

1/24/82

Psalm 1

"This Psalm was put first as a preface to all the rest, as a powerful persuasive to the diligent reading and serious study of the whole book, and of the rest of Holy Scripture, taken from that blessedness which attends upon the study and practice thereof" (Poole, Matthew, II, p. 1).

Intro: Lectures by James Packer -  
English Puritan History (1600's).

One ~~strong~~ <sup>prominent</sup> point about the Puritans was their strong belief in the importance of the local church and its ministry.

But <sup>it</sup> goes without saying that local churches are made up of individual believers who are led spiritual leaders appointed by God.

Therefore if a church is to be strong, the leaders must be strong, and the people must be strong.

A strong church is needed to have a strong witness. The question is: HOW CAN YOU HAVE STRONG BELIEVERS?

Note in Psalm 1 -- "And he shall be like a tree..." (v. 3).