gasoline on them let that fire die You are going to inherit the earth What does it mean to inherit the earth? It's a nice phrase.

What does it mean? Was he thinking the globe You know rep logo used to make those globes some of them had lights inside and all that was he thinking about the globe Arutz in Hebrew means the land this is the land of promise and if you have an inheritance in the land it's permanent It's yours from now on There is no better feeling this has happened to Patty and me twice where we have actually paid off a house Paid it off Do not owe one dime to anybody anywhere the pile of rocks and the sheetrock inside is ours Got to still pay taxes got to still pay insurance You've got overhead expenses, but the thing itself cannot be taken away from me. I own it. We own it.

We paid for it It's ours in perpetuity. We can do with it. Whatever we want That's what inherit the land is God is going to give you fill in your name here God is going to give Sam God is going to give fill in your name a chunk of real estate forever Forever You have got a chunk of However, you understand the future heaven the kingdom of the Father the the new heavens and the new earth There's going to be a patch of it.

That's got you've got title deed. It's yours, and it can never be taken away You own a piece of the rock Forever Why? Because you were valiant and rode in on a horse and swung a sword and a spear and led an army and took it No, because you were humble Meekness is not cowardice. It's not Meekness is not weakness.

It's not being insipid and kicking your toe in the dirt Genuine humility genuine meekness is teachability You listen When somebody who may know what they're talking about is talking you're teachable you pay attention you're looking for the truth and you want to live by it and act on it and incorporate it into your heart and into your soul and you don't Lash yourself to a creed or to a point of view or you know Don't bother me with the facts. My mind's made up meekness is Olive and bait and Gimel and Dalit and hey, I am the ox and I will go where The master who has harnessed me wants me to go I'm the camel and I will haul this freight where I'm supposed to go. I am submissive because I'm smart and the smart path is Submission that's

where rest and peace are the meek will inherit the earth This is no small thing.

This is not sort of an abstraction that one of these days if we do this we are going to walk into the heavenly realms in the new earth and the new Jerusalem that comes out of the new heavens and There's going to be a chunk of it with stuff built on it and it's going to have your name on it People I think greatly underestimate this saying of the Lord in this particular blessing You have to give some stuff up here Remember Jesus told the disciples they said well Lord You had been talking to the rich young ruler and and the guy said well I've got too much stuff to forsake it all and come follow you. He went away sorrowing because he had great wealth and And Jesus said it's easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle and for a rich man into the kingdom For a rich man here who's compiled all of his stuff here To have an entrance into the kingdom he'll see the kingdom. He's not unsaved, but he's not going to enter it He's not going to own it.

He's not going to have Anything in it why? He had his stuff here So the disciples hear Jesus say this and they say well Lord we've forsaken all and followed you we left our families and our business and we're traipsing around here, you know traveling through Samaria and Living off of what people are willing to donate and provide and we've forsaken all to follow you and Jesus said Whatever you have forsaken in this land Houses land your families you will have in terms of fellowship and so on you will have a hundredfold in the kingdom You give it up here. You're willing to do without it here You're gonna have an abundance of it there and what's the difference anything we have here is temporary Walk into any antique store I've Anytime we go to Claremore and have some time we go to the antique store and you see all of these things that sometime or other belong to somebody else it might be a an astro boy lunchbox or a Mickey Mouse watch or a fine piece of furniture or a phonograph or a musical instrument or All of these things it belonged to somebody else and guess what it's here and they're gone That stuff belonged to people that have gone on and they literally didn't take it with them So what are they going to have for all eternity? It depends on did they? Trust did they commit did they rest? Did they? cease from anger and forsake wrath The meek will inherit the earth and they will delight themselves in an abundance of peace People put bumper stickers on their car, you know peace in our time visualize world peace if you want peace Here's your formula and it's eternal peace. It Jesus said I don't give you peace the way the world gives you peace It doesn't last it's on a shaky foundation When Jesus gives us peace it is peace indeed and it's eternal peace eternal Benefit so that's the Wow and you you hang your life on that hook This this is what I'm hanging my hat on then you get to Zion, which is the seventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet here and It's the wicked the wicked are Plotting against the just and the word there is plots Zion is the word for plots.

Do you want God's plan or do you want a wicked plot? What's what's your preference if you're wicked you're making your own plan you've got a plot and it's going to fail And The wicked will plot against the just and they gnash at him with their teeth This is like the dog that can't quite get the leash long enough to bite you you know, you're walking just past the edge of the fence or the the chain or whatever they're on and If they could they would sink their teeth into you

with Relish or Ketchup or with any other thing they could get on you. They would happily Bite, but the Lord laughs at him for he sees that his day is coming This seems kind of harsh This guy's snapping and gnashing and trying to eat the righteous and God is laughing Why? God knows how futile all of this is and there's gonna day there's going to be a day when he's just going to be the crater He and his chain and his teeth and everything else are going to be gone Why does David tell us this? Because this is what we should remember God is in his heaven. God isn't nervous God's not sending an angel to stand between us and the wicked.

God says this is so futile and so Impertinent and unrealistic for this wicked to think that they can harm one of my people It's just funny It's funny that they think that they've got the power to do something to the righteous because they don't and it's silly for us to Grant them that power People only have as much power to take your peace as you give them they only have as much power to Make you unhappy as you give them God doesn't give them that power God has the power to make us happy and God has the power to make the wicked unhappy. But if we sit and say The opinion of that person really hurts me the the attitude and the actions of this person It just I can't sleep I can't think I this is so frustrating That these people would act this way and do these things and get into my business and treat me So unfairly and say these unfair untrue nasty things and do these unfair nasty and unjust things I just I'm just boiling. I can't I can't put two thoughts together because this is so aggravating You gave them all of that power They don't have the power.

God doesn't give them the power. God laughs at it And we should remember that God's laughing and we should relax We should remember that the time for this little operation is short and if they knew what was coming, they wouldn't be saying and doing what they're saying and doing and God forbid we should ever be in that category So it is important to remember that in God's eyes. This is so trivial.

It's laughable the alleged attacks of the wicked The wicked draw their sword and bend their bow to cast down the poor and needy and to slay those who are of upright conduct This is the hate letter eight but their sword is going to enter their own heart and their bows are going to be broken if you've ever done any archery and Actually had a bow in your hand that broke This is kind of like your gun blowing up in your face You're you know, you get an obstruction and your pistol or your rifle I've even had this happen with revolvers that didn't physically blow up but they were so loose that that powder grains blew back into my hand and into my face from a poorly designed revolver and Well, it's worse if your bow breaks those pieces come back and you know, you're on the ground writhing in agony with self-inflicted wounds That's what God says is going to happen Now look at the next one the letter pay Pay means mouth that that's what it is. It's the letter and it's like bait is the word for house This this is the letter pay and it says the mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom and his tongue talks of justice Notice what he doesn't use his tongue for he's not bending his bow and brandishing his sword. He's not bad-mouthing the the wicked He's not trying to Fight fire with fire and talking bad and doing them harm The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom his tongue talks of justice the law of his God is in his heart None of his steps shall slide To help if I had these pages stapled in the right order

wouldn't And the reason I was confused by that is the next letter the night the ninth Concept there is taith which is tove the word for good Boker tove means good morning in Hebrew Lila tove means good evening in Hebrew tove means good And so it has righteousness there and then you see yod The Lord knows the days of the upright and their inheritance shall be forever They shall not be ashamed in the evil time and in the days of famine they should be satisfied what I want to get to here is the letter cough Which is the 11th letter of the Hebrew alphabet and this is halfway through the song.

It's 22 letters, right? So 11 is halfway through and in case you're starting to lose the bubble Listening to me you might starting to get fatigued because there's a lot of information, right? So David knows that because he's the one giving all this information that we're talking about So halfway through on the 11th letter, which is the letter cough Almost every word in this verse starts with K look at the at the Look at the highlighted words there the wicked it starts with a K The splendor starts with a K the meadows starts with a K Vanish is in there twice and both times vanish starts with with cough He just coughs all over the place in this in this verse It's nothing but K's you couldn't do half of this verse without the letter K So he just peppers them all in there because it's a marker you're halfway through and you can say I put a dotted line right Below that verse it's the halfway mark this is what can be done with structure and with With things that are beyond just the content It's one thing to say that the wicked will perish and the enemies of the Lord will perish like the splendor of the meadows This is the grass that grows up in the morning and withers in the evening. It will vanish into smoke They shall vanish away. It reiterates so much of what has been said previously that he and his place are going to both Go away, and you'll look for them and not find them.

It's going to vanish into smoke They shall vanish away There's five or six K's in this verse You can look at the rest of this At at your leisure. I just want to go to the final Portion here if you turn to your last page, or if you look at the last part of the psalm in your Bible Over and over again, and there's there's quite a lot about the wicked in the earlier part of the psalm You see a lot of my orange or on this printout It looks kind of pink and you can see in that first section the first 11 Letters, which is about the first 20 Verses there's a lot about the wicked but you started at the twelfth letter Lamed which is verse 21 and Start marking what God says about the righteous look at the blue portions in your printout or look in your Bible in verse 21 the righteous shows mercy and gives and People that he blesses are going to inherit the earth. It says those blessed by him and his capital H That's that's not God.

That's the righteous That's a small age. There is no word for God there and the near context says the righteous shows mercy and gives and Those blessed by the righteous will inherit the earth your blessing is going to extend to others those that you approve that you Bless with generosity with mercy with your consistency with your service with your kindness They are going to inherit Your inheritance is going to be shared with them What better thing could you do for those that you love and those that are that are? Receptive then to bless them in such a way that they get eternal blessing as well. They will inherit the earth and The ones that are not that are cursed that you withdraw your favor and your your counsel and your presence from

They are cut off This reminds you what Jesus said to the disciples Those when you tell them that their sins are forgiven on earth They're forgiven in heaven and we tell them their sins are retained Their sins are retained in heaven and you say wow did the disciples have the ability to decide who gets forgiven? No, the disciples had the ability to identify people who appreciated forgiveness and would announce it to them and People who weren't interested in forgiveness They would tell him it's like Jesus told the Pharisees if you would acknowledge your blindness You could see but because you say we see when you're really blind your sin remains Jesus didn't formally forgive or not forgive their sin He told them this is your problem because of your attitude You can't be forgiven and that's what the disciples did when they became Apostles if you if you proclaim forgiveness of sin to somebody It's it's because they've received it there.

They they take it you're handing and they take it's what God does with salvation Salvation is available to all men, but not everybody reaches out and takes it and it's it's kind of their own fault Same thing here People who aren't bending their bow and brandishing their sword and trying to cut you down and tear you apart if you bless them They enter into that eternal blessing that we all share if we're if we're part of that crowd You find that up in verse 16 Or verse 18, I'm sorry The Lord knows the days of the upright and their inheritance shall be forever They shall not be ashamed in the evil time and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied There are so many benefits from a simple set of decisions to be the ox to trust to commit To dwell and abide This is a long 40 verse list of the benefits So in conclusion, let me ask one question with all of this information Mm-hmm Whose fault is it if we don't have peace if we don't have blessing and if we don't have a wonderful inheritance and Set of great opportunities in the eternal future. Is it because nobody let us know Is it because we didn't we heard that it was there, but we didn't know how to get a hold of it David has given us Detailed instructions This is better than the manual that comes with the put-together swing or the tricycle or whatever it is You you buy and they say, you know assembly instructions inside. That's what we've got.

This is the assembly instructions for inheritance for peace and blessing and security in this life and wonderful grace and Inheritance and possession in the next life Hands up anybody that does not want that who doesn't think that that would be a great thing To have a great life here and a great life in the future who doesn't want that well Here you go. Just do this Do this and live do this and prosper do this and be impervious do this and be bulletproof to the Stratagems of the wicked do this and you never have to worry about people plotting and Scheming and undermining you don't have to worry about the government. You don't have to worry about Corruption in high places.

You don't have to worry about people who are Cheating and doing wrong at your job or in your school or in any area of life we have been lifted up and out of that and set on solid ground with a wonderful life here and a glorious future in the kingdom of the Father Here's how to do it Everything you need is in this song nothing lacking. That's why it goes from A to Z Do you see the greatness of the acrostic the acrostic goes A to Z? There's only one letter missing if you

notice there's 40 verses instead of 44 and a couple of these letters only have one verse, but there's a letter left out and Of all the Hebrew letters that I've described to you before you can probably guess which one it is Do you remember me talking about the evil ion The evil ion is the only letter that's not in this acrostic Why? What does the psalm tell you about the wicked and his place? even the letter that begins the word wicked and Wickedness and evil is taken out That letter is gone out of this psalm David says look Where you're going and Exercising these skills and claiming these promises. There is no ion.

It's not in there We just skip right over it. So there's only 21 letters in this psalm It is as though you take evil right out of your vocabulary the wicked and and these others They're going away, and I'm not even putting their letter in my little my little scheme here Just preview of things to come there's a day coming where there will be no Evil there will be no wicked remember the description of the kingdom of God where righteousness is at home Righteousness dwells we saw that in an earlier psalm. That's we prepare for it now And we've got detailed instructions on how to do it.

It's not hard It's not unknown. It's just a matter of deciding that that's what we want I want a happy life now Want a bright eternal future with eternal possession you got your instruction manual in Psalm 37 well Let's close here in a word of prayer Father thank you for the truth of your word. Thank you for how clear and straightforward you have made Your will and your desire for our lives.

We thank you for the Lord Jesus who came and partook of our flesh and Humbled himself and was obedient Even to the death of the cross and because he did that you have highly exalted him and given him the name that is above Every name and we are known by that name, and we have him as our Savior We are related to you through him, and we thank you so much for that secure and confident Status we know who we are now. We know who we will be in the future after Death and after this world closes and is removed and taken away so that that new heavens and new earth Where righteousness dwells will be our home We pray that your Holy Spirit will take these things and make them fruitful and meaningful in our hearts help us to understand How we should then live what we should think about how we should behave what our priorities and our goals should be We pray that our lives can reflect your glory in the glory of our Savior the Lord Jesus, and we ask it in his name Amen