

Wilt Thou Forget Me O Lord?

Psalms Thirteen, Fourteen and Fifteen

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~ Our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God has been considering the total depravity of mankind in a particularly doleful section of Psalms; and we see that reality of bad stuff played out on television, on the internet, in the movies, and in real-time — out in the open, on the street — every day. Have you ever stopped to consider the absolute lowest possible point of morality and ethics a man can reach? Well, Scripture makes the answer to that question more than clear; and we'll get it in this report.

This cluster of Psalms began in Psalm nine, and will end with Psalm fifteen. These Psalms concern the time of testing and trouble yet to come upon the earth; labeled the Great Tribulation period. We have identified antichrist very definitely in our last several reports; and our focus now is on the Jewish remnant *in that day* who will be true to God — and the many Gentiles who will turn to the Lord Jesus Christ during that time, also. These Psalms were written by David out of experience; and they all have a contemporary, chronological and spiritually prophetic interpretation and application for us today. Everything we have seen thus far in Psalms reaches down to the end of the age; which I believe we are living in — the end of the age of grace — but it's not over: because the church has not yet been removed from the world....

XDDD ~ (To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David)

1 How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?

2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?

3 Consider and hear me, O LORD my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;

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4 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.

5 But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.

6 I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

~ This chapter was apparently written in the years David was being hunted by King Saul. David was living in the cave of Adullam in the wilderness of Ziph; and it is likely that the Philistines had been commissioned to help Saul find David. Day after day on end, David found himself in this wearisome and awkward position that undoubtedly left him severe soreness of body, mind and heart. That's the circumstance David was in as he cried out to God in verse one. Let's be real: it's a pessimistic note David is singing. David feels as if God has forsaken him, and he feels utterly alone and abandoned — talking to himself in prayer. This entire Psalm is actually just one long deep sigh that ultimately results in a gentle and semi-calmed prayer.

David was wondering if this time of trouble would ever end, friends. These were particularly dark days for him. Prayer was his only resource or recourse. I'm sure the cave became lonely and dark at night. David was, obviously, even afraid to go to sleep. Of course, he was worried about the enemy coming in and killing him, but David was having some terrible dreams in that cave, too. He knew he wasn't smart enough to get out of this alive on his own. This is written by a man in dire physical and mental danger. David knew the enemy would rejoice against God and be more than happy if they found him and killed him. In the midst of all these problems, David rests and finds refuge in his salvation and in prayer — knowing God would deliver him.

Today, wherever you are — whoever you are — however you are — can you still sing praises to God? We should be able to worship and praise Him all the time. I'll admit I don't find it easy to sing praises to God all the time. Yes, the Lord has been good to me; but I have some serious questions that have not been answered in my life yet, friends. I simply do not always find it

easy to praise Him every minute of the day. Perhaps you believe you can — and God bless you. I have to be honest with myself.

Some prayer days are better than others; but I have prayers that seem to fall flat, become disconnected, or go totally ignored. I don't really believe He is ignoring them — but I feel that way. Maybe I just don't like being told no? Well, either way, until we can praise God when we are feeling this way, we haven't quite arrived; and, again, I'm just being honest — because I always am honest with you readers — I am no exception. Anyways, I wish we could stay with these Psalms longer, but it would be easy to totally lose our way in this section of Scripture so, let's move along now....

✠ ~ (To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David)

1 The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.

2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God.

3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

~ This Psalm is linked to so many other portions of Holy Writ. Remember, in Psalm twelve, we saw the complete corruption of the last days. It appeared as if the Godly man had disappeared from the face of the earth. The godless man was in control in the world with his corruption, wickedness; and lawlessness was abounding. I know it sounds like the day in which we live but, frankly, the world ain't seen nothin' yet! Now, the True and Living body of believers won't see those days, because the church is taken in the rapture before the Great Tribulation begins. Jesus said, *"I will keep them from the hour that is coming on the world to try them that dwell on earth."* Wrath — the Great Tribulation — is not for the church — according to Jesus Himself.

So, this Psalm sets before us the corruption and evil in the last days of the end of the age. There is a fine division in this Psalm: the total corruption of

the world in the first three verses. The Hebrew word for “fool” is “Nabal” – and you may remember Abigail, David’s first wife, had a husband named Nabal. Nabal was a fool for making the mistake of fighting against David; and Nabal dropped dead after a night of drunken debauchery. Well, Abigail was the loveliest wife David had; but only after she was married to a fool. “Nabal” can also be translated “madman,” simpleton,” “simple” or “insane.”

The atheist is always a loudmouth individual who has a need to proclaim they don’t believe there is a God. They rave and rant like madmen; which they are. The atheist is either insincere, or he is insane; that’s the way it is, my friends. Nabal. My only question about the atheist is: which are they? Man is an utter fool to say there is no God; and God — not Andrew — says that. The universe ticks off time more accurately than any man can manufacture; and there is no watch on earth that wasn’t made by a man. Well, the fools are appearing on the scene of this earth in droves today; which is alarming and amusing all at once. The atheists represent the very depths of human depravity. Unbelief. I know many of them have very high intelligence quotients, doctorate degrees, and they teach in our universities – but they typically don’t have a lick of sense.

Further, the atheist is abominable and corrupt; and every atheist – *EVERY* atheist – is a great sinner. They are *ALWAYS* given over to gross immorality; it’s a characteristic they cannot shed. Most of them actually live in disgusting filth – material and physical depravity. Paul deals with this in the third chapter of Romans, too. Let’s be fair, though: this is also a picture of you and me when God says, “*there is NONE that doeth good.*” I am not an atheist – and I don’t imagine you are if you are reading this report – but we *are* sinners. Our natural state and condition are not prone to do well; even as children of God. We examined all of this closely in our last report; and, if you haven’t yet read that report, I suggest you go back and do so now.

Verses four through six is critical to divide rightly; because it reveals the enmity against the people of God by unbelievers *in that day* — during the Great Tribulation period. The atheist is an equal opportunity hater, because they hate the people of God as well as God Himself. The pretense of the rich limousine-liberal politician or theologian who knows *NOTHING* about

the experience of the poor on a day-to-day basis is perfectly laughable. There are a whole bunch of those people running around, too. They are the ones Jesus spoke of when He talked about the rich man allowing some crumbs to fall off of the table to keep the poor satisfied. There isn't a single rich man giving up his riches today to help the poor; don't tell me there is — or you will be a liar. No, my friends, their program is only designed for you and me to give up the little bit we have, by taxing us to death, or begging for our donations, so they can give a relatively small portion to the poor while taking credit for the giving. God just happens to know all about human nature; and human nature never changes....

4 Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.

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.

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

~ The last verse in this Psalm is the longing for salvation in prayer. It is a note of triumph! There is a day coming when Israel will have this victory — but it isn't today. I don't see how anyone could possibly misunderstand this prayer in verse seven. Anyone who says there is no future plan or purpose of God for the nation Israel is willfully ignorant of the Bible. This is the heart cry and joy of the Psalmist; and it is all — in the future. This is another brief but extremely important Psalm to understand....

XV ~ (A Psalm of David)

1 LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.

4 In whose eyes a vile person is despised; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.

5 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

~ So, our Spiritual Safari ends this leg of our expedition through the entire Word of God by concluding this cluster of Psalms we began in Psalm nine. If you went back over them, you would see a tremendous development. Psalm fifteen is the description of those who will be in the presence of Jehovah! There is only one Holy Hill and that is Zion. Zion is over in the land of Israel and that's what we're talking about. What is being said here is what James said: *show me your faith without works and I'll show you faith by my works*. James is talking about the works of faith – not law; here, we're talking about works of law! Both of them produce righteousness; let's understand that — and not forget it.

The only people who will stand before God are those in whom faith has produced a Godly life down here. I cannot stress that emphatically enough! Faith alone saves, but the faith that saves is not alone! Do you *REALLY* love the Lord and believe Jesus is going to return to this earth someday? I see a whole lot of people saying, “.... *Jesus is coming soon*” — but I don't see *ANY* change in their hearts or lives. Are the works of righteousness evident in your life? Do you support the man who truly believes God and teaches you sound doctrine? This would be a good time to review these last several Psalms. If you truly believe Jesus is coming soon, then you're going to have to have a life that will glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. That's the test of whether you're looking for Jesus on every page of Scripture — or not ~

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