

Psalm 36 – Preservation in Distress

“Oracle” – Person or place to go to for wise, insightful, prophetic counsel/guidance

A Contrast of Oracles:

- The ungodly oracle seeks to form a human life without God as its source – Ps 36:1-4
 - ...If God ceases to be God, then truth ceases to be truth
 - ...Without respect for God even a smart person will become foolish – Ps 36:1,3; Ps 14:1; Lam 2:14
 - ...We flatter ourselves into believing we can be our own deliverers – Ps 36:2
 - ...The oracle of the ungodly is the evil one – Ps 36:4
- The godly oracle seeks to form a human life with God as its source – Ps 36:5-9
 - ...If God is love all His directives are trustworthy – Ps 36:5,7; 1 Jo 4:8
 - ...If God is faithful His truth is for all generations, all circumstances – Ps 36:5; Heb 13:8
 - ...If God is righteous it can never be overcome by evil – Ps 36:6

A Contrast of Results:

- The ungodly oracle has a corrosive and degrading power – Ps 36:1-4
 - ...May be short-term gains, but long term losses
 - ...captive to sin... loss of respect for God... self-deception... loss of hatred for evil...
eternal death – Ps 36:1-4, 12; Lk 12:13-21
- The godly oracle has a satisfying and preserving power – Ps 36:6-9
 - ...to preserve is to deliver and keep safe – Ps 36:6
 - ...refuge in life's storms... life-giving abundance/satisfaction... see rightly/clearly...
a life that conquers death – Ps 36:6-9,12

WHO WILL YOU AUTHORIZE TO TELL YOU HOW TO INVEST YOUR LIFE?