

Part 5 – Fallen and Cast Down

In part 4 we learned that, if we trust in our Heavenly Father, He'll make sure we are abundantly satisfied inasmuch that we'll have more than enough to eat and drink both physically and (more importantly) spiritually. Truly, the blessings of God (physically and spiritually) are *wonderful*. But as Peter warned in 1 Peter 4:2, we shouldn't live life in the flesh to fulfill our lusts, but to obey the will of God. And, if we do that, indeed the Lord will 'abundantly' satisfy us with the best of His 'house', meaning the best He's got to offer... which is everything! And truly, the best 'thing' we can have in life is peace of mind; which can be gotten no other way than being at peace with our Heavenly Father (our Creator). And that only comes when we keep studying His Word daily, trust in it and obey it the best we can. That's when He gives us His Holy Spirit which truly fills our soul with such a sweet peace, and joy, that there's nothing on earth to compare it with (Phil 4:7). We also learned our Heavenly Father (YHWH) is the only 'fountain of life' and His fountain of Living waters (truth) is everlasting (John 4). But those who trust in Satan (and the 'ways of the world', such as riches and so forth) are like those who trust in a cistern instead of going to the only true 'fountain of life', which is our Heavenly Father. And the only way we can 'drink' out of the 'fountain of life' is by faith in Jesus Christ (John 4, 14:6). We also learned that God's kindness will only be given (and prolonged) to those who 'know' Him. And then we learned that believing in lies (deception) is how we do *not* know Him. Thus, learning (and loving) truth is how we get to know Him. Which is why He gave us His Word and then sent His Son, Jesus Christ (God incarnate), to teach us the truth as well as pay for our sins; so that, when we sincerely believe upon Jesus (and the Word of God) we can receive the Holy Spirit which teaches us the truth, by helping us to understand the written Word of God. So now, we come to the closing verses of this beautiful Psalm 36, which is also prophetic of Jesus Christ as it's the "Messiah's prayer and Praise" Psalm, written 'in view of' Psalms 22. So, let's look at the closing thoughts to this Psalm...

Psalms 36

11 Let not the foot of pride come against me, and let not the hand of the wicked remove me.

David is now using a couple more 'figures of speech' to ask for protection, both physically and spiritually. The 'foot of pride' could also be rendered the 'steps of the proud', referring to the actions of the wicked. After all, it's those who are proud that become wicked because their heart is too hardened to accept truth. They don't want to see their faults so they reject the truth (John 3:19-21). And then David asks that the 'hand' of the wicked be 'removed' from him. The word '**removed**' here (in the context of this verse) means ***to shake the head in scorn or to taunt*** (#5110). This refers to the evil actions of the wicked which, in an earlier Psalm, David described really well...

2 The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.

3 For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth.

4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.

5 His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.

6 He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.

7 His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity.

8 He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: his eyes are privily set against the poor.

9 He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net.

10 He croucheth, and humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones.

11 He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it.

Ps 10:2-11 [for a refresher: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/85]

The pride of the wicked causes them to not seek after God. Our Heavenly Father is not in ‘all’ (or any) of their thoughts because they truly disdain His Word, His Son (Jesus Christ) and anyone who loves and faithfully serves Him. But they are friends with those who like to do evil. As the old saying goes, ‘birds of a feather flock together’. And, as a lion, they wait for opportunities to harm the innocent and those who serve Jesus Christ. And they truly think that the Most-High doesn’t see their sins; they don’t believe they’ll ever be punished for their wickedness; so there is no evil they don’t fear to do. And this is what David is asking for the Lord to protect him from. As we’ve seen from our past studies in the Psalms, David was persecuted *for years* by those who were truly wicked. Saul himself entertained evil spirits and even sought out a woman who had a ‘familiar’ spirit (which is an evil spirit, or demon) to try and see what his future held. And because he did such an abomination, he died the very next day.

But our Heavenly Father promises to protect those who love and faithfully serve Him. As He told Abraham, in Gen 15:1: *Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.* And, the Psalmist of Psalm 119 (which was likely Hezekiah) understood this timeless truth when he wrote (in vs 114) about the Lord (YHVH): *Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.* When we trust in our Heavenly Father’s Word (all His promises) we will strive to obey Him and that’s what causes Him to protect us (as a shield) against all the evil devices of the wicked. As David wrote in yet another Psalm: *Blessed be the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight: My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and he in whom I trust; who subdueth my people under me* (Ps 144:1-2). Our Heavenly Father will not only protect us but He’ll also give us the strength, and understanding, to fight against the wicked both physically and spiritually because (to quote David), He does teach us how to fight, even *spiritually*. That’s why Paul told us to put on the Gospel armor (Eph 6); so we can stand and fight for our Heavenly Father, by spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and letting His light shine through our good works (Mth 5:16). Jesus has even given us power over all our enemies (Lk 10:19) **if** we faithfully obey Him and **have the faith to use it** (in Jesus’ name). And that’s why Proverbs also says that *every word of God is*

pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him (Prov 30:5). Another Psalm speaks of this as well...

1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

*2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; **in him will I trust.***

3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler; and from the noisome pestilence.

*4 **He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.***

5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

Ps 91:1-8

Our Heavenly Father indeed will protect us physically, and spiritually, from all our enemies when we remain faithful servants of His. After all, *we are His servants* here on earth, and He's charged us to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Mth 29:18-20). Therefore, He will indeed protect us so we can fulfil our commission. We must simply learn to use whatever gift(s) He has given us and continue to 'depart from evil and do good' (Ps 34:14), so (again) we can shine the Light (truth) to those who are still in the darkness (Mth 5:16). And, David well understood how the Lord is able to save us from the wicked, as he wrote after the Lord gave him victories over all his enemies...

2 And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;

*3 **The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.***

4 I will call on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

5 When the waves of death compassed me, the floods of ungodly men made me afraid;

6 The sorrows of hell compassed me about; the snares of death prevented me;

7 In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried to my God: and he did hear my voice out of his temple, and my cry did enter into his ears.

2 Sam 22:2-7

After we've done all we can do in fighting the enemy (in accordance to God's Word) then, when we call on our Heavenly Father (in Jesus' name, John 14:13-14, 15:16, 16:23-26), He will help us with what we can't handle. And that's truly the joy we have in serving our Heavenly Father. We know that He will always help us, and will *never* let the 'foot of pride' come against us, nor will the 'hand of the wicked' prevail against us. If we 'stick with Him' then He'll always 'stick with us'. After all, our Heavenly Father is not stupid. He knows we're down here on earth with wicked people (Lk 10:3). **But**, He's given us all we need to overcome them (Lk 10:19). As Jesus

said in Matt 10:16: *Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.* So, even when we are being persecuted, we must make sure not to resort to doing evil ourselves; and instead, continue to obey God's Word no matter what the situation is. Of course, that doesn't mean we are to be 'walking matt's' for anyone. We have a right to defend ourselves and our family (and nation as well) but we must not try to 'take vengeance' for ourselves because that's God's job, for only He can do so righteously. As it is written...

17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Rom 12:17-21

As Paul explains, we shouldn't 'recompense' (#591, to give back) evil, for evil. As we say today, 'two wrongs don't make a right'. Rather, we should 'feed' and 'water' them with the truth, which does truly heap 'coals' of fire upon their head because they hate the truth (John 3:19-21). And we *should* try to live peaceably with all people. However, sometimes it's *not* possible because some people just don't want peace. Therefore, as Paul says we should not 'avenge' ourself but 'give place unto wrath', which means we must not let our anger control us; we have to control our emotions (and anger is an emotion) so we aren't moved to doing evil ourself. As 1 Peter 5:1 says, *let them that suffer, according to the will of God, commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.* The words '**commit the keeping**' here are all one Hebrew word that means: ***to deposit*** (as a trust or for protection) (#3908). In other words, when you've done all you can do to live at peace with others - and they are still afflicting you (or causing trouble for you) - then 'turn it over to our Father' *in prayer* (in Jesus' name) and *trust* He will take care of it. And in the mean time we *must patiently* wait for His deliverance, and continue to try and serve Him, and live according to God's Word (Phil 4:6-8).

Psalms 36

12 There are the workers of iniquity fallen: they are cast down, and shall not be able to rise.

At first glance this verse is a bit confusing. But, when we look up the first word '**there**' in a *Strong's Concordance* we see that it's a primitive particle that can be translated in several ways: ***there, then, thither or thence***. While the translators thought it should be rendered as 'there', it's more easily understood if we render it as 'thence'. But either way, what this verse is simply saying goes back to the timeless truth that *the wicked will be 'brought down' by their own wicked words and works*. Recall that, in the prior verse, David asked the Lord (YHVH) not to let the 'foot of pride' come against him nor the 'hand of the wicked' 'remove' (scorn or taunt, #5110) him. And so now, in this verse, he's asking that the workers of iniquity fall into the same traps

they've laid for him, so that they are cast down utterly and will never rise to do harm ever again. So, again, we see the timeless truth that ***the wicked will be 'brought down' by their own wicked words and works***. In our heavenly Father's Word, we're *repeatedly* assured that, short of sincere repentance, the wicked of this earth will be convicted and die by their own sword - which is to say, by the weapons of their own devising, which includes the lies, deception and decrees *coming out of their mouths* which they've used to help tear down Christianity (and the western Christian nations) and largely place themselves in charge of our heavenly Father's kingdom on this earth (Mt. 11:12). Remember what the Psalms say about this?

The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.

Ps 9:15

The non-Christians nations (and individuals) of the world constantly plot against the Christian nations (and individual Christians). But our heavenly Father assures us our enemies are going to *sink like stones* into the very pits they've dug for us, and be taken in the net they've plotted to capture us with.

The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.

Ps 10:2

Here again David asks that the wicked be taken in their own evil devices they've imagined against the righteous. And it will happen. And in Psalm 5:10 we saw David making a similar request of our heavenly Father, based on the timeless truth that *the wicked will be destroyed by their own devious plotting...*

Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.

Ps 5:10

Never forget that, when you serve the Lord (YHVH), those who are coming against you are *truly* rebelling against the Most-High God Himself. And that's why they will fall. As Isa 54:17 reminds us: *No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. **This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD***. Indeed our 'righteousness' is 'of' the Lord (YHVH) because truly, the only good 'thing' in us is the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. And, likewise, in Psalm 7:14-17 we find the same theme regarding the wicked and their final comeuppance from the Lord:

*14 Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood.
15 He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made.*

16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.

17 I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.

Ps 7:14-17

In other words, it's the policy of the Lord to allow the wicked to be taken in their own evil devices. Quite often, they don't even see that the very traps they've set for us - or the tools they've used against us - *are the same ones used by the Lord to take them down*. In Psalm 57:6, David even confirms that this is exactly what he's witnessed with his own eyes...

They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves. Selah.

Ps 57:6

David ends that verse with the word "Selah," meaning to pause and meditate on this powerful truth he's revealed. Why meditate on it? Because as it was in David's time, so it remains to this very day (Ecc 1:9). The enemy are taken in their own snares, as we have learned already from our studies in the Psalms. And, in Psalm 69:22, David further validates that the Lord catches the wicked in their own devices, saying...

Let their table become a snare before them: and that which should have been for their welfare, let it become a trap.

Ps 69:22

Now, the food on the table of the Lord is His Word of instruction and wisdom. It's what sustains us, *spiritually*. Likewise, the food on the table of the enemies of the Lord consists of their (evil) doctrine, as well. But David asks that they be snared and trapped *by their own words*. Likewise, Psalm 64:1-10 demonstrates that the enemy will be foiled *in their own lies and deceit*. When our Heavenly Father brings this to pass, it will bring fear upon those who hate Him, and those who love Him will rejoice in His long-promised justice (Isa 61:2). Likewise, David's son, Solomon, explained in the great book of Proverbs, that the wicked will be caught in a trap of their own making...

*5 The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but **the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.***

*6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but **transgressors shall be taken in their own naughtiness.***

Prov 11:5-6

And finally, in Psalm 37:12-15, we learn from David that the sword of the wicked will indeed "enter into their own heart." As it is written...

*12 The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth.
13 The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming.
14 The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as be of upright conversation.
15 **Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.***
Ps 37:12-15

Of course, just as the sword of the Lord is His great Word of truth (Revelation 1:16 and 2:16), in like manner the sword of the wicked is composed of their great, swelling words of deception. In other words, our heavenly Father's "sword" is the sword of truth, and their sword is a "sword" of deception (lies). But our heavenly Father assures us, in this Psalm, that "*their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.*" In other words, **they'll be judged and die by the weight of their own words and schemes against us.** They'll pronounce their own sentences upon themselves. You see, *it's the deception they've used against us, and the judgment they've pronounced against us, that is the very sword our heavenly Father will inevitably make sure is used against them.* As it's also written in the great book of Jeremiah, it's not just the government and the corporations (or banking industry) that's devising evils against the righteous. The 'religious' sector is just as much a part of it and yet, our Heavenly Father promises the same judgment for their wickedness...

*11 For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD.
12 Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness: they shall be driven on, and fall therein: for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation, saith the LORD.*
Jer 23:11-12

The word 'evil' in verse 12 can also be translated as 'bad' (#7451); so our Father is simply promising that He will punish all 'workers of iniquity', even if they claim to be 'ministers of righteousness' (2 Cor 11:13-15, Mth 7:21-23). So, anyone who does not depart from evil and do good will indeed 'fall' and be 'cast down'. This most assuredly will come with the return of Jesus Christ; but even now, we can still see this happen to the wicked in many ways, if we are simply watching wisely. But even if we don't see it, we must always remember that the wicked truly do not get away with anything. They are really just 'digging their won grave' through their evil devises they conjure up to harm those who are innocent and who serve Jesus Christ. As Ezek 28, Rev 20, Ps 37 and so many other Scriptures promise us: the wicked will be punished and the righteous will be rewarded when the King of kings (Jesus Christ) returns...

*25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?
26 Fear them not therefore: for **there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known.***

27 What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops.

Matt 10:25-27

9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

*10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, **whether it be good or bad.***

2 Cor 5:9-10

13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

*14 **For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.***

Eccl 12:13-14

AMEN.