

Psalm 13

1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

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; 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.

Introduction:

1. The inspired heading tells us that David wrote this.
2. David had gone through a dark period in his life – like all believers do. And this Psalm demonstrates there is hope beyond the problem and that prayer is the solution.

Outline:

- A. Despair (vv.1-2)
- B. Prayer (vv.3-4)
- C. Repair (vv.5-6)

Observations:

1. Believers go through tough times. But the step to hope starts with prayer.
2. Sometimes people ask questions not looking for information, instead they are looking for relation. God asked Adam (Gen. 3:9); Cain asked God (Gen. 4:9).
3. David's four-fold "How long?" questions.
4. David looked away from God, onto himself, and onto his surroundings (similar to Peter in Matt. 14:30-32). He became discouraged.
5. David's three-fold prayer: Consider, Hear, and Lighten (or enlighten). Since David had no hope in himself he turns to God in prayer.
6. Prayer energizes the spiritual man (Rom. 8:18-39).
7. (v.5) – David trusted in the LORD's mercy – Covenant Kindness – and rejoiced as a result.

Lesson: Prayer helps us to refocus on the LORD.

Psalm 14

1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

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.

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.

Introduction:

1. The Fool here is not just an atheist but also the practical atheist.
2. The Satanic lie of pantheism is here refuted. Satan believed that he was God (Isa. 14:12-14) and tempted Adam and Eve with deathlessness and deification through knowledge – this will culminate in Satan's Superman – the Antichrist (2 Thess. 2:11; Rev. 13:18).

Outline:

- A. The Apostasy of the Fool (v.1)
- B. The Nature of the Fool (vv.2-3)
- B.' The Behavior of the Fool (vv.4-6)
- A.' The Affirmation of the Righteous (v.7)

Observations:

1. Apostasy stems from the heart (Ezek. 28:15-17) and affects the actions.
2. Their nature is corrupt and their actions are abominable.
3. Wise men "understand" and "seek" God. (Pro. 16:20)
4. Zion is Jerusalem. David desired for God to restore Israel and his kingdom back to glory. Israel will be returned to glory at the outset of the Millennial Kingdom reign of the Lord Jesus Christ (Isa. 59:20; Rom. 11:26).

Lesson: God is in the midst of his people and He will deliver them.