

Reflection Questions

Doctrine (What does this passage teach us):

How does this passage contrast the wicked and the righteous?

Reproof (What wrong thinking does this passage expose):

Can someone reject Christ as Lord, while still claiming to be saved?

Correction (How does this passage fix wrong thinking):

How does God's faithfulness to David help us to view His words?

Instruction in Righteousness (How does this passage help us to continue):

Have you felt like the godly cease to be? How does Rom. 11:3-4 correct that view?

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Revelation 4:5-11

Song #47 ~ O God, My Joy

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 3:1-29

Song #136 ~ My Soul Finds Rest

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-49

Prayer

Sermon ~ Psalms 12:1-8

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #133 ~ He Will Hold Me Fast

Psalm 13:6

I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me.

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Text: Psalm 12:1-8

Theme: The wicked knowingly speak lies; while the words of the Lord are pure.

Introduction: Have you felt overwhelmed by the words of the wicked? Perhaps it seems like there is no hope for the righteous. In this Psalm we find the prayer of the righteous. Again, the Psalmist looks to the Davidic Covenant and sees the Lord as the One who protects His people forever (7).

- I. The wicked knowingly speak lies; while the words of the Lord are pure (1-8).
 - A. It often seems as though the godly cease to be (1).
 1. Perhaps it's a lie of the devil, but we often feel like the godly no longer exist. Elijah felt like he was the only one left and that King Ahab was seeking to take his life (1 Kings 19:10). Yet, God had preserved 7,000 who had not bowed the knee to Baal (cf. Rom. 11:3-4).
 - B. The wicked knowingly speak lies (2-5).
 1. Do the wicked *knowingly* speak lies? Notice that David says that they speak with a double heart (2). The words they speak don't match what they know to be true in their heart.
 2. They speak lies, but what do they say? They refuse to recognize that the Lord is ruler over all—including them (4).

Explanation: These words of the wicked are spelled out for us in Psalm 2. They refuse to recognize His Lordship and instead cast off His shackles (Ps. 2:2-3).

- C. The wicked use their words to oppress the weak (5).
 1. The goal of the wicked is to take advantage of others. The weak tend to be the easiest targets.

Application: None of us would view ourselves as the “wicked.” Yet, when we take advantage of those who are weak we demonstrate that we are no different than the wicked.

- D. In contrast, the words of the Lord are pure (6-8).
 1. The world we live in is filled with deception and blatant lies, yet God's word is in complete contrast (6). When God makes a promise (i.e. the promises in the Covenants), He always fulfills every detail of that promise.

Explanation: Why does the Psalmist refer to God's words as “pure” (i.e. ceremonially clean)? Wouldn't it be more natural to say that His words are “true” or “reliable?” It seems as though the Psalmist may also be referring to the motivation behind those words (i.e. pure motivation) in addition to reliable.

- Illustration:** His words are like refined silver. Silver that has been refined 7 times has had all the impurities removed.
2. The reason His words are always trustworthy is that *He* keeps them (7). Part of the problem with our words is that we are unable to keep our words. But because God is omnipotent, He is able to keep His words.
 3. In contrast, the wicked strut around as they deceive the weak and innocent (8).

Conclusion: Perhaps you've experienced the tyranny of the wicked. Take comfort, their words will be thwarted. David's Son will take His rightful place on the throne and thwart the plans and words of the wicked.