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Psalm 12

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 12.

Topics.

- God will arise and place the needy in the safety for which he longs.
- The words of the LORD are pure.
- On every side the wicked prowl, as vileness.
- The return of Christ in glory.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they consist of five books covering the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

BOOK ONE (PSALM 1-41)

PSALM 12:1-4

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To the Choirmaster: According to the Sheminith. A Psalm of David.

- **Psalm 12:1-4:** Save, O LORD, for the godly one is gone; for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man. ²Everyone utters lies to his neighbour; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak. ³May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, the tongue that makes great boasts, ⁴those who say, "With our tongue we will prevail, our lips are with us; who is master over us?"

Boastful, prideful and arrogant men are boasting that no one will be a master over them (v5). David feels that all the godly and faithful have vanished (v1). This does not mean all the faithful upon the entire planet, but all the faithful surrounding David's life and his kingdom. It is certain men amongst David's councillors are flattering him with lies, but hidden behind their flattery is a self-serving agenda. It is also certain that the boastful, prideful and arrogant men in focus who have authority and power are using the same kind of deceptive flattery to cheat the poor out of what is rightfully theirs (i.e., their homes and land) and perverting justice to take advantage of the helpless for their own gain and this is why David is so grieved.

PSALM 12:5-8

God will Arise and Place the Needy in the Safety.

- **Psalm 12:5-8:** Because the poor are plundered, because the needy groan, I will now arise," says the LORD; "I will place him in the safety for which he longs."⁶The words of the LORD are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times. ⁷You, O LORD, will keep them; you will guard us from this generation forever. ⁸On every side the wicked prowl, as vileness is exalted among the children of man.

Many today feel like David, they go to work, just to earn a survival income and no one seems to care about God, it is almost as though He does not exist, everyone is self-absorb in their own life, the riches and wealth of this world, material possessions and the joys the world offers (i.e., travel, sport, amusement parks etc.). Added to this the wealthy and powerful companies, businesses and governments worldwide oppress the poor for their own gain and no-one cares (obviously there are exception there always is to the general rule of things), but when the eyes are focused upon the masses of the global world this is what is seen. David though deeply grieved at seeing such selfishness and corruption was comforted by the fact he knew that God cares about the poor, the helpless and the afflicted and will raise them up to a place of safety.

The words of the LORD are pure: (v6) naturally refers to the laws of God, the Ten Commandments, and the Doctrines of the Bible, but they primarily refer to the law of love in contrast to selfishness, corruption and using others for one's own gain. Jesus commanded his followers to "Love their neighbours as themselves," (Mark 12:31). Next to loving God with all our heart, mind and strength the command to love your neighbours as yourself is not only the greatest commandment in the entire Bible and under sun, the moon, the stars and all the heavenly hosts, but also the greatest commandment before God and the Lord Jesus Christ. To love your neighbour as yourself, (Matt. 22:39) means do not deliberately do harm to other humans. No sane person deliberately does things to inflict pain on themselves, loving others as you love yourself is not about feeling some warm and fuzzy emotion towards others, it is about not hurting others as you would not hurt yourself.

James the brother of Jesus said:

- If you really fulfil the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself," you are doing well. (James 2:8).

James calls Jesus command, "Love your neighbour as yourself," the royal law and says if we are keeping this one law we are doing well. The thing God hates the most is when we deliberately do harm to another person, physically, verbally, financially sexually, emotionally or spiritually and the thing God loves the most is when we do-good to others. It is interesting to notice that the major crime that God points out in Noah's time and one of the main reasons for the flood was because of all the violence in the land.

- Micah wrote: "What the LORD requires of mankind is to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with their God" (Micah 6:5-10).
- Isaiah says: "The LORD loves justice, hates robbery and wrong doing" (Isaiah 61:8).
- Jeremiah said: "Those who know God practise steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, because it is in these things that God delights" (Jer. 9:24).

The great prophets Micah, Isaiah and Jeremiah clearly show the law is about doing-good to others and protecting them from harm and hurt. The spirit under-pinning the Ten Commandments, is love because each law protects another human from harm.

Paul in his letter to the Romans wrote:

- Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (Romans 13:10).

Paul shines a brilliant spotlight on the truth that the spirit underpinning the law is love, because the spirit of the law is to protect the innocent from all types of harm and hurt, whoever keeps the law will do no wrong to a neighbour (neighbour embraces all mankind not just those in God's Kingdom). Those who belong to Christ aim to keep the law not to get saved, but because it honours God and brings a good testimony to the name of Jesus and the Christian faith and because it is the right and loving

thing to do. The faithful in Christ's global Kingdom not only understand that righteousness that leads to eternal life is a free gift of God that comes through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and cannot be earned by self-effort, but also know that from the love of God dwelling within their heart and displayed on the bloodstained cross of Calvary they are called to live a lifestyle that honours the King and Saviour they worship and follow and called to treat others with decency, respect and honest justice.

JESUS FAMOUS SERMON ON THE MOUNT

The constant theme throughout Jesus famous Sermon on the Mount is doing what is right before God by seeking the way of peace in all situations. Jesus calls Christians to treat people fairly and with respect, dignity, decency grace compassion, kindness, mercy and to be quick to forgive. This means living a life that honours God and the Lord Jesus Christ is about doing right to those in the church and those outside of it. This is the reason the message Jesus spoke on the mountain is referred to as, "The Famous Sermon" because the principals if followed not only by Christians, but all humanity are the only way to peace (Matt 5). Based on the commandment, love your neighbour as yourself and the law it could be said that a wicked and evil person is one who deliberately and consciously denies the existence of God and deliberately does harm to other humans. For further information on Jesus Famous Sermon see:

- Matthew 5 in, Commentary NT (ON WEBSITE MENU).

On every side the wicked prowls, as vileness: (v8) vileness means they are depraved, wicked loathsome foul nasty and unpleasant people who God and any person who has goodness and compassion dwelling within consider an abomination.

David' heart: after reading the Psalms it becomes very clear why God called David a man after his own heart. David cared about the oppression of the poor and the helpless and was grieved when he saw the innocent being afflicted by those who had authority and power. Jesus in his famous Sermon on the Mount said:

- Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. (Matt. 5:4).

This means blessed are those who mourn over sin and all the corruption, suffering and sorrow of the innocent and helpless in the world. The day Christ returns in glory to gather all the faithful to himself will without doubt be the most glorious days of every brother and sister in Christ life, but if we are only focused upon our own glorious deliverance, we are most self-indeed. A great part of the overwhelming joy should be the knowledge that suffering will end for all when the King of Peace is returning in glory as, King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to establish God's Kingdom on earth during his glorious millennial reign. The dead in Christ (Old and New Testament) and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6) to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God. Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God's Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth. Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish. The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce. All nations the LORD has made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God's Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God.

The book of Revelation states:

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

And in Revelation chapter five we are told that:

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done. Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev. 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory. For further information see titles:

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
