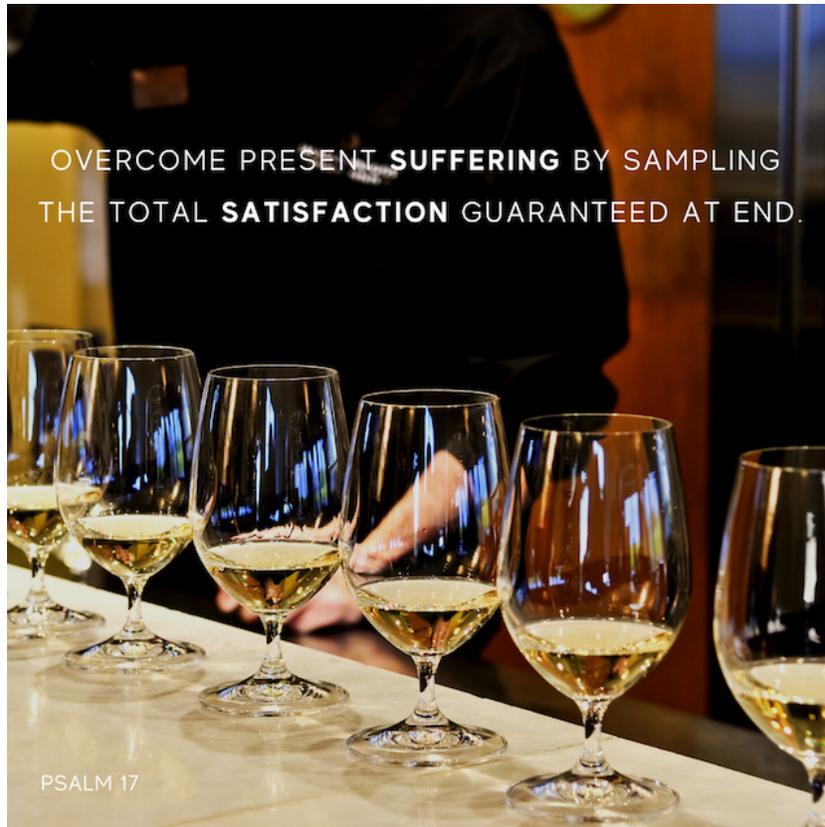

TOTAL SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

PSALM 17



“Total satisfaction guaranteed.” How many times we’ve bought something on that promise and ended up dissatisfied and disappointed. Maybe you became a Christian on the promise or expectation of total satisfaction guaranteed, but it hasn’t worked out that way. You’re suffering and you are far from satisfied. Worse, non-Christians are successful and satisfied. How do we persevere? How do we keep going in the face of disappointed expectations? David struggled with this in Psalm 17 but eventually found a satisfying answer: **We overcome present suffering by sampling the total satisfaction guaranteed at the end.**

LEARNING

THE WICKED’S SATISFACTION IS LIMITED (1-14)

As David suffered at the hands of the wicked he prayed for justice (1-4), for grace in this trial (5-6), and for protection (7-14), and then arrived at a satisfying answer (15-16). The wicked have some satisfaction in some areas for some time, but the believer’s satisfaction will be total for all eternity.

The wicked are **men of the world** (14), not men of the world to come. Their **portion is in this life** (14), but will leave it all when this life ends. **God fill[s] their womb with treasure** (14), meaning their belly is full, but not their souls. **They are satisfied with children** (14). Their families are full and flourishing, and they have so much stuff **they leave their abundance to their infants** (14). But they have to eventually leave this world and when they do they leave everything behind. Their limited satisfaction is over and their total dissatisfaction begins.

CHOOSING PRESENT SATISFACTION IS
CHOOSING LIMITED SATISFACTION.

Is there an alternative that guarantees total satisfaction?

THE BELIEVER'S SATISFACTION WILL BE TOTAL (15-16)

As for me...I will be satisfied (15, 16). Having seen that the wicked's satisfaction is limited, David turned to the believer and said, the believer's satisfaction will be total (future tense). How did he get there? **He overcame present suffering by sampling the total satisfaction guaranteed at the end.**

I will be satisfied because **I will awake** (15). To the bereaved, the believer's death looks like falling into a deep sleep. But, for the believer, death transports them into a whole new level of consciousness. So much so, that living in this world will be viewed as a sleep.

I will be satisfied because I will see Christ. **As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness** (15). What a face we will see when we open our eyes in heaven. We will see the happiest face ever, the holiest face ever, the most beautiful face ever, the friendliest face ever, the loveliest face ever. We will see Christ's smiling welcoming face. What satisfaction!

I will be satisfied because I will be like Christ. **When I awake, I shall be satisfied with your likeness** (15). Or as John put it, **When we see him we shall be like him for we shall see him as he is** (1 John 3:2). The moment we see Christ, we will be like Christ. Instead of sin, perfect holiness. Instead of suffering, perfect comfort. Instead of sadness, joy. Instead of ugliness, beauty. Instead of dissatisfaction, total satisfaction guaranteed. **I will be satisfied.**

CHOOSING LATER SATISFACTION IS
CHOOSING UNLIMITED SATISFACTION

LOVING

What a death! What a hope! What a satisfaction! We are totally satisfied and Christ is totally satisfied. Let's use this Psalm to sample that satisfaction by faith and we will keep going. When dissatisfaction threatens us, let's sample the final satisfaction and repeat, "I will be satisfied. I will be satisfied."

LIVING

Overcome present suffering by sampling the total satisfaction guaranteed at the end
