

Psalm 11

1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain? 2 For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart. 3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men. 5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth. 6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup. 7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Introduction:

1. David gave this Psalm to the chief musician either to sing or to use in worship. (Heman, Asaph, or Ethan (or Jeduthun) (1 Chr. 15:17, 19; compare w/ 1 Chr. 16:41-42; 1 Chr. 25:1; 35:15)
2. Background: 1 Sam. 26:19-20.

Outline:

- A. The LORD is the Believer's Refuge (vv. 1-3)
- B. The LORD is the Righteous King (vv. 4-6)
- A.' The LORD is the Believer's Refuge (v.7)

Observations:

1. David experienced the blessings of trusting in the LORD. (Ps. 56:11; so did Paul, Rom. 5:3-5).
2. (v.1) – “ye” – David's enemies advised him to flee like a bird to his mountain (David would have been familiar with the mountains of Judah).
3. Bad advice: TO FLEE. Best advice: TO TRUST in the LORD.
4. (v.5) – “violence” – chamas (current terror Palestinian terror group – Hamas).
5. God's judgment is sudden, “snares” (like the coming Tribulation period, Lk. 21:35; 1 Thess. 5:3; see also Ezek. 38:22).

Lesson: Do not flee like a bird but trust in the LORD.

Psalm 12

1 To the chief Musician upon Sheminith, A Psalm of David.

Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. 2 They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak. 3 The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: 4 Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us? 5 For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him. 6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever. 8 The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.

Introduction:

1. “Sheminith” – means the eight (as in an octave) could be an eight stringed musical instrument (like a harp).
2. This is a Psalm of contrast (between the godly man vs. the ungodly man; and the words of the LORD vs. the words of men).

Outline:

- A. The Recognition of the LORD's Help (v.1)
- B. The words of the ungodly (vv.2-4)
- C. God's promises (v.5)
- B.' The words of the LORD (vv.6-7)
- A.' The Recognition of the LORD's Help (v.8)

Observations:

1. The ungodly man's words are:
Vanity, flattering, double hearted (pretending), proud things, puffeth (blows, a gesture of disdain or despising).
2. The LORD's Words:
Pure words, tried words, preserved words. (Jer. 44:28; Jn. 12:48)

Lesson: God's words will correct, and counter man's lies. Man's words are lies but God's words are truth. His words are perfectly preserved for every generation of believers.