

ORDERED STEPS, DELIGHTED GOD

Date: 29 March 2026

Sermon Text: Psalm 37:23, 5

Theme: Walking in God's Sovereign Direction with a Life that Delights Him

INTRODUCTION

We live in a world that celebrates independence, self-direction, and control. People want to design their own paths, determine their own steps, and define their own destiny.

But Scripture presents a completely different reality. Psalm 37:23 declares: *"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, and He delights in his way."*

This verse reveals two profound truths:

- God orders the steps
- God delights in the walk

This raises a deep question: If God orders the steps... why does He delight in them?

This is not contradiction; it is divine mystery. For the believer, life is not self-directed. It is God-directed and God-evaluated. And the central issue is not whether God guides. But whether you are the man He is guiding.

THE MEANING OF "ORDERED STEPS"

The word "ordered" means: Established, Fixed, Secured. This is not general guidance; it is precise divine arrangement. The word "steps" refers to: Individual movements, Daily decisions, Specific moments of life

This means: God is involved not just in your destination; but in every step toward it.

Psalm 37:5 connects this truth: *"Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass."* Surrender leads to direction.

THE PERSON GOD ORDERS: THE GOOD MAN (GEVER)

The "good man" is not morally good by human standards.

The Hebrew word refers to: A strong man, A mature man, A spiritually established man

This is a man: Surrendered to God, Formed by truth, Stable in walk

New Testament Connection: 1 John 2:14 says: *"You are strong... the Word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the wicked one."*

Spiritual strength is defined by: The Word abiding within and Victory over sin and Satan

Characteristics of the Good Man

- Rooted in God's Word
- Consistent in obedience
- Spiritually strong
- Walking in surrender

God orders the steps of those who are strong enough to walk in obedience.

THE PARADOX OF GOD'S DELIGHT: "HE DELIGHTS IN HIS WAY"

Here is the central tension: God establishes the steps, Yet God delights in the walk

UNDERSTANDING THE PARADOX

God's sovereignty does not eliminate human responsibility. Instead: God works in, Man walks out. This is not mechanical control; it is relational alignment.

WHY GOD DELIGHTS

- The man willingly walks in His will
- The man lives by faith
- The man reflects God's character

DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY & HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

Two Foundational Truths: God is Sovereign over every step; Man is responsible for how he walks.

God's sovereignty does not cancel your will, it transforms it.

Connection to Eden: Genesis 2–3

- God placed Adam → sovereignty
- Adam commanded to obey → responsibility
- Adam failed → accountability

New Testament Connection

Epistle of James 1:12: *“Blessed is the man who endures temptation... he will receive the crown of life... to those who love Him.”*

The path God orders includes Testing, Pressure, and Trials. God delights not in the difficult. But in the man who endures with love.

God delights when: His will is embraced, His path is walked faithfully, His work produces obedience

God delights not merely because His will is done; but because His will is loved.

CONCLUSION

“God orders the steps; but you must walk them. And when you walk them in faith, endurance, and love; your life becomes a path that God Himself delights in.”

ACTION STEPS

1. **Commit Your Way Fully to God:** Stop directing your own life; surrender completely
2. **Strengthen Your Spiritual Life:** Let the Word of God abide in you
3. **Trust God in Every Step:** Even when you do not understand
4. **Endure Trials with Faith and Love:** Let your walk prove your devotion

PRAYER POINTS

- Lord, align my heart with Your will so I may walk in the steps You have ordained.
- Strengthen me through Your Word and make me spiritually strong.
- Help me trust You in every detail of my life.
- Teach me to endure trials with love and faithfulness.
- May my life bring delight to Your heart and reflect Your character.