

1<sup>st</sup> March 2025

## Insurance

**“In banking or insurance, trust is the only thing you have to sell.”**

Patrick Dixon, *Futurewise* (1998)

I had a bump with my car, which necessitated an insurance claim. It was a more complicated process than I expected, as I've never had to process a car-insurance claim before. There are parts of the whole business I'm still trying to come to terms with. But fundamentally, I was insured – as I have to be – for accidents with my car. I had a bump, and the insurance company did their bit. It's what I've been paying for through the years, and now the insurers had to get to work sorting it out.

With Patrick Dixon's comment above on my mind, I don't remember my insurance company *selling* me their trust, but I greatly appreciated the application of my trust in them when I needed it. It's been the same recently with treatment for our dog. Vet bills are expensive, as many of you will know. So it's important that you can trust the pet-insurance company to do what needs to be done when the need arises. Whatever we think about insurance companies – and banks, as Patrick Dixon points out – trust is surely the central component of our transactions with them.

In Psalm 37, we find the Psalmist advising us to “Trust in the Lord”. Eugene Peterson's *The Message* puts it in these words:

*Get insurance with God and do a good deed, settle down and stick to your last. Keep company with God, get in on the best. Open up before God, keep nothing back. God does whatever needs to be done, [to] validate your life in the clear light of day and stamp you with approval at high noon. Quiet down before God, be prayerful before him. Don't bother with those who climb the ladder, who elbow their way to the top. Bridle your anger, trash your wrath, cool your pipes – it only makes things worse.*

I don't remember God selling me that trust. It's always been there. And it's a trust that doesn't require me to pay an insurance premium – such as “going to church at Christmas time”, or “getting the baby christened so that they still thrive”, or “I'll be good if God takes my problem away”. The trust is a given. I pay nothing, do nothing, to make that trust available. I am simply called to “keep company with God to get in on the best.”

So, I reckon I can “trash my wrath” and “cool my pipes” and put my trust in the insurance cover I have.

### **A prayer for today**

*Thank God I'm insured, because there may be the odd bump I have to deal with!*

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