

He says, Have nothing to do with them. Blessed is the man that does not participate in the councils or the plans or the schemes of those who are wicked, nor stand in the way of sinners. The word 'sinners' is a more definite word. It does not imply character here, but simply blameworthy, those who deserve blame in God's sight, not sitteth in the ~~xxx~~ seat of the scornful. In contrast to this word 'ungoddy' which occurred so often in the Scripture, a word 'scornful' here occurred only a few times. It is the participle from the verb which means 'to scorn' or 'to mock.' And it shows the condition of the one that is not merely living9..... the life that is evil in God's sight, who is not merely blameworthy in God's sight, but who is actually mocking and scorning and scoffing at ~~xxx~~ that which is right, and that which is godly, and that is the step to which the other steps naturally lead, the step of not only doing what is wrong, but scoffing and mocking at that which is good. Do you know, I think we need to qualify this. We say here is the first step here is the second, and here is the third, and how terrible is the third, we must not even make the first, and yet by a strange circumlocution which is easy for the Christian to sometimes step around the first two steps, and step quite squarely into the middle of the third one, and it is very easy to do. It is very easy for us to be so stirred with a desire to serve God perfectly, the desire that things shall be just right, that we adopt a scornful attitude toward everything that doesn't come up to the standards we have set. And all too often we ourselves fall very far short of the standards, but you will find us scoffing and mocking, and ridiculing other people who are good Christian people, but who don't come up to the standards that they should come up to. Let's not merely keep from sitting in the seat of the wicked one, but let's avoid it in our own lives. Let's speak kindly in our own way to others, particularly those of the faith, Let us try to help them, rather than to say anything that will make people think less of you. The seat of the scornful is the final judgment of those who are in great wickedness, but oh how often we get into some phase of that step ourselves.....ll.....

Well, now here is the negative. What is the positive? The one who is saved through Christ, the one who is truly living as God wants him to, he characterizes