

Psalms Chapter 12 Commentary
To the chief Musician upon Sheminith, A Psalm of David

Ps 12:1 "Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men."

David is praying to God for His intervention into the affairs of men. Why? Because David sees the number of faithful in Israel dwindling. Who are the godly and the faithful? Those who openly profess their faith, and trust, for their eternal salvation in the LORD. They seek not, nor adhere to, the council of ungodly people. Looking at the world today, this is certainly a prayer we can offer today.

2 "They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak."

Who are they that speak vanity with flattering lips to their neighbors? "*for the faithful fail from among the children of men,*" Those, who are not godly and faithful to God. Why do they speak vanity and with flattering lips? Because they know not God. Vanity and flattering lips are the tools of Satan. The serpent used them in the Garden of Eden to ensnare Eve, and Adam, to eat of the forbidden fruit, which God had told them not to eat in *Ge 3:5 "For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."* The temptation to become as gods, is vanity and flattering lips speaking. The desire of the ungodly, and unfaithful, is to be their own god. Their faithfulness is to self, not the true God.

Any who are not born again are without God in their lives. They cannot do anything that is godly or faithful to God. But, you say, there are many people who do good things. Yes, there are. However, they do good things with the wrong intent in their hearts. They do them for their own glory and not for the glory of God. This is why, in the realm of religion, you see many that profess to be people of God, but if you look at the way they live, you find they are living a different life than what their mouths profess. This is why you see denominations, and individual churches, which are promoting, and taking in, things that God has declared are an abomination to Him. Why? Because they are comprised of those who "*with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.*"

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?"

"*who is lord over us?*" Do you understand now what God is saying through King David? Anyone who is not submissive to God is of those with flattering lips, those who speak proud things, in a sentence: those who are ungodly and unsaved, who God says he will cut off. What will God cut them off from? God will cut them off from the abundant mercies of God. Unless, they are given the gift of eternal life before their natural death, God will cut them off from the joys of eternal life in Christ. What a horrible thought, to be forever cut off from the mercy and grace of God, to spend an eternity in the lake of fire with Satan and all his followers.

This should make it easy for God's people to desire to be disciples of Christ: to encourage saved people to be sure the words of their mouths, and their walks, agree with the Word of God: and to love God and one another.

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. 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 forever. 8 The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted."

Eternally, we see this manifested in the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Certainly, God set Jesus in safety when Satan puffed at him. Though He yielded his body to death, yet he arose victorious. If you are a child of God, you have the promise of God: even if they kill your body on earth, they cannot kill your soul, which will immediately go to heaven at the death of the body.

David says in *Ps 12:7 "Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation forever,"* which cites us to the first coming of Christ. At the first coming of Christ, Jesus completed the eternal remission of sins, and eternal salvation, of all God's people. The saved are the poor and needy, who understand, after the new birth, that they have nothing to offer God to purchase, or work out, their eternal salvation. They understand that they are saved by God's grace and mercy.

What will happen at the second coming of Christ? The King James bible tells us, plainly, there will be an eternal separation of the saved and lost in **Mt 25:31-46; 31 ¶ "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. 41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. 44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. 46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."** These verses make it easy to understand what King David is telling us in this Psalm.

When Jesus, hanging on the cross, said **"it is finished"** God's people have been secured with an everlasting covenant of promise, for their eternal redemption from those that speak vanity with flattering lips, from those who oppress God's people, and those who speak proud things, such as **"who is lord over us?"** At the second coming of Jesus, every person will know who is Lord over all things, as we are told in **Php 2:10-11; 1 ¶ "If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."** When Jesus comes the second time: those who speak vanity with flattering lips and a double heart, who walk in wickedness, and vileness of exaltation: your confession that Jesus is Lord will not be a confession of eternal life in Christ, but a bitterness to your soul, and body, all the ages of eternity in the eternal lake of fire.

In **Ps 12:6 "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."** This is the surety of the promise of God. Men purify silver in the furnace by adding the proper substances to it and heating it to the proper temperature. When the silver quits moving, and the surface becomes still, it becomes a mirror, and the silver is purified. To get the purest form of silver men can get, men do this process seven times, which renders silver that is 99.99% pure. The point being: God's word of truth and promises of eternal remission of sins and eternal life in Christ, will be manifested in 100% purity, when Jesus comes the second time and the dead in Christ rise first. Then, we shall be 100% free from sin by the power of the word of Christ. We shall have bodies like unto his, pure, holy, and undefiled, wholly acceptable to God the Father.

Mal 3:3 "And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness."

While reading Malachi chapter 3, a group of women in a Bible study came upon a remarkable expression in the third verse: **"And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver."** One woman spoke up and said the verse

was intended to convey the sanctifying influence of the grace of God. Then she said she would visit a silversmith and report to the other women what he said on the subject.

She went accordingly and, without telling the object of her errand, begged to know the process of refining silver, which the smith described to her. "But, sir," she said, "do you sit while the work of refining is going on?" "Oh, yes, ma'am," replied the silversmith. "I must sit with my eye steadily fixed on the furnace, for if the time necessary for refining is exceeded in the slightest degree, the silver will be injured."

The woman at once saw the beauty and comfort of the expression, "He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver." God sees it needful to put His children into a furnace: His eye is steadily intent on the work of purifying, and His wisdom and love are both engaged in the best manner for them. Their trials do not come at random: "the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

As the woman was leaving the shop, the silversmith called her back and said he had forgotten to mention that the only way to know when the purifying process is complete is when he can see his own image reflected in the silver. Author Unknown

We pray that all who hear these words of truth, may be humbled by the Holy Spirit power of Christ, bow the knee to, and confess Jesus Christ is Lord, before he returns the second time, and it is forever too late to make confession of the salvation of God. We ask in the name that is above all names, Christ Jesus, Amen!