

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 93 – Is God Far Off Through Christ Not Being Left In Hades (Psalms 10-16)

1. The tenth chapter of Psalms begins with what question?

“Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble” (Psalms 10:1)?

A later Psalm says: “The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy” (Psalms 145:20).

If God were to prevent evil and immediately punish wicked doers, God would never allow for repentance (II Peter 3:9 and Revelation 2:21). He also would nearly remove freewill. I would imagine all of us are thankful that God did not destroy us the moment we had sinned in times past!

2. How arrogant had the wicked, whom the Psalmist is speaking of, become?

“(2) The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined. (3) For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth. (4) **The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.** (5) **His ways are always grievous: thy judgments are far above out of his sight:** as for all his enemies, **he puffeth at them.** (6) He hath said in his heart, **I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.** (7) His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity. (8) He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: his eyes are privily set against the poor. (9) He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net. (10) He croucheth, and humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones. (11) **He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it”** (Psalms 10:2-11).

It is foolish to think that God is not aware of our sins (Psalms 90:7-8, Proverbs 5:21, Proverbs 15:3, Isaiah 40:26-28, Luke 16:15, and Hebrews 4:13).

More on this in chapter 11!

3. Who did the Psalmist ask God not to forget?

The humble: “Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up thine hand: forget not the humble” (Psalms 10:12).

We never need to fear that God will forget the humble: “But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up” (James 4:6; 10).

We must realize that the rising of the humble is on God’s timeframe, not ours: “Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble

*yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, **that he may exalt you in due time**” (I Peter 5:5-6).*

4. Did the Psalmist ask for God to overlook the actions of the wicked?

No, he asked the opposite: “(13) *Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it. (14) Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless. (15) **Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness till thou find none**” (Psalms 10:13-15).*

5. Does the tenth chapter of Psalms close with doubt in God or words of confidence?

Words of confidence: “(16) *The LORD is King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of his land. (17) LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear: (18) *To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress*” (Psalms 10:16-18).*

6. When told to flee, whom did the Psalmist say he trusted in?

The Lord: “*In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain*” (Psalms 11:1)?

7. Were the wicked seeking to destroy the upright in heart?

Yes: “*For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart*” (Psalms 11:2).

8. What concern was expressed in Psalms 11 that would leave the righteous in a bad position?

“*If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do*” (Psalms 11:3)?

The “foundations” [Strong’s 8356] refers to political or moral support system. The Hebrew word is translated one more time in **Isaiah 19:10** as “purposes”.

9. Does the Psalmist think that God is unaware of what is going on?

No: “(4) *The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD’S throne is in heaven: **his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men**” (Psalms 11:4).*

10. Does God feel the same about the righteous and the wicked?

No, He hates the wicked while He loves the righteous: (5) *The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth. (6) Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup. (7) For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright” (Psalms 11:5-7).*

11. How hard was it to find righteous men during the time Psalms 12 was written?

Very rare: “(1) *Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. (2) They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak*” (Psalms 12:1-2).

12. Who was going to be cut off and who was going to be in safety?

*“(3) **The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things:** (4) Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us? (5) For the oppression of **the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him**” (Psalms 12:3-5).*

13. How did the Psalmist describe the word of God?

*“(6) **The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.** (7) Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever” (Psalms 12:6-7).*

14. What happens when vile men are exalted?

*“**The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted**” (Psalms 12:8).*

15. What is the difference between the beginning and the end of Psalms 13?

Begins feeling deserted while ends in praising God for dealing bountifully with him. The middle expressed dependency on God hearing him which causes the transition in through: *“(1) **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**” (Psalms 13:1-6).*

16. What does the fool say in his heart?

*“(1) **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**” (Psalms 14:1).*

17. What did the Lord see, as described in chapter fourteen, when He looked on the earth?

*“(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**” (Psalms 14:2-3).*

18. What level of knowledge exists among those who work iniquity?

None: *“**Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD**” (Psalms 14:4).*

In other words – THEY ARE STUPID!

19. Who has God as their refuge?

*“(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**” (Psalms 14:5-6).*

20. Who will rejoice when salvation comes out of Zion?

*“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**” (Psalms 14:7).*

21. Who shall abide with God in His tabernacle?

*“(1) LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? (2) He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. (3) He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. (4) In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. (5) He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved” (Psalms 15:1-5).*

22. What does the Psalmist request as we begin chapter sixteen?

For God to preserve him: *“Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust” (Psalms 16:1).*

See: **Isaiah 31:5, Isaiah 49:6, and I Thessalonians 5:22-24.**

23. Is the goodness of the Psalmist a benefit to God or to man?

To man: *“(2) O my soul, thou hast said unto the LORD, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee; (3) But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight” (Psalms 16:2-3).*

24. Was the Psalmist open to idol worship?

No: *“(4) Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips” (Psalms 16:4).*

25. Does the Psalmist feel that God has blessed him?

Yes: *“(5) The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot. (6) The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, **I have a goodly heritage.** (7) **I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel:** my reins also instruct me in the night seasons” (Psalms 16:5-7).*

26. What will protect the Psalmist from being moved?

Where he has put God in his life: *“I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved” (Psalms 16:8).*

27. If you read Acts 2:25-27, what do we then know about Psalms 16:9-11?

Acts 2:25-27 says: *“(25) For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: (26) Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: (27) Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. (28) Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance” (Acts 2:25-27).*

Psalms 16:9-11 says: *“(9) Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. (10) For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One*

*to see corruption. (11) Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore” (Psalms 16:9-11).*

We know that David is the writer. We know he is talking about Christ. We know Acts 2:25-27 is a quote of Psalms 16:9-11. This is therefore a prophesy about Christ not remaining in Hades.