

Fools and Salvation of Israel Psalms Chapter 14

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

Ps 14:1 "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."

There is no doubt about the definition of a fool, for it is clearly defined here. The person who believes in their heart that there is no God is a fool. Whether that person says it with their mouth or demonstrate it by the way they live their life, they are fools. We see a picture of this, today, in those of whom Jesus spoke in **Mt 7:21 ¶** *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."* From this text, we see there are many who claim to be Christians, who really are not. Do you really believe in God and Jesus Christ?

We point out here that the topic is fools, who do not believe in God, wherefore "**They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.**" Because they have not the Spirit of God.

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

What does it mean to understand? *to be circumspect, to be intelligent, to consider, to instruct or teach, make to understand, to have wisdom, to behave self, guide wittingly.* Simply put: it means to understand that there is a God, who is the supreme being. We are told in **Pr 9:10** *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."* We seek after God, having been given Spiritual understanding in the new birth. We desire to know him in an intimate, communal relationship. We desire to know the word of God, because it teaches us of God and our Saviour. By living a life of discipleship to Christ Jesus: we demonstrate to others that there is a God, and that we are not fools.

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

Remember the topic is about fools. All the fools have rejected God. The fools join together to practice ungodliness, and live filthy lives. Fools do not do good things. Not one fool has the ability to live for the glory of God, because they are devoid of the Holy Spirit. This is a reminder to us of how great the gift of Salvation by the Grace of God really is.

4 ¶ "Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD."

What is knowledge? Knowledge, as used here means, *to know, to properly ascertain by seeing, to observe, to care, to recognize, to acknowledge, be aware, comprehend, to declare, be diligent.* We return to the topic of the fools, who are workers of iniquity. Why are they workers of iniquity? Because they have no knowledge of God.

"who eat up my people as they eat bread" Here is a text that lends light upon this phrase: **Mic 3:3; 1 ¶** *"And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know judgment? 2 Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones; 3 Who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron."* This is a picture of foolish religious leaders, who are teaching untruths. They ridicule and abuse all those who take a faithful stand for the truth of God. They eat God's people as bread, for they feed upon the living to sustain their ungodly appetites.

The fools are workers of iniquity who do not call upon the Lord. They serve themselves and Satan, their father. Some will say: preacher, those are hard words, to which I give you the words of Jesus in **Joh 8:44; 44** *"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. 45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not."* You should know the King James bible so you can recognize the difference between truth and the deceptive lies of fools.

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

We have several examples of the fools being in great fear before the generation of the righteous. Do you remember Pharaoh and the Egyptians, and their great fear of God and Israel, when God killed all the firstborn of Egypt, both man and breast? Do you remember? how the inhabitants of the land of promise were afraid of the Israelites when they began to enter the land of promise. Do you remember? how the foolish religious leaders feared Jesus when he was on the earth. Do you remember the fear of the foolish leaders of Israel? when the apostles began to preach the gospel, and many turned away from them to Christ.

Why did all these fear? Because they were foolish, and did not believe that there was a Supreme God in heaven, that ruled in heaven and on earth, yet they saw the power of God destroying them and their livelihoods. Therefore, if you do not wish to be classified with the fools, you should do as we are told in: **Php 2:11 "And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."**

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

The LORD is the refuge of the children of God. They believe that Jesus came into the world and gave His life for the eternal remission of their sins. They believe in the second coming of Jesus. They believe in the resurrection of the dead in Christ to the eternal heaven. They believe the bible is the Word of God.

So how is it that the fools shame the council of the poor? Let's look at the scripture in: **2Pe 3:3-4; 3 ¶**
"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." Fools do not believe in the truths of God, and they mock and castigate the children of God trying to get them to lose faith in Jesus Christ and His finished work of eternal salvation for God's people.

7 "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."

Captivity means *exile, being prisoners, or returning to a former state of prosperity*. What always happened when Israel forgot God? God would send famine, or pestilence, or drought, or someone to take them captive, to bring them to remembrance of who and what God was to them. They would always lose the richness of God's blessings in their lives. In other words, they became foolish by forgetting God and became captive to fools.

King David understands that the salvation of Israel must come from God. Understand that the Old Testament saints did not have the New Testament. They were looking for the coming of the Messiah. They were looking for an earthly king to sit upon an earthly throne; and bring peace and prosperity to their world. This is why King David says, "**Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion!**" This is a prophetic picture of the first coming of Jesus.

Jesus was sent from God in a prepared body to bring about the freedom of God's people from our former captor the devil. As Jesus fulfilled the sacrificial law, He ushered in the age of salvation by the grace of God. This removed God's people from under the judicial wrath of God and brought them into the state of spiritual prosperity. This outpouring of God's bountiful blessings is upon the church of salvation by grace, which is inhabited by both Jew and Gentile. Though the church of salvation by grace has had her ups and downs through time, yet she continues to grow and prosper under the Holy Spirit guidance. Israel lived with the promise of the coming of the Messiah who would deliver them from all their enemies and rule over them in the fulness of prosperity.

The fools say, "**all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.**" The church, of salvation by grace, lives with the promise of the second coming of Jesus. They believe in the resurrection of the dead in Christ, and the change of those who are alive and remain at his coming, which eternally free all of God's people from captivity to the satanic evils of this world. The resurrection of the dead in Christ will remove the foolish from the sight of God's people forever. Then, the return of our prosperity will be beyond our wildest imaginations, when we are given sinless, incorruptible, immortal bodies, and Jesus shall carry us to that place he has prepared for us. Hallelujah! Amen!