

Rhema Christian Center
Tuesday Virtual Bible Study August 17, 2021
Teacher Willie Bryant
Psalms 14:1-7 KJV Notes

Introduction

A Psalm of David: Written to the Chief Musician

It is uncertain when this Psalm was written. Some say it was written when Saul persecuted David others, when Absalom rebelled against him, (all guesses)

Psalms chapter 14 is the first Psalm of instruction about the wicked/**Human Depravity**. (M.A. Copeland)

It laments (crying out in grief) a people who have rejected God

It laments the way such people have become corrupt.

David in general **sees** the corruption of human nature, and **sees** not only his enemies, but all the children of men, were corrupt. (M.A. Copeland)

At the end of the chapter David prays for salvation of “Israel”

“Psalm 14:1 KJV 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.

.”Romans 1:19-20 NLT says “They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So, they have no excuse for not knowing God

Question? Who is the fool or what is the meaning of a fool?

The Hebrew word for fool in the Old Testament is one who is morally deficient.

Isaiah 32:6 (Berean Study Bible) says for a fool speaks foolishness; his mind plots iniquity. He practices ungodliness and speaks falsely about the Lord; he leaves the hungry empty and deprives the thirsty of drink.”

In Hebrew there are three basic words for fool:

- **Kesil** is a moral term. This is an obstinate person that is one that is hard-headed, head strong, stubborn, stiff necked, non-compromising, inflexible, fear the lord continues to make wrong choices that usually lead to destruction. He usually refuses to concentrate on what is right. This fool refuses to fear the Lord;
- **Iwwelet** indicates a person who is lacking in morals. This is a person who is insultingly in speech or in conduct, overbearing, rebellious or quick temper.
- **Nabal** is the “brutish person who is like a stubborn animal, or a rude

insensitive person. “This fool “denies God” and act wickly.

They are corrupt defined to change from good too bad in morals, manners, or action. This type of fool is no good, they are depraved which is Debauchery defined as an extreme indulgence in bodily pleasure: esp behavior involving sex, drugs, alcohol etc that is often considered immoral.

They have done abominable works defined to cause disgust or hatred; Detestable. Abominable in Hebrew: Ta’ab are “works that offend God.”
Example: the worship of a physical object as a god: or a devotion of something.

There is none that doeth good.

”**Mark 10:18 AMPC** says, “And Jesus said to him, why do you call Me [essentially and perfectly morally] good? There is no one [essentially and perfectly morally] good—except God alone.”

Romans 3:9-26 “the whole world is guilty before God and can be saved only by the Grace of God” (read 9-26 later)

Warren Wiersby says “Human depravity doesn’t mean that all persons are wicked, or that all are equally bad, or that no man or woman can do anything good. It simply means that all have a fallen nature they cannot change and that part from the grace of God none can be saved from eternal judgement”.

In verses 2-3 God’s search to find godly men on earth to find the proof of the charge.

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

The Lord looked down. God knows all things without any inquiry, He is omnipresent and omniscient

- o He looked upon the children of men: mean he looked intently or closely upon the whole body of Israelites nation. (This could also be in the present tense)
- o Diligently seek him is to study his mind and will that they might do it
(Matthew Henry
Commentary)
- o He looked upon mankind; upon the human race. They are called “children or sons” (Hebrew) because they are all descendants of the man God created Adam.
(Barn’s notes on the Bible)
- o Did any understand or seek God: that is to know love, fear, trust, and obey him,

He saw “none who could be exempt from depravity” (Barn’s notes)

Psalms 53:2-3 NLT says God looks down from heaven on the entire human race; he looks to see if anyone is truly wise, if anyone seeks God. But no, all have turned away; all have become corrupt. No one does good, not a single one!”

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

- When God looked down to investigate, “He sees all became filthy like milk gone sour”.
We are all fallen creatures and cannot do any good of our own will. We need God to work in us and then we are able to do good, but only by God’s work in us.
- Gone aside: they have turned their backs on God and refused to fulfill the purpose they were created to glorify God. (W.Wiersbe)

Jeremiah 2:21 EASY Bible says: “But I had planted you like a young vine. You were strong and you had good strong ancestors. Tell me how you became weak, dirty and really bad.”

Consider Genesis 6:5-6 NLT “The Lord observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. So, the Lord was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart.

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

- Workers of iniquity are those who have rejected the Lord Jesus as their savior, a sin or evildoers or wrong doers, (“no knowledge is to say no knowledge of God”)
- Who eat up my people (workers of iniquity): meaning God’s people, the poor and the godly Israelites?
- To eat people like bread is a biblical metaphor for exploiting the helpless.

The worker of iniquity enjoys finding faults of the ones following God. He looks for every error, every misstep every fault to light; he eat up the righteous.

Vs 5 There were they in great fear: for God is in the generation of the righteous.

While in the midst of their evil doing, devouring God's people, sudden terror seizes on them. **Psalms 53:5 adds** "There they are, in terror and dread, where there was [and had been] no terror and dread! For God has scattered the bones of him who encamps against you; you have put them to shame, because God has rejected them."

The righteous are those people who live with ethical principles in accord with God's law and God's will.

Vs 6 Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD is his refuge

The term "the poor" used for those who are downtrodden and abused. Often the poor are those who are persecuted because of their belief in Yahweh.

Psalms 22:7 ampc says: "All who see me laugh at me and mock me; they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

The complete Jewish Bibles (CJB)says: "In the fear of Adonai is powerful security; for his children there will be a place of refuge. The fear of Adonai is a fountain of life enabling one to avoid deadly traps."

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

Psalm 85:1-2 KJV says "LORD, thou hast been favorable unto thy land: Thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob. Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah

Jerusalem was located on Mt Zion, so the word Zion serves as a synonym for Jerusalem. Zion was a place on earth where God revealed His presence, protection, and power,

Psalm 132:13-18 AMPC says "For the Lord has chosen Zion, He has desired it for His habitation: This is My resting-place forever [says the Lord]; here will I dwell, for I have desired it. I will surely and abundantly bless her provision; I will satisfy her poor with bread. Her priests also will I clothe with salvation, and her saints shall shout aloud for joy. There will I make a horn spring forth and bud for David; I have ordained and prepared a lamp for My anointed [fulfilling the promises of old]. [I Kings 11:36; 15:4; II Chron. 21:7;

In." Romans 11:26-27 KJV apostle wrote "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, there shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, When I shall take away their sins

John 16:33 AMPC "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]"