

Evening Worship January 6, 2018

“Help LORD!” Psalm 12

How to resist and perhaps even impact a falling society

I. Pray –

<To the Chief Musician. On an eight-stringed harp. A Psalm of David.>
Help, LORD, ... (Psalm 12:1 NKJ)

“Help, Lord.” ’Twas high lime to call to heaven for help, when Saul cried, “Go, kill me up the priests of Jehovah” John Trapp

II. Pray knowing why you are praying –

<To the Chief Musician. On an eight-stringed harp. A Psalm of David.>
Help, LORD, for the godly man ceases! For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men. (Psalm 12:1 NKJ)

1. Godly men are disappearing, these are the -

A. Men who resist the ways of the world –

Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; (Psalm 1:1 NKJ)

B. Men who spend time in and LOVE God’s Word –

But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. (Psalm 1:2 NKJ)

C. Men who know God, meaning they understand theology, but more than that they live on and according to a relationship with God –

- They know Who and What God is -

Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty *man* glory in his might, Nor let the rich *man* glory in his riches; ²⁴ But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I *am* the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD. (Jer. 9:23-24 NKJ)

- They live and even fight according to that knowledge -

³² "Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out *great exploits*. (Daniel 11:32 NKJ)

- In the church they resist false doctrine and teachers –

"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. ²⁹ "For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ "Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. ³¹ "Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. (Acts 20:28-31 NKJ)

D. You know these men by their conversation, how they walk and talk –

"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. ³⁶ "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. ³⁷ "For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned." (Matthew 12:35-37 NKJ)

III. Idle talk and flattering words are the way of an ungodly world –

They speak idly everyone with his neighbor; *With* flattering lips *and* a double heart they speak. ³ May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, *And* the tongue that speaks proud things, ⁴ Who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail; Our lips are our own; Who is lord over us?" (Psalm 12:2-4 NKJ)

1. Beware of idle talk –

A. Sports B. Fashion C. Foolishness

They don't talk about God! They are not able to. This is especially sad if it is the case at churches. Or when churches lack men.

2. What is even worse is flattery –

A. Saying nice things, with evil intent –

“A flatterer is said to be a beast that biteth smiling. But it is hard to know them from friends—they are so obsequious and full of protestations; for, as a wolf resembles a dog, so doth a flatterer a friend.”—*The Book of Symbols*, 1844. Jackie purring ---

B. Peace, peace when there is no peace –

They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, Saying, `Peace, peace!' When *there is* no peace. (Jeremiah 6:14 NKJ)

C. *Lies of the Devil* – ⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. (Genesis 3:4 NKJ)
"You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. (John 8:44 NKJ)

Verse 2.—"With a double heart." Man is nothing but insincerity, falsehood, and hypocrisy, both in regard to himself and in regard to others. He does not wish that he should be told the truth, he shuns saying it to others; and all these moods, so inconsistent with justice and reason, have their roots in his heart.—*Blaise Pascal*. See **Matthew 15:19**

To fall into the hands of an evil generation, so as to be baited by their cruelty, or polluted by their influence, is an evil to be dreaded beyond measure. C. H. Spurgeon

3. *Our lips are not our own, the wicked say –*
... **Our lips are our own; Who is lord over us?" (Psalm 12:4 NKJ)**
Meaning no one can tell them what to do with their lips, their bodies -

Verse 4.—From the faults of the wicked we must learn three contrary lessons; to wit: 1. That nothing which we have is our own. But, 2. Whatsoever is given to us of God is for service to be done to him. 3. That whatsoever we do or say, we have a Lord over us to whom we must be answerable when he calleth us to account.—*David Dickson*.

IV. *God will hear the sighing of the needy –*

"For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, Now I will arise," says the LORD; "I will set *him* in the safety for which he yearns." (Psalm 12:5 NKJ)

He hears the cry of the oppressed and He may decide to use us -
...⁹ "Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them."¹⁰ "Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who *am* I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" (Exodus 3:1-11 NKJ)

V. *In His Word we need to trust, when society starts to rust –*

The words of the LORD are pure words, *like* silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times.⁷ You shall keep them, O LORD, You shall preserve them from this generation forever.⁸ The wicked prowl on every side, When vileness is exalted among the sons of men. (Psalm 12:6-8 NKJ)

1. *For example, God's Word says –*

"While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease." (Genesis 8:22 NKJ)

And as for you, be fruitful and multiply; Bring forth abundantly in the earth And multiply in it." (Genesis 9:7 NKJ)

"I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. (Genesis 9:13 NKJ)

We need to trust God, and His Word, instead of lying men and women who say we need to kill our babies to save our planet!

2. *How trustworthy is God's Word?*

... *like* silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times. Psalm 12:6
Silver when put into a furnace is only purified. When we use God's Word, when we live it, we find ourselves only purified and made stronger by trials. Trusting God's Word means real victory over real fire –

Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God! (Daniel 3:28 NKJ)

that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, (1 Peter 1:7 NKJ)

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of *persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, (2 Peter 3:10-11 NKJ)

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