

Psalm 14**The Lord looks down from heaven****Introduction**

1. We have another cluster of Psalms ... Ps 14-16
2. This is what the cluster is about
 - a) Ps 14 is about the wicked
 - b) Ps 15 is about the righteous
 - c) Ps 16 is David's understanding of God in application

The way of the wicked

1. The wicked are proud Ps 10:2
 - a) They boast of their heart's desire Ps 10:3
 - b) The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God Ps 10:4
 - c) They use their tongue to speak proud things Ps 12:3
2. They persecute the poor Ps 10:2
 - a) They devise plots against the poor Ps 10:2
 - b) They catch the poor Ps 10:9
 - c) They oppress the poor Ps 12:5
3. Their mouth is full of cursing, deceit and oppression Ps 10:7
4. The wicked renounces God Ps 10:3, 13
5. They murder the innocent Ps 10:8
6. They reason that they do not need to be accountable Ps 10:13
7. The wicked bend their bow and are ready to attack the righteous Ps 11:2
8. They love violence Ps 11:5
9. They speak idle and flattering words Ps 12:2
10. The wicked prowl with vileness Ps 12:8

11. The enemy exalt themselves

Ps 13:2

Ps 14

1. David had written much about the wicked in the earlier Psalms

2. In Psalm 14, he pulls them together to form a summary concerning the unrighteous

A summary description of the wicked

1. Some are atheists

“The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” Ps 14:1

2. They are corrupt

“They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none who does good.” Ps 14:1

a) Corrupt

b) Do abominable works

c) None that does good

3. All have turned aside

“They have all turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is none who does good, No, not one.” Ps 14:3

a) They have turned aside from knowing God

b) They have together become corrupt

c) Till all become bad...not one is good

4. Rejection of God

“Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call on the Lord?” Ps 14:4

a) As workers of iniquity, they do not have knowledge of God

b) Eat up people

c) They do not call on the Lord

5. The fear of the wicked

“There they are in great fear,” Ps 14:5

6. They did things to shame the counsel of the poor

“You shame the counsel of the poor,” Ps 14:6

David's knowledge of God...Theism

1. God's perspective

"The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God." Ps 14:2

- a) David, in contrast, offered a totally different perspective
- b) His knowledge of God reflected his theism
- c) God exists in heaven and is looking down on all men

2. God's presence

"For God is with the generation of the righteous." Ps 14:5

- a) In contrast to the wicked, there is the generation of the righteous
- b) God is with the righteous

3. God's protection

"But the Lord is his refuge." Ps 14:6

- a) Turning to God to be a refuge
- b) He will provide protection for the righteous

Concluding with a heartfelt prayer

1. A prayer for salvation/deliverance

"Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion!" Ps 14:7

2. Hope for deliverance

"When the Lord brings back the captivity of His people," Ps 14:7

3. Finding joy

"Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad." Ps 14:7

Lessons learned

- 1. To gain a deeper understanding of the ways of the wicked
- 2. To understand how God is looking for those who will seek Him, but there is no one
- 3. The challenge is to trust in God's presence and His protection as our refuge
- 4. Pray for the Lord's deliverance with hope and joy