

Part 2 – The Downfall of the Foolish

In part 1 we learned about the depravity of flesh man and how only a fool will say that there is no God. When people don't recognize that there is a Supreme God (who is our Creator) then they won't seek to do what's right. Instead, they'll justify their sins and eventually end up doing great wickedness, because don't think there's any 'Higher Authority' (than earthly governments) that will eventually hold them accountable for their sins. Thus, so long as they think mankind won't 'catch' them, then there's no evil they won't fear to do. As Prov 16:6 says, it's only *by the fear of the LORD* that *men depart from evil*. So, that lack of fear (and reverence) for our Heavenly Father is what corrupts the hearts and minds of people; because (to reiterate) it causes them not to fear to do abominable iniquity (evils). But the truth is that *nothing* 'gets past' our Heavenly Father. He *is* watching, from His holy Temple in heaven (Ps 11), what goes on in the earth. And He (alone) can see, even into the most 'inward part' of who we really are. So, He can see what goes on in our heart (desires, emotions, intentions and motivations) and mind (thought process), and He well knows if we're seeking Him *or not*. And when He looks at the fools (who won't even acknowledge His existence) He doesn't find anything good. That is, unless they get tired of the cursings that come from doing wickedly and begin to sincerely seek Him (which can happen, as 2 Chron 33:11-19 proves). But, otherwise, they are as filthy rags in His sight. Which truly, we all have been this way at some point in our life. For, while we're all born innocent, we all do sin eventually. And until we come to the realization that there really IS a Supreme God in Heaven (who is our Creator) and are ready to repent, we'll continue to live our life sinning *as a lifestyle*. *But*, if we sincerely seek our Heavenly Father (and are willing to admit our sins, repent for them and strive to obey our Heavenly Father, *wholeheartedly*) *then* He *will* forgive us, IF we accept Jesus Christ as our Savior – for *there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved* (John 14:6, As Acts 4:12). But it is the thought of a fool and his (or her) depravity that we pick up with in our studies, here in this great Psalm...

Psalm 53

4 Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread: they have not called upon God.

David now expresses a thought that our Heavenly Father has when looking at the hearts and minds of the fools. The word '**workers**' here is interesting because it not only means *to do or make* (*systematically and habitually*) but, especially *to practice* (#6466). And the word '**iniquity**' here means *to pant* (hence, *to exert oneself, usually in vain; to come to naught*); strictly *nothingness*; also *trouble, vanity, wickedness; specifically an idol* (#205). And then the word '**knowledge**' means *to know*, which includes *observation, care, recognition*; and causatively, *instruction, designation* as well as *punishment*, etc. (#3045). So, the fact that the fools *continue* to exert themselves in wickedness – following vain things that amount to *nothing* (no good thing) such as idols (which is covetousness, Col 3:5), not only amazes (in a bad way) but also angers our Heavenly Father. And the phrase 'eat up my people as they eat bread' speaks of how they work so hard to steal and harm others, both physically and spiritually. This can be done through lies (through media as well as education system, *including* 'Churches' via the 'traditions of man',

Mth 15, Mk 7) as well as through vain (worthless, yea even *destructive*) monetary systems of usury (which the world currently runs on) and (of course) politics as well. In other words, the four hidden dynasties (expressed in Rev 6 as the four ‘horseman’) are used by Satan and the ‘workers of iniquity’ to enslave humanity. And this does not please our Heavenly Father. Instead of ‘calling’ upon Him (for help to know and obey Him and also for help) the fools (wicked ones, who work iniquity) continue on in their sinful ways that amount to ‘no good’ (nothingness). All their efforts do is destroy His children, both physically and spiritually. They don’t acknowledge ‘God’, which again means *the Supreme God*, who is our *Creator* (**‘Elohiym** #430) and that’s why they continue to exert themselves in doing wickedly and work to ‘eat up’ His people. [Note, in Ps 14:4 David used God’s sacred name, Yehovah (#3068) instead of ‘Elohim, #430]. And, in the book of Jeremiah, our Heavenly Father asks the fools...

8 Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit.

9 Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not;

10 And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations? [i.e. they think they should be saved from their enemies even though they do abominations]

Jer 7:8-10

Our Heavenly Father asks the fools (the men in the southern kingdom of Judah) why they trust in lying words and continue to do such wickedness - as He outlines in verse 9 – and then have the audacity to come before Him (His Temple in Jerusalem) and try and justify their sins before Him insomuch as they ask Him for help! Prov 1:22-33 gives His response to such foolish people. And, as we learned in Psalms 50, our Heavenly Father doesn’t care about *outward* worship. He wants *inward* worship most of all. So, while they were supposed to offer blood sacrifices back then (which we are not to do anymore, Heb 10:10) they were *not* accepted to Him because they **continued** to sin, without remorse or repentance, and acted like God should be happy to accept their vain sacrifices for ‘giving’ them to God – and some even thought He should save them from their enemies even though they refused to repent of their sins! They were *totally* missing the point of what our Heavenly Father really wants: our *sincere* love *and* obedience. In essence, we can’t harm others (disobey God’s Laws) and think we’re pleasing to Him by our fake and shallow outward worship. As the apostle John pointed out in his epistle...

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

1 John 4:20-21

John was quoting from the commandment he had personally been given by Jesus (John 15:12) that we should love others, *as He loves us*. As Paul points out, this means obeying God’s Laws, for true *love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law* (Rom 13:10). And John also makes an excellent point in that, if we can’t even love the people we *can*

see, how can we really love our Heavenly Father who we *can't* see? Further, because all people are the children of God (because He created all our souls, Ezek 18:4, Rev 4:11), if we hurt His children then we are indeed *hurting him*. Recall that, this fact is the reason why David said his sins were really a sin *against the Lord*, back in Psalms 51:4. So, we cannot harm God's children and think it's not a sin against our Heavenly Father, because *all souls belong to Him* (Ezek 18:4) and He has created His children for His pleasure (Rev 4:11). So hurting other people is indeed a sin against our Heavenly Father. And that's why Jesus told us to love each other. Because, if we don't do so, then we truly *don't* love our Heavenly Father (Mth 25:31-46).

Psalm 53

5 There were they in great fear; where no fear was: for God hath scattered the bones of him that encampeth against thee: thou hast put them to shame, because God hath despised them.

So, after pondering all the foolishness of those who 'work iniquity' and don't fear to do evil, our Heavenly Father is now looking forward to the time when they will get their 'payment' for their sins; which, of course, is the time when God will judge them and subsequently punish them for their sins. And, as the *Companion Bible* points out in the notes on Ps 14:5, the words 'were in a great fear' are a *figure of speech* that means: *they feared a great fear*. And the Lord certainly *does* cause a 'great fear' to come upon the foolish (wicked ones) – as in 2 Kings 19:7, Isa 37:7 and 2 Chron 20:22,29 and even in the New Testament, in Acts 5:5, 11. And this was as He promised in Deut 2:25 and 11:25. But, this also looks forward to the day when Jesus Christ returns and takes over the world (and heaven) to rule according to God's righteous Laws. Indeed, they (the wicked and all 'workers of iniquity') will be in so great of fear (especially after the two witnesses rise from the dead, Rev 11:25), that they'll actually pray the rocks fall on them in hopes they don't have to face Jesus Christ (Isa 2:17-22, Rev 6:12-17). Additionally, this verse is another place that differs from Psalms 14...

5 There were they in great fear: for God is in the generation of the righteous.

6 Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD is his refuge.

Ps 14:5-6

Back in Psalms 14, we learned that the reason David wrote that God (which should have been translated as Yehovah, #3068) is '*in the generation of the righteous*', is because the word 'generation' means *a revolution of time*, i.e. *an age or generation*; also *a dwelling* (#1755). In other words, the reason the wicked, and those what are 'workers of iniquity', will 'fear a great fear' is because **God dwells with those who are righteous**. But, here in Psalm 53, instead of saying '*for God is in the generation of the righteous*', David says that: *for God hath scattered the bones of him that encampeth against thee*. So, David's now pointing out the punishment that comes to those foolish ones (who do wickedly, not fearing Him or caring about anyone else but their lust and pride). And then, another difference between this Psalm 53 and Ps 14 is that, verse 6 said: *Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD is his refuge*. Which simply means that those who do what's right are shamed by the wicked ones. They are spoken badly about, and oppressed, because they refuse to do evil. There's truly nothing new under the sun

(Ecc 1:9). As Isa 59:15 puts it: *he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey*. And it is still that way today. But, that verse (in Isaiah) also said that *the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment*. So, this indeed angers our Heavenly Father when those who love and serve Him are afflicted by the wicked ones. And all throughout the Word of God He warns the wicked that He won't always put up with this. Their 'day' is coming, so they should stop digging their own grave.

But, here in Psalms 53:5, instead of saying that *Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD is his refuge*, David wrote: *thou hast put them to shame, because God hath despised them*. This is speaking of God putting the wicked ones (the fools who don't even acknowledge His existence and thus don't fear to do evil) to shame; and the reason is because He despises those (the fools) who do wickedly. And that's not a good place to be! For as the Hebrew for the word translated as '**shame**' points out here in Ps 53:5, it means not only to be **ashamed**; it also means to be **disappointed** or **delayed** (#954) and the word '**despised**' means **to spurn**, as well as **disappear** (#3988). So, even though the wicked ones 'eat up' His people 'like bread' (afflict them *severely*, both spiritually and physically) - as verse 4 stated - *they won't get away with it*. They will be in *great* fear (even from listening to rumors). They will have their bones scattered, which means to be killed and then left without being buried, so the wild birds and beasts eat your dead body (think Rev 19:21). And they will be put to shame (even greatly disappointed that they cannot continue in their wickedness) because our Heavenly Father will 'delay' (even stop) their wicked thoughts (vain imaginations) from coming to fruition, because *the LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy* (Ps 145:20), for *He preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked* (Ps 97:10).

Psalms 53

6 Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

The *Companion Bible* points out that this one little word 'Oh' is a figure of speech (*Ecphonesis*, apx 6) called an 'Exclamation', which is an outburst of a word (or words) prompted by emotion. And this is important to understand because, that means this verse was written with *great* emotion. And, David's emotions were quite similar to ours today. When we see the wickedness going on, what usually comes to our mind? We pray the Lord, Jesus Christ returns *quickly* to put an end to all the wickedness! Yet again, there's nothing new under the sun (Ecc 1:9). Isaiah lamented for the same thing in Isa 64:1, just as David did here (in this 6th verse) and just as we do today too. And to this our Heavenly Father replies: *Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed. Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it* (Isa 56:1-2). And Psalms 37 further assures us...

34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

35 I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree.

36 Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.

37 *Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.*
 38 *But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off.*
 39 ***But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.***
 40 *And the LORD shall help them and deliver them: **he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.***

But, we must learn to *be patient* for this day when our Savior Jesus Christ returns to ‘bring back’ the captivity of His people, which means to free them from bondage. And we today *are* going into bondage *again*. Most assuredly in a physical sense, through the one world government that is being formed *even now*. But the worst part of it is that the whole satanic system revolves around *spiritual* captivity to lies – Satan’s lies, the ones he pours out, *even now*, through his servants on earth; and worse still to come is the ‘flood of lies’ he’ll pour out when he (and his fallen angels) are cast to earth (Rev 12:7-17). Spiritual bondage is *much worse* than physical bondage, and our heavenly Father promises to protect us during that time of ‘*great tribulation*’, *such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be* (Matt 24:21) **if** we ‘take heed’ and don’t follow after the liars (including Satan) who claim they are righteous ministers and apostles of Christ (2 Cor 11:13-15, 2 Thess 2:3). So, as Lam 3:26 says, *It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD*. In other words, don’t ‘fret’ (don’t worry) and definitely don’t be envious of the wicked ones (the theme of Psalms 37, remember?). We’ve got to remember to keep God’s Promises in mind and not fret (worry or get over angry at) the wickedness going on. It is the ‘negative’ part of God’s plan of Salvation. Allowing the wicked to work iniquity until He returns is the ‘mystery of iniquity’ that Paul spoke of in 2 Thess 2:7. That means that the wicked will continue to (seemingly) ‘get ahead’ in their wickedness simply because our Father is giving them either enough time to repent (2 Pt 3:9) **or**... enough rope to spiritually ‘hang’ themselves.

Now, another interesting point about this last verse is the use of the word ‘Jacob’ and ‘Israel’ within the same phrase. As we learned back in Psalms 14, David uses two terms (Jacob and Israel) for the nation of Israel here for a specific purpose. The term Jacob refers not only to the *natural* seed of Jacob (who are now scattered around the world, but mostly in the Christian nations) but also to *man’s weakness of faith and inability to obey God’s Word*. Meanwhile, the term Israel denotes the *spiritual* seed of Jacob (through belief in Jesus Christ, as Gal 3 explains) and thus also denotes those *who have faith in the truth* (the Gospel of Jesus Christ) *and act upon it*. So, when David says Jacob shall rejoice, it’s referring to those who really are his physical descendants. And when he says that Israel shall be glad, it refers to those of all races who believe in Jesus Christ, for they too will be glad when Jesus returns to free the world from bondage to Satan’s wicked government, as well as his vile lies and deceptions. And *these are David’s conclusions* after having meditated on the oppression from the many fools that are in the world; those that don’t believe in God or His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. So, it all boils back to the ‘common theme’ we’ve been learning about in the Psalms (that is truly written all throughout the Bible) that: *the wicked don’t truly get away with anything*. They will receive their due, and just, punishments for their sins (unless they repent wholeheartedly) and their wicked ways, and words, *will* come back to be poured out on their own heads (Ps 37:15). In other words, the same

‘evil devices’ [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/68>] they have strived so hard to snare others with (even their souls) *will be their own downfall*. [Learn more about this in the two-part study on the Vine: <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/992> & <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/993>]. And in Revelations 18 we see that they’ll be crying their eyes out because of it. So, we must continue to serve the Lord, with patience. For *in due season we shall reap, if we faint not* (Gal 6:9).

To the chief Musician of Neg'-i-noth

Now, this Psalm differs with Psalms 14 in that it has a ‘subscription’ whereas Psalms 14 did not. And, just to refresh our memory: in most Bibles, subscriptions (such as the words *To the chief Musician of Neg'-i-noth* here) show as though they belong to the *next* Psalm. But, thankfully, Apx. 65 in the *Companion Bible* gives a detailed explanation as to why they truly belong to the *end of prior* Psalm, which is 53 here. If you don’t have a *Companion Bible*, you can view the appendixes via this link [<https://t.me/BestStudyBible/12>]. But the jest of it is that: in the ancient manuscripts, there’s no break in the Psalms. So, ***the translators had a hard time understanding where this ‘sub-title’ should go***. In other words, there was nothing to show them where one Psalm ended and where the next Psalm began. Hence, when they came to the words “To the chief Musician”, they took it as being the *first* line of a Psalm, instead of the *last* line of the preceding Psalm which they had just translated. All subsequent Versions, in all languages, have followed them in this mistake. That is, except for the *Companion Bible*. It wasn’t until a man named ‘Dr Thirtle’ realized this error that this was made known. He realized this because of two isolated Psalms in other Scriptures: Isaiah 38:9-20 and Hab 3.

Now, we’ve already learned that the words ‘*To the chief Musician*’ means ‘*to He that **has** the victory*’ or ‘*to He that **gives** the victory*’ – which, of course, is Jesus Christ (apx 64). And the *Companion Bible* also explains also explains that the word ‘Neginoth’ means ‘smittings’ as in to *strike* or *smite*. And unfortunately, many have mistakenly thought this means striking of the strings of some musical instrument. In reality, in all of the Psalms that have this subtitle, **it denotes deliverance from some personal ‘smiting’** (i.e. Ps 3:2, 5:6, 53:1, 54:3, 60:3,5,11, 66:10-12 and 75:4-5). So, ‘**Neginoth**’ really refers to God’ **smiting the wicked ones with words and acts**. That’s why, in chapter 3, in response to people who told David that God wouldn’t help him during Absalom’s rebellion (vs 2), David called for the Lord (YHVH) to ‘smite’ them on their cheek bones and crush the teeth of the ungodly (vs 7). And then in chapter 5, in response to those who spoke falsehoods (vs 6) and flattered lies with their tongues (vs 9), David called upon God to destroy them and bring to nought the wicked counsels of those who rebelled against Him (vs 10). And then in this Psalm we saw God’s response to the depravity of the fool (vs 1), and ‘eating up’ His people as ‘bread’ (vs 4), was that He promised to ‘smite’ them with great fear (vs 5), scatter their bones (vs 5) and put them to shame (vs5) because they have truly despised HIM in their persecuting His innocent children, *especially* those who love and fear Him. So again, the ‘common theme’ of all the ‘Niginoth’ Psalms (Ps 3, 5, 53, 54, 60, 11, 66, 75) is that our Heavenly Father WILL ‘smite’ them for their wicked persecutions of God’s innocent and righteous children, in one way or another!

*12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; **that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.***

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

*14 But **the natural man** receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are **foolishness** unto him: neither can he know them, **because they are spiritually discerned.***

15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Cor 2:12-16

AMEN.