

PSALMS - Chapter 14

Joel 2:12-14 “*Does it break our heart?*”

12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

14 Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God?

God’s call to Israel through the centuries has been to ***repent***. The people of God were called upon to sorrow over their sin with godly sorrow.

Their Custom was to Outwardly show their disgust & outward symbolism of repentance, by rending their garments.

God was tired of it.

God called to His people for repentance of heart. That was true then, As is Now! (2 Chron 7:14)

Notice the wonderful attributes of our God.

“For he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.”

When God’s people will turn from their sin in repentance, God will repent of the judgment He had coming to them.

The thought is how God will change His mind to chasten, if and when His people turn from their sin.

A beautiful soliloquy of God’s mercy & grace is described. Yet it is predicated upon the repentance of God’s people.

Instead of Outward shows of Disgust and Separation, Is our heart broken over the Sin we see in people?

Is there Patience for..

The Foolishness of Man:

Vs 1a The fool hath said in his heart, *There is no God.*

Of interest is the word translated as fool (nabal).

It is the name of Nabal who was Abigail’s first husband.

It may be also that David had this foolish and ungodly man in mind when he wrote this psalm.

(2 Pet 3:5) *Willingly Ignorant of*

(1 Cor 1:18-25) God’s Irony is Comical

(1 Cor 2:14) *Natural Man*: Imperative we get them to think.

The words “*there is*” are in italics.

They are not in the Hebrew text, but were inserted by the translators, to add understanding.

The Hebrew text simply says,

“The fool hath said in his heart, No God!”

They are saying in rebellion & disobedience ***No God but Me!***

Examples: Balaam, Jonah, or Lot.

(Prov 1:7) *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

(Rom 1:19-32) *Educated beyond earthly usefulness.*

(Vs 21,32) Secondary Benefit/Personal Agenda to their sin.

To live with it in conscience, they fabricate elaborate lies

A. We are an Accident: (Mathematical Impossibility)

B. There are no Absolutes: I ask “*Are you Sure about that?*”

C. Discipline Warps Children:

The Gospel of Self Esteem is the Opiat of the Masses.

Self Esteem, Self Love, Self Purpose & Personal Autonomy.
Personal Identity is the New Idolatry.

Society has Rejected Genesis 1, Rejecting Genesis 2 is the natural next step.

Children are being trained in this new Cult, and they don't know WHAT they are or WHO they are.

(Prov 22:15) *Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.*

No one is telling them at home that We all are designed to bring glory to God.

Our Glory, Our Purposes, Our Self Esteem Our Personal Autonomy is IDOLATRY!

“Does the Foolishness of man break our heart or just Disgust you?”

(Joel 2:12-13) *...rend your heart, and not your garments,*

Is there Compassion for..

The Falleness of Man:

Vs 1b They are Corrupt, they have done abominable works, *there is none that doeth good.*

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

The truth is, there is a God that sees the wickedness of men. He has searched to see if there are any that naturally understand things spiritual and truly seek after God.

(The vivid picture portrayed is of God leaning over the battlements of heaven with His divine telescope searching the throngs of humanity for one who truly seeks after God.)

Implicit is the omniscience of God.

He knows the heart of each and every man, woman, and child. (Rom 3:10-18, 23)

As it is written, **There is none righteous**, no, not one:

11 There is **none that understandeth**, there is **none that seeketh after God.**

12 They are **all gone out of the way**, they **are together become unprofitable**; there is **none that doeth good**, no, not one.

13 **Their throat is an open sepulchre**; (eternal death in their words) **with their tongues they have used deceit** (they are purposely deceiving); **the poison of asps is under their lips** (Their words are like poison, Who are they listening too?):

14 **Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness**: (life hasn't gone their way so they secretly hate the God that they say does not exist even though their heart tells them that He does)

15 **Their feet *are* swift to shed blood:**

16 Destruction and misery *are* in their ways:

17 And the way of peace have they not known:

Only Socially Acceptable Bigotry is against Bible Believers.

18 **There is no fear of God before their eyes.**

Idolatry of Self has blinded them to the Judgement to come.

Does the Fallenness of man break our heart or just Disgust you? (Joel 2:12-13) rend your heart, and not your garments,

Is there Charity for...

The Filthiness of Man:

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

David records this miserable conclusion with 3 indictments.

(1) The entire human race is “gone aside.”

Indeed, all we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way (Isaiah 53:6).

(2) Humanity has “all together become filthy.”

The word translated as filthy, “being morally corrupt.”

(3) “*there is none that doeth good, no, not one.*”

The divine indictment of the natural depravity of man.

Humanly & naturally, all are corrupt.

There isn't one person who is good/right before a Holy God.

The Apostle Paul thus quotes this psalm in Romans 3:10-11.

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

How can mankind be so corrupt that they have no knowledge of God or the nature of sin?

The lost has no time for God.

They never turn to him when in need.

Spurgeon eloquently commented at this point, “*Men who having no saving knowledge of divine things, enslave themselves to become workers of iniquity, have no heart to cry to the Lord for deliverance, but seek to amuse themselves with devouring the poor and despised people of God. It is hard bondage to be a worker of iniquity; a worker at the galleys, or in the mines of Siberia, is not more truly degraded and wretched; the toil is hard and the reward dreadful: those who have no knowledge choose such slavery, but those who are taught of God cry to be rescued from it. The same ignorance which keeps men bondsmen to evil, makes them hate the freeborn sons of God; hence, they seek to eat them up.*”

(Prov 19:3) The **Foolishness** of man perverteth his way: and his heart fretteth against the LORD.

Does the Filthiness of man break our heart or just Disgust you? (Joel 2:12-13) rend your heart, and not your garments,

Is there Understanding for...

The Fearfulness of Man:

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

Illus: They know right from wrong. God has given it to us.

(Rom 2:14-15) *For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: 15 Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)*

We all know there is a day of Reckoning coming!

Lost and Saved alike know this!

Though the ungodly at times may persecute God's people,
they eventually run into the wrath of God.

Illus: Why do lost people live for the NOW?

They are afraid to live, and they are afraid to die!

Though Rulers may persecute, God in His timing brings them
face to face with His protective care of His people.

They learn the hard way to fear God.

Righteous is used here as a generic term for God's people.

More specifically, those who order their lives in righteousness
God is in their midst and so preserves and protects them.

Is there Longsuffering for..

The Forgetfulness of Man:

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

The "*poor*" here refers to the lowly of spirit, another name
for God's people.

The ungodly scoff and mock as God's people make their
refuge in Him. They Forget who they are Mocking!

Even Christian Brothers and Sister can scoff when we act in
faith! Its as though they forget Who We Serve!

But what a blessed realization that the Lord is our refuge.
Mock on ye workers of iniquity. The Lord is our refuge!

David concludes this short, powerful psalm with a plea to
God for Reckoning of their enemies.

Vs 7 Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion!

The word "**salvation**" (hewvy yeshuwah) in OT essentially is
the name Jesus in the New Testament. Translated as 'savior.'

Zion is a synonym for Jerusalem.

David asks God to send salvation through His Messiah, Jesus.

**when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people,
Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.**

David, speaks prophetically of the return and regathering of
Israel from their captivity.

When that day fully comes, Jacob will truly rejoice and Israel
will be glad.

In that day, there will be great rejoicing and gladness.

***Does the Forgetfulness of man break our heart or just
Disgust you? (Joel 2:12-13) rend your heart, and not your
garments***

God's command in Joel 2 rings out!

"Does it break our heart?"

God is not surprised that the LOST just DON'T GET IT!

God Understands that They do not Understand!

God knows why the Lost act, live, & value the things they do.

God is not calling us to retreat into our Separated Bastions of
Personal holiness in a vain show Disgust.

He Calls His people, to Brokenness over the sin of our nation.

Joel 2:12-14

12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

Has your methods been working to make a Difference?

Let's do it God's way.

13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

Our Prayers should be showers of tears for the Lost in our lives.

God may yet spare us and poor out revival!

14 Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God?

Are you Brokenhearted by what you see or just disgusted?

Are you Brokenhearted enough to do something about it. or just complain?

(Joel 2:12-14) Is a call to believer for our Love to have action.

Is a Call to believers to repent and be useable.

Is a Call to Believers to earnestly battle in pray through Faith.

Does it break your heart? Or just turn your stomach?

(Ps 126:5-6) They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. 6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.