

Psalm 11: Answering Fear With God's Reign:

1. (1-3) David reacts to the advice to flee.

During a life threatening time, David's friends advised him, "**Flee as a bird to your mountain.**" His answer was, "why should a man who trusts in the LORD flee (live in fear)?"

Matthew 16:22-23- *Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far it be from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You." But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God but me."*

Nehemiah 6:11 – *And is said, "Should such a man as me flee? And who is there such as I who would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in.*

In giving advice, the foundation is destroyed, so what can the righteous one like you do, except flee?"

2. (4-5) David answers by remembering that God reigns and sees.

David is reminding himself and his friends, "God hasn't gone anywhere. You can go to His temple and meet with Him. You can peep into heaven and He reigns." The ungodly may torment us for a while but we shouldn't flee, our righteous God reigns over all creation and is watching over all.

3. (6) God will punish the wicked. If the ungodly persecute the righteous, how much more will the righteous God persecute the ungodly? God will reign coals, fire, brimstone and a burning wind.

4. (7) David answers by remembering the favour of God upon the upright.

It isn't that we must earn God's love by our personal righteousness; instead, our pursuit and practice of righteousness keeps us flowing in the benefits of God's love.

God shines His face/favours on His people.

Proverbs 12:2 - *A good man obtains favour of the LORD: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.*

Proverbs 14:9 - *Fools mock at sin, but among the upright there is favour.*

Psalm 12: Answering Evil Speech With God's Pure Word.

1. (1-2) The scarcity of the godly.

Instead of **godly man**, David saw around him those who spoke with ***flattering lips and a double heart/inconsistent mind.***

1 Kings 19:18 - *"Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."*

2. (3-4) A plea for God to judge those who speak wickedly.

May the LORD cut off all flattering lips that speak proudly and in self-proclaimed victory; may God get rid of them.

3. (5) God will act in protection of the oppressed.

4. (6-7) The pure words of the LORD.

In contrast to the idle, two-faced, lying, and proud lips of those around David, God's words are **pure**, like purified **silver** (can't rust or get polluted). God keeps His word to judge and preserves it for every generation. The Bible is full of accounts of God judging the wicked and preserving His word for every generation.

5. (8) The way of the wicked. Wickedness/vileness thrives when it is promoted.

Psalm 13: Answering Sorrows With Trust In The LORD.

1. (1-2) David's despair.

David is overwhelmed with many sorrows, among which is his enemies pressing him down. He is wondering how long it would take.

2. (3-4) David's prayer. David wants God to listen and to enlighten him.

3. (5-6) David's trust/confidence/expectation of help in God.

David's declaration of trust in the LORD resulted into rejoicing (joying again and again) and anticipation of victory (like it had already happened).

Proverbs 3:5-6 – *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall guide direct your paths.*

When dark doubts attack you, when your strength is small, when to simply trust Him seems the hardest thing of all, trust Him. He is ever faithful, His will is best, for the heart of Jesus is the only place of rest, trust Him.