

# Psalm One

Psalm One may be regarded as the preface Psalm having in it a notification of the contents of the entire book. The Psalmist's desire is to teach us the way to a blessed life, and to warn us of the damnation of sinners. It contrasts the life of the godly and the ungodly.

- 1.) Notice the degradation of the ungodly in v.1.
  - a. Walketh
  - b. Standeth
  - c. Sitteth
  
- 2.) This is not true of the godly. “ The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord.” Psalm 37:23a
  
- 3.) The ungodly may begin their evil ways practical rather than habitual, but soon they sin from habit.
  
- 4.) Notice the consummation of the ungodly.
  - a. Like the chaff  
*Note:* The chaff, while it is united with and keeps close to the wheat enjoys some privileges, but as soon as it is divided and parted from the wheat it is scattered.  
(Mixed multitude)
  
  - b. Their judgment: v.6  
*Notice:* God's precious jewels still lie in the same field with pebbles, but the day of separation will soon come.

## **I. The Godly**

### **A. Converted: v.1**

*Note:* It is a rich sign of inward grace when the outward walk is changed.

### **B. Communing: v.2 (Day and night)**

1. In the day of prosperity he sings songs.
2. In the night of afflictions he comforts himself with promises.
3. He meditates in the Word continually.

*Note:* At the first reading we may see nothing, but soon a small cloud as Elijah's servant, then thick clouds and rain.

*Quote:* "I have no rest, but in a nook, with the Book."

– Thomas A. Kempis 1380-1471

*Note:* Meditation chews the cud and gets the sweetness and the nutrients of the Word to the heart.

## **II. The Ungodly**

### **A. Signifies:**

1. Loose man: from God
2. Lost
3. Lonely
4. Lost

### **III. Completed: v.3**

#### **A. He Is Planted:**

*Note:* He is not left to the efforts of nature, but taken beneath the Gardener's care and planted in favorable soil.

1. By Rivers: (Plural)
  - a. Of Pardon
  - b. Of Peace
  - c. Of Promises
  - d. Of Grace
  - e. Of Goodness
  - f. Of Glory

#### **B. He Is Productive**

*Note:* Fruits brings forth patience in time of suffering, faith in the midst of trial, and holy joy in prosperity.

#### **C. He Is Prosperous**

## **Psalm 1:3**

### **Withered Leaves**

June 9, 1998

### **Withered Leaves**

1. Psalm One provides us with an overall picture and purpose of the Book of Psalms.
2. It contrasts the life of a Godly man, who is blessed and productive in life, to that of the ungodly, who are like the chaff, whose way shall perish.
3. Notice the Godly man, that even when fruit bearing is not in season, his leaf remains green, revealing that there is life sustaining him.

### **What About These Withered Leaves?**

#### **A. There are four reasons why a tree's leaf withers.**

1. **Naturally:** In the fall of the year the sap goes down, the leaves lose their source of life and wither.  
*Note:* It is an un-natural thing for a Christian's leaf to wither, for we never lose our sap (Holy Spirit).
2. **Because of cold weather:** (Freeze or frost bite)  
*Illus.* Bradford Pears this spring:  
(Christians get cold.)
3. **Because of drought:** (no water)  
*Note:* We have water as long as the River runs. Read Jer. 17:7, 8

**4. Because of disease:** (Illus. Maple at home.)

**5. When Might We Expect Our Leaf to Wither?**

If we are:

**A. Sidetracked by the Ungodly:** v. 1

a. Their Prosperity: Psalm 73:3-5

**B. Stray from the Word of God**

**C. These Things Break our Fellowship**

**I. The Withered Leaf of Self-righteousness:**

*Illus.* Adam and Eve – Genesis 3:7

**A. Man's Effort to Cover his Sin:**

**B. Used Temporal Means for an Eternal Need:**

**C. Mingled Two Substances**

(thread and leaves)

**ONLY THE BLOOD.**

**D. They Used the Trees Product,**

**When What They Needed Was the Tree:**

*Leaves Will Dry and Crumble.*

**1. Submit to the Righteousness of God:** Rom. 10:3

Submit to } a. The Son: v.4  
              } b. The Scriptures: v.8-11

***Note:* Submission brings faith and confession.**

# **Psalm One**

## **When God's Child Comes Into Full Bloom**

Introduction:

- 1.) Mention how the Lord spoke to my heart about the Psalm.
- 2.) Mention briefly about the Christian's prosperity.
- 3.) Stipulations for prosperity are described in the first three verses.

We Prosper...

### **I. When His Word Is Pre-eminent**

**A. His House Is Buildded:** I Chron. 21:13

1. Structure of Praise: I Chron. 21:5
2. Structure of Peace: I Chron. 21:9
3. Structure of Prosperity: I Chron. 21:13

### **II. When We Walk in His Presence: v.1**

*Note:* We are not to...

1. Stride
  2. Stand
  3. Sit with the ungodly.
- } Notice the degradation.

**A. We Will Catch the Bride:** Gen. 24:7, 21, 40

1. Found her by the well: v.11

**B. We Will Conquer Canaan:**

Joshua 1:8 Prosperity

**C. When Circumstances Are Unfavorable:**

Genesis 39 – Joseph

### **III. When We Are Willing to Follow the Prophet:**

II Chronicles 20:20

**A. Sing in Battle:** v.21, 22

**B. Spoil the Enemy:** v.25

## **Psalm Two**

### **The Rebellious in Unity**

Psalm Two may very well be called “The Rebellious in Unity”. In it we see the universal rebellion of mankind and the determinate purpose of God to exalt His own Son and the ultimate reign of that Son over all His enemies. In both Psalms One and Two the end of the rebels is the same. In Psalm One, like the chaff, they are driven away. In Psalm Two they are destroyed with the rod of iron (v.9).

#### **I. The Rebellion of the Heathen: v.1, 2**

##### **A. Is Universal**

1. Nations
2. People
3. Kings

*Note:* This reveals and magnifies the fallen nature of man.

##### **B. Is Unified**

*Note:* The world will be confederate against Him at the last day.

##### **C. Is Unreal: Vain**

1. He laughs: v.4

*Note:* It is a vain thing, because a thing successful. They could not perform it.

#### **II. The Resolution**

##### **A. Break Bands**

##### **B. Cast Cords: Why?**

*Note:* Not to have His riches nor His liberty, but that they might have His “Blood” to put

Him to death. They had the devil's mind, which is satisfied by nothing but death.

1. They wanted:
  - a. Lawlessness
  - b. Looseness

*Note:* "Bands and cords are signs of slavery, but to a saved man they are no more a burden than wings to a bird. They are girdles and garters which gird up his loins and expedite his cause." – Henry Smith 1578

### **III. The Rebuttal**

**A. He Laughs:** *Illus.* Dagon – I Sam. 5:3, 4  
*Illus.* When Pharaoh sought to destroy Israel, at the same time his own daughter, in his own court, gave princely education to Moses their deliverer. Did not God laugh?

**B. Has Them in Derision**

**C. He Vexes Them**

*Note:* This is a repetition signifying that this is set and cannot be altered.

*Illus.* Joseph and Pharaoh's dreams – Genesis 41:32

### **IV. The Redeemer: v.6**

**A. Is Set (Yet)**

*Note:* God's Anointed is appointed and shall not be disappointed.

**B. Is Suffering: v.7 (Begotten)**

**C. Is Sovereign: v.8**

### **V. Our Rejoicing: v.11**

**A. Fear and Joy**



*Note:* Fear without joy is torment, and joy without fear is presumption.

*Note:* “Fear promotes spiritual joy. It is the Morning Star which ushers in the sunlight of comfort. God mingles joy with fear, that fear may not be slavish.”

- Thomas Watson 1660

*Note:* You can rejoice in the Lord without fear and be hypocritical, or you can rejoice with trembling and be righteous.

## **Psalm Three**

### **Result of David's Sin**

A Book of Songs derived from life experiences...

*Note:* He was cursed by Shimei

### **The Third Psalm**

1. This Psalm finds its occasion in II Samuel 15:18 and is the story of David fleeing his kingly palace during the rebellion of his son Absalom. David crossed the Brook Kidron in the midst of the night barefoot (15:30) and of a sorrowful heart, accompanied only by a handful of faithful followers: (mighty men).
2. The New Testament counterpart to this plot is found in the night of our Lord's betrayal. He too crossed the Brook Kidron in route to Gethsemane and eventually to Calvary. He, like David, was deserted, despised, dejected, but not without victory in His own heart.

### **Result of David's Sin**

(Outline)

#### **I. The Conspiracy Against David:** verse 1

*Note:* It had its origin in Absalom, his own son, and his counselor, Ahithophel.

*Note:* Sad as it is many times, those who seem to be closest to us will be the ones to perpetrate evil against us. Illustration: Judas and Jesus:

Read Psalm 41:9

verse 1 **A. It surfaced:** When Absalom set out to win the hearts of the people (II Samuel 15:6) (But it was in his heart long before that.)

verse 1 **B. It strengthened:** (Rise) Verses 1-2 When Ahithophel joined forces with Absalom. (Troubles come in floods.) (Sorrow hath a big family.)

verse 6 **C. It was set** verse 6 – They have become dogmatic in their intentions.

*Illustration:* Pharaoh

**II. The Confidence of David:** Verse 6 “I will not be afraid.”

verse 3 **A. The shield:**

*Note:* Protection, which shall surround a man entirely. A shield above, beneath, around, without and within:

*(Note!)* He wards off the fiery darts of satan from beneath, the storms of trials from around, and speaks peace to the tempest within the breast.

*Note:* The Divine trio of mercies in verse 3:

1. Defense for the defenseless,
2. Glory for the despised,
3. Joy for the comfortless.

(← Lifter up of my head.)

→ Note: He lifts up 1) The feeble knees, 2) the fallen, 3) The forsaken.

**B. Salvation:** Verse 8 (Deliverance)

verse 5 **C. He slept:** Verse 5

What confidence, that David, in the midst of troubles and surrounded by his enemy, could find sweet rest.

*Illustration:* Peter (Acts 12)

*Note:* Many times while the storm rages around us, the Lord through some wonderful Scripture promise allows us to find quite rest. (*Illustration:* Joseph and the providence of God)

Verse 5 **D. He was sustained:** Verse 5

*Note:* David did not lay down to sleep in the safety of his palace, but possibly in a field under the canopy of Heaven, in a time of great: 1. Danger ---2. Deception -- 3. Division

*Illustration:* II Timothy 3 The last days.

Verse 7 **E. His enemies smitten:** Verse 7

*Note:* God's vengeance on the ungodly: He punishes but does not pity.

**III. The Lord's Consolation:** Verse 8

A mourner, though a martyr yet blessed: --- God's people are blessed before they are crowned.

(Thy blessing is upon thy people.)

### **Things to Remember**

1. The Word "Selah" is used seventy-three times in the Psalms, three times in Habakkuk and 3 times in this short chapter in verses 2, 4, and 8. (It means pause a little and think.)
2. True Grace can be shot at, but never shot through.

3. Many times, instead of rising above the weaknesses of the flesh, we take refuge under it and use it for an excuse.

4. Be cautious about joining the majority.

## **Psalm Four**

### **The Evening Hymn**

If the third Psalm was titled “The Morning Psalm” then this fourth may very well be entitled “The Evening Hymn”. Verse 8 --- And you can no more separate these than you can the rising and the setting of the sun.

Notice that the Psalm was written to the Chief Musician on Neginoth, which is stringed or hand instruments, only to be touched by the one making the music.

It is evident that the Jewish people used instruments such as harps and cymbals in their worship. But as one writer said, “Lord I am an instrument for Thee to touch.” (Illustration: The Old Violin) Let us lay ourselves open to the Spirit’s touch, so shall we also make melody for Him. May we be full of Faith, Hope, and Charity; and we shall be living instruments of music making melody unto the Lord.

We first find David’s life making music in the:

**I. Closet:** verse 1”Hear me when I call.” (Making music in prayer)

[Elijah (Public and private praying)] Fire and Rain

Esther → **A. His Approach to God:** (He understands the Lord to be his righteousness.)

**1. The Author: Hebrews 12:2**

**2. Witness:** Illustration – Abel  
Hebrews 12:4

### **3. Maintenance**

### **4. Judge**

### **5. Rewarder**

**B. His Appeal:** (Have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer)

*Note:* (Thou hast enlarged me when I was distressed.) David is pleading past mercies as a ground for present favor. You enlarged me when I was distressed, now do it again. You enlarged me with joy and comfort when I was like a man imprisoned by grief and sorrow.

**C. His Acceptance:** verse 8

*Note:* I will both lay me down in peace and sleep securely in Jesus, because I have been “accepted in the beloved”. Ephesians 1:6

**II. Conflict:** verse 2 (storms)

*Note:* From the Hebrew terms used “Sons of men” we understand David’s enemies are great men: (Don’t let them hinder you.)

**A. Their Shame:** (They loved vanity and leasing.)

#### **1. Lying**

#### **2. Empty Fancies**

#### **3. Vain conceits**

#### **4. Wicked Fabrications**

*Note:* The word “Selah” at the close of verse three. Surely, we too may stop awhile and meditate upon the deep-seated folly of the wicked, their continuance in evil, and their sure destruction; and may we learn to admire Grace that has made us to differ, taught us to love truth, and seek after righteousness.

**B. David's Suffering:** verse 2

*Note:* In the text we see that light shines out of darkness, and gladness comes out of suffering.

*The Lesson:* (Suffering strengthens character; brings to light the hidden qualities of man; teaches him courage, endurance, and self-reliance.)

*Note:* It is ease, not difficulty, that is dangerous to Christian character.

**C. David's Strength:** (In every walk of life it is the men of sorrows who are the real men of power.)

*Illustration:* Jesus

**D. David's Sympathy:** verse 3 (But know that the Lord)

**III. Consecration:** verse 3 (Set apart) Holiness

A. Purchased: (The Lord hath set apart)

B. Peculiar: (Different from those in verse 2)

**IV. Communing:** verse 4 - with his own heart upon the bed)

**A. The most successful searches have been made in the night season:** the soul is then wholly shut up to itself in the earthly house of its body, and has no visits from strangers to disquiet its thoughts.

SHUT UP AND LISTEN TO GOD!

**B. Consult your better judgment**

**C. Take counsel of your own good sense**



**V. Closing: (of the day) verse 8**

**A. Peace**

**B. Sleep**

Making music in the closing time of life...

# Getting Bigger Every Day

## Outline and notes in Psalm 4:1 7-16-2002 Tues.

I want to preach tonight on the thought, "Getting Bigger Everyday." David said in verse one, "thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress."

1. It wasn't while David was on the mountain the he was enlarged, but when he was in distress:
2. It wasn't while things were running smoothly that he was enlarged, but when he was in distress:
3. It wasn't when he was loved by many, or possessed great wealth, or found satisfaction in life that he was enlarged, but when he was in distress:
4. Def. Enlarged: To broaden, to make room, to open wide:
5. Def. Distress:
  1. To make narrow as a tight place:
  2. To be troubled from an opponent:
  3. To be crowded by an adversary:
  4. To narrow, make small, be an enemy:

So when things crowd in around us, trouble us, and become our enemy, the Lord simply gives us more room. It appears to me that with all the difficulties of life that we encounter, we should be growing bigger every day.

Two truths I find in the verse I wish to point out.

### **I. The Enemy Of Distress: (Can be anything that is adverse or crowds in the spiritual man)**

- A. Physical sickness: *Illus.* Hezekiah **Isaiah 38:1-6** "In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live. <sup>2</sup>Then Hezekiah turned his

face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD,  
<sup>3</sup>And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done *that which is* good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

<sup>4</sup>Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying, <sup>5</sup>Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years. <sup>6</sup>And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city.”

- B. Personal sin: *Illus.* David **Psalm 51:2** “Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.”  
**v-8** “Make me to hear joy and gladness; *that* the bones *which* thou hast broken may rejoice.”  
**v-11** “Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.”  
**v-12** “Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me *with thy free* spirit.”
- C. Pharisaical slander: *Illus.* Jesus **Matthew 22:15-21** “Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in *his* talk. <sup>16</sup>And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any *man*: for thou regardest not the person of men. <sup>17</sup>Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? <sup>18</sup>But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, **Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?** <sup>19</sup>Show me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. <sup>20</sup>And he saith unto them, Whose *is* this image and superscription? <sup>21</sup>They say unto him, Caesar’s. Then saith he unto them, Render

therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's."

## II. The Enlargement Of The Lord:

A. He enlarges our love: *Illus.* Paul II **Corinthians 12:15** "And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved."

1. When those who are dear to our heart, seem to be growing distant and cold toward us; yet the Lord can enlarge our love for them:

**Matthew 5:44** "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

**Matthew 10:35,36** "For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. <sup>36</sup>And a man's foes *shall be* they of his own household."

B. He enlarges our liberty: **Psalm 31:7,8** "I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities; And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in a large room." **Psalm 118:5** "I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, *and set me* in a large place."

C. He enlarges our learning:

1. Learn people by what they say:
2. Learn to cope with adversity:
3. Learn the power of God as he teaches us to overcome:

## Psalm Five

Psalm 5 is to the Chief Musician upon Nehiloth which signifies to perforate, to bore through; a pipe or a flute; so that this Psalm was intended to be sung with an accompaniment of wind instruments.

The Psalmist here follows the pattern of the first four Psalms and carries out a contrast between himself made righteous by God's Grace, and the wicked who oppose him.

The Psalm also presents a present view of our Lord Jesus, Who in the days of His flesh offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears. Hebrews 5:7

Although the Psalm is not a prayer itself, it does have all the elements needed: the words "give ear" verse 1 – "voice of my cry" verse 2 – "consider my meditation" verse 1 – "hearken" verse 2.

We find here actually a "Resolution" to persevere in prayer, and begins in verse 1 with:

**I. Mediation:** v. 1 – There are two sorts of prayers: those expressed in words, and the unuttered longings of the soul. "Let not our prayers and praises be the flashes of a hot and hasty brain, but the steady burning of a well-kindled fire." - C.H.S.

*Illustration:* Moses' Red Sea crossing: Exodus 14:13-15

**A. The Holy Ghost authors our prayers:**

Romans 8:26

**B. He employs the thoughts of a fervent soul:**

**II. Exaltation:** verse 2 – David cries to his King and his God!

**A. He cries:** This ear-piercing shrillness coming from the heart reaches God’s heart.

**B. Let the Godless drink from broken cisterns, and we that are saved from the Divine fountain.**

**III. Expectation:** verse 3 – Let our meditation from verse one link holy hands with patient expectation in verse 3, and the seed we have sown will bring a harvest.

**A. In the Morning:** An hour in the morning is worth two in the evening.

**B. I Direct My Prayer:** It is the word that is used for laying in order of the wood and sacrifice upon the altar. It is used also for the putting of the shewbread upon the table. “I will arrange my prayer before thee.”

**IV. Separation:** verses 4,5,6,8,9,10 – Rest assured, Christ will not live in the parlor of our hearts if we entertain the devil in the cellar of our thoughts.

**A. Wickedness:** verse 4

**B. Workers of iniquity:** verse 5

**C. Speak leasing:** verse 6

Observe that evil speakers must be punished as well as evil workers.

“Bloody men shall be made drunk with their own blood, and they who begin by deceiving others shall end with being deceived themselves.” - C.H.S.

**D. Throat is an open sepulchre:** verse 9 –

They spew forth with their lips all the stench of an open grave.

**V. Jubilation:** verse 7,11,12

- A. Worship:** verse 7 – not at a distance but in the house
- B. Joy:** verse 11 – Sinners laugh first and weep ever after. The saved weep now and rejoice eternally.
- C. Blessed and compassed:** verse 12

## Psalm Six

*Note:* Repentance is a lifestyle.

This Psalm is commonly called “The Psalm of the Penitent”. The title indicates that it is to be sung with stringed instruments upon possibly the eighth octave. But in the eighth verse things change, and the note changes. The Psalmist leaves the minor key and advances to a more sublime strain. He tunes his note to a key of confidence and declares that God has heard his prayer and has delivered him out of all of his troubles.

Let me first point out the -----

### I. The Unfailing Marks of a Contrite Spirit:

#### A. Sorrow:

1. **Vexed:** verses 2,3 – To tremble inwardly; to become alarmed or agitated suddenly.
2. **Groaning:** verse 6 – God’s people are permitted to groan, but never to grumble.

*Note:* If you do not groan being burdened, you will never shout in the day of deliverance. *Illustration:* Moses crossing the Red Sea.

Psalm 63

#### 3. Grief: verse 4

##### a. Dampens our spirit:

*Illustration:* Holy Spirit;  
Ephesians 4:30

Job 16:16-23

##### b. Obscures judgment

##### c. Blinds our memory to pleasant things

##### d. Dims our vision of hope



## II. The Unfailing Mercy of Chastisement: verse 1

### A. The Method: II Sam. 12:7; I Sam. 15:14

#### The Word ←1. Rebuke:

*Illustrations:* Nathan and David; Samuel and Saul

- a. Sharp
- b. Simple
- c. Serious

#### 2. Rod: verse 2 “Heal me”

(It apparently touched his body.)

→ David and Saul

*Note:* It was the Golden hand of God enriching David’s life by its blows.

##### a. His Plea: (For mercy) verse 2

*Note:* It is grounded in his weakness, frailty, littleness, and sins.

##### b. His pre-determined time:

verse 3 “How long”

*Note:* There is an appointed time, which God has measured for the crosses of all His children, before which time they shall not be delivered, and they must patiently wait upon the Lord and not limit the Holy One of Israel.

*Illustrations:*

1. Israel in Egypt 450 years
2. Joseph - 3 years in prison
3. Judah - 770 years in Babylon
4. Jonah – 3 days and nights

## **B. The Mark:**

- 1. Bones:** *Note:* Yokefellows in sin are yokefellows in pain.
- 2. Soul:** The soul is punished for informing, the body for performing; and as both the informer and the performer, the cause and the instrument, so shall the stirrer up of sin and the executor be punished.

Verse 5

- a. The Pain:** (Feared that death was eminent)
- b. The Place:** (In his bed - the place of his sin)
- c. The Prayer:** (Depart from me)  
He wants nothing to do with wicked men, but birds of a feather flock together not seeing the difference between, nature and regeneration, sin and grace, the old and the new man.

**III. The Unfailing Means of God's Comfort:** - The word "LORD" in capital letters used in verses 1,2,3, and 4 five times refers to Jehovah and reveals His:

**A. Eternity:**

**B. Immutability:** (changes not)

*Note:* What confidence that the sigh and sorrows of a penitent in sackcloth shall soon be replaced by the songs of Heaven.

**1. Purpose:** II Corinthians 1:3-7

*Note:* He corrects us that that we might be sensible to His correction.

## Psalm Seven

The title of this Psalm seems to mean “Variable Songs” with which the idea of solace and pleasure are associated. Truly our life Psalm is composed of variable verses. One stanza may elevate us to great triumph, while the next drops to the valley of complaint.

Mr. Spurgeon has titled the Psalm “The Song of the Slandered Saint”, and so it is. The occasion for the Psalm again finds itself in the life of David as he is hounded and pursued by Saul, king of Israel. Some of the more furious words are believed to be uttered from the lips of Doeg who slew the Lord’s priests, after David had eaten the shewbread and retrieved the sword of Goliath at Nob.

**I. The Persecution of the Righteous:** (Notice the word “persecution” used three times in this Psalm: verses 1,5,13. ) (Galatians 4:29) The natural man persecutes the spiritual: Jacob and Esau.

**A. David’s Foe:** verses 1-2 (*Note*) If we have an enemy we will meet him everywhere.

**1. His Accusation:** (Damages reputation) Verse 3 “If we have done this...” The accusation prompted their response.

*Note:* It is mean and detestable to stab a good man in his reputation, but diabolical hatred observes no nobility in its mode of warfare.

**a. Was Damaging:**

*Note:* Sinners have an ill will of saints; and therefore, be sure they will not speak well of them.

**b. Was Defiling:** (of character and reputation)

*Note:* Innocence cannot shield a man from the sharp tongue of the wicked.

*Note:* It is only at a tree laden with fruit that men throw stones.

**c. Was Deadly:** verse 2 – The wounds of a sword will heal; but a slanderous tongue cuts deeper than the flesh, and though it be wholly disapproved, it leaves a slur that shall never be cured.

**B. David's Fear:** verse 2

*Note:* It is reported of tigers that they enter into a rage upon the scent of fragrant spices; so do ungodly men upon the savor of godliness.

*Note:* This is a picture from the shepherd life of David, when a fierce lion pounces upon a defenseless sheep and would devour it, because it has no shepherd to protect it from the ravenous beast.

*Note:* I shake, but my Rock moves not.

**C. David's Faith:** verses 4-6

*Note:* It is never right to distrust God, and beaver vain to trust Him. Illustration: Elijah and the prophets of Baal

**1. In righteous judgment:** 6-9

*Note:* Filth will not long abide on the pure white garments of the Saints, but shall be brushed off by Divine Providence, to the vexation of the men by whose base hands it was thrown upon the godly.

“When God shall try our cause, our sun has risen, and the sun of the wicked is set forever.”

**D. David’s Fortress:** verse 10 “My defense is of God.”

**1. The Lord’s Admonition:** verse 12 (If He turn not)

*Note:* This is not excitement – temporary passion – sudden emotion. It is the steady uniform attribute of his unchanging nature, to be always opposed to the wicked.

**2. The Lord’s Arsenal:** (Prepared the instruments of death!)

**a. The Sword:** (Is whetted)v. 12

*Note:* To give it a keener edge that it may cut the deeper.

**b. The Arrow:** v. 13 (Are ordained) This is not a random shot; but great care is given to the aim taken.

**E. The Sinners’ Folly:** verses 14-16

**1. In a pregnant woman:** verse 14

**a. Travail:** (He is full of it.) (He longs to work his will.) (He is full of pangs until his evil intent is executed.)

**b. Conception:** (mischief) verse 14 That which is conceived must be delivered.

**c. Falsehood:** verse 14 (His father’s likeness now appears – the father of lies.)

1. *Illustrations:* Hamaan and Mordecai; Ahab and Naboth

2. *Illustration:* The pit verse 15

*Note:* All sin is digging a pit: -- Sin does not seek to rise by the stepping-stones of lawful and noble endeavors; it knows no eminence but by lowering others.

*Ambition:* with its throne building, is yet a pit digging. It seeks to raise itself on the trampled rights, pleasures, and lives of others.

*Lying:* is a pit-sinking for others.

*Lust:* serves itself by ensnaring and debasing others.

*Envy:* sickens at another's joy, and seeks to secure itself by giving others a fall.

*Covetousness:* is always grave digging, that it may inherit others wealth.

*Sin:* would sink the throne of God: It knows not how to shine but by darkening others, knows not how to exalt itself but by depressing others, knows not how to feast itself but by starving others, knows not how to enrich itself but by spoiling others, knows not how to save itself but by damning others.

## **PIT DIGGING IS HARD, HUMILIATING!**

Verse 4: To do evil for good is human corruption; to do good for good is civil retribution; but to do good for evil is Christian perfection. Though this be not the grace of nature, yet it is the nature of grace.

## **Psalm Eight**

### **Number of New Beginning**

#### **A Shepherd's Look at Jehovah**

This Psalm is upon Hittith, meaning winepress (joy) and vintage. The vintage closed the civil year of the Jews. We may then consider this interesting composition as a prophetic anticipation of the Kingdom of Christ. The Psalm's main business is to display and celebrate the great love and kindness of God to mankind, not only in creation, but especially in redemption by Jesus Christ: Whom, as He was Man, advanced to the honor and dominion here mentioned, that He might carry on His great and glorious work.

Mr. Spurgeon has titled the Psalm, "Song of the Astronomer", but my personal title is "A Shepherd's Look at Jehovah".

#### **I. A Shepherd's Look at Jehovah:**

##### **A. In His Majestic Glory:** verses 1, 9

*Note:* He is glorious from the beginning (verse 1) to the end (verse 9), and from heaven (verse 1) to earth (verse 9)

##### **1. In His Name:** verses 1, 9

God  
Heaven  
Us  
Earth

##### **a. It manifests His presence:**

Matt. 1:23 "Behold a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

##### **b. It's the Means of Preaching:**

In Acts 4:18 the early Disciples were commanded not to speak

Hallowed  
Be Thy  
Name

or teach in His name.

**c. It is associated with**

**Persecution:** Acts 4:7 (The Disciples arrested) “And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?”

**d. It Has a Power to Save:**

Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

**B. In His Mighty Power:** verse 2 “... mightiest still the enemy and the avenger.” - What He did?

**1. Destroyed the devil:** Hebrews 2:14

**2. Delivered from death:** Hebrews 2:15

**3. Took away our sins:** I John 3:5

**C. In His Manlihood:** All that man, “Adam”, lost in the fall, “The Son of man, ‘Jesus;’” as man, has delivered, regained and kept.

**1. Dominion over creation:**

**D. In His Marvelous Love:** verses 4,5 – (For fallen man)

**1. He Views Him:** “What is man?” –

The word “man” in the Hebrew makes it clear that he does not speak of man according to the state of creation, but as fallen into a state of sin, misery, and mortality.



**a. Man is a Vapor: James 4:14**

**b. Man is but Vanity:**

*Note:* All that the Holy Ghost gives concerning man is to humble him: man is ready to flatter himself, and one man ready to flatter another.

*Note:* There is such a great distance between us, He the Creator and we the creature. We are just a clod of earth, a piece of clay and that – **DEFILED**.

2. **He Values Us:** “...Thou art mindful of him”

**a. Man Described: Ezek. 16:1-5**

1. Polluted

2. None to Pity

3. “But Jesus Passed By”

3. **He Visits Him:** (Through the Son of Man.)

**a. To Visit is first:** to afflict, chasten, and even punish.

*Illus.* Exodus 34:7 – Visiting the iniquity of the fathers...

**b. To Visit second:** is in a good sense and signifies to show mercy, refresh, deliver and bless.

*Illus.* Ruth 1:6 – Naomi heard how the Lord had visited His people in giving them bread.

*Illus.* Luke 1: 68 “The Lord hath visited and redeemed His people.”

*Note:* To visit brings Jesus nigh to us; and the visit is free, hence, Free Grace.

## **Psalm Nine (Introduction)**

The true meaning of the Psalm's title is very uncertain; however, most agree that it sets forth order in the worship of God. (Not like Corinthians 14:26) The Psalm also signifies the "Death of the Son" or the champion that went out between the camps, speaking no doubt about Goliath. The account of David's great victory is recorded in First Samuel 17.

However, the Psalm takes a much deeper meaning. We have here the victory of the Son of God over the champion of evil. This is evidently a Hymn of Triumph, and we see here Him Who is King of kings and Lord of lords. This Psalm may certainly be called ---

### **I. The Hymn of the Conqueror:**

*Note:* The Psalm may truly find its occasion in Revelation 19:6 "The LORD GOD Omnipotent reigneth."

1. Judgment of the great whore: 19:2 (4 Alleluia's)
2. The Marriage of the Lamb: 19:7,8 (How long He has waited.) Preparations He has made.
3. The Second Coming of the Lord: 19:11-16
4. Doom of the beast and false prophet: 19:20
5. Doom of satan: 20:10
6. Great White Throne: 20:11-21:8

### **A. His Jubilant Voice:**

1. **In Praise:** (It sometimes needs all our

determination to face our foe and bless the Lord in the teeth of our enemies, but here his overthrow is complete.) Definition of Praise: To revere in worship with extended hands. “To be thankful” - *Illustration*: Psalm 103 To congratulate or salute.

- a. The whole heart
  - b. No room left for pride
  - c. No room left for self
  - d. No room left for man worship
  - e. No room left for preacher-worship
2. **In Gladness:** verse 2 (To brighten up)
  3. **In Joy:** verse 2 (Def. To jump for joy)  
*Illustration:* A child
  4. **In Song:** verse 2 (*Definition:* To creak or emit a stridulous sound; to shout, usually for joy)

## **Psalm Nine**

### **Conclusion**

*Introduction:* As I stated last week, this hymn magnifies the Lord as our conquering Saviour. He is now Lord of lords and King of kings. The final judgment is past. This is evident from verses 5, 6, 15 and 19 (Read these). And the Lord is enthroned as the Righteous Judge of His people. Verses 4, 7 and 8 (Read these).

Please notice the number of times the word “judge” or “judgment” is mentioned in this chapter. Verses 4,7,8,8,16,19. Now there are two primary judgments we will concern ourselves with this morning.

### **I. The Judgment Seat of Christ:**

*Note:* One amazing thing about this, to the best of my knowledge, it is not mentioned at all in the Book of Revelation. It no doubt takes place somewhere between Revelation 4 and 19, but it is without mention.

#### **A. I believe this because of I Peter 4:17**

#### **B. All will appear there: (Saved)**

Rom. 14:10; Eph. 2:20; II Tim. 2:19

##### **1. The Foundation: I Corinthians 3:11**

##### **2. The Frame:**

- a. Gold – Deity;
- b. Silver – Redemption
- c. Precious Stone

##### **3. The Fony (phony)**

- a. Wood

- b. Hay
- c. Stubble

**4. The Fire:**

**5. The Fruit: (Reward)**

*Note:* Examine your accomplishments. Raise your aims.

**II. The Great White Throne: Revelation 20:11-15**

*Note:* You cannot hide from:

1. Death when it comes
2. Deeds you have done
3. Divine judgment: Rom. 2:3-16

## Psalm Ten

The theme of this Psalm seems to be the oppression and persecution, by the wicked, upon the just and righteous. It is a type, form, and description of that man who, though he may be in his own sight most excellent, is detestable in the sight of God.

The Psalm has four divisions; Verse 1 stands alone, as the troubled and persecuted. The remainder of the Psalm, in three sections, pictures the antichrist, in: 1. His Mind and Manners; verses 2-5; His Words and Works: verses 6-10; His Feelings and Fate: verses 11-18.

### I. His Mind: verses 2-5

#### A. It is swollen with pride: verse 2

1. Pride consists of an unruly exalted opinion of one's self.
2. He who exalts himself will despise others.
3. Impatient of a rival: *Definition*: One who is in pursuit of the same objects as another
4. Hates a superior
5. Cannot endure a master
6. It makes us to see nothing above us, to acknowledge no law but our own wills, to follow no rule but our own inclinations

#### B. Is Set on Possessions: verse 3

Definition of "covet": The desire of possessing that which we have not.

*Quote:* “I refer to the men around me who are engaging in the commerce and business life. Compared with the regular and quite diligence of our fathers and their contentment with small, but sure gains, the rash and hasty adventures which are daily made, and the desperate and gamester-like risks which are run, do reveal surely that a spirit of covetousness hath been poured out upon men within the last thirty or forty years.”

### **C. Is Set on Provoking God: Verse 4**

#### **1. He provokes God**

- a. By scorning Him
- b. Not submitting to His method of salvation

#### **2. He is proud of his own abilities:**

*Note:* “Pride by attempting to soar, only plunges itself into the mire, and while endeavoring to erect for itself a throne, it undermines the ground on which it stands, and digs its own grave.” - Edward Payson 1783-1827

## **II. His Manners: Verses 2-5, 8, 9**

### **A. Persecutes the poor**

*Note:* “Pride is the egg of persecution.”

– C.H.S. (Pride hatched)

*Definition* of “poor”: Depressed in mind or circumstance

*Note:* In these (the poor) is a weak armour of defense against their cruelties; therefore over these they may dominate. (Domineer)

*Illustration:* The Widow’s oil in II Kings 4

**B. Praises the covetous:** verse 3 (flatters with his tongue)

*Note:* This is insolence.

*Definition:* Pride manifested in the overbearing treatment of others.

*Note:* While he yokes up with the covetous he tramples on the rights and privileges of others.

**C. Puffs at his enemies:** verse 5

*Definition:* Puffeth: To utter words at (referring to verses 6, 7) To kindle a fire upon. To scoff. To bring into a snare.

*Note:* His ways are grievous or troublesome, and all his endeavors and actions are aimed at hurting others.

*Note:* He doth most arrogantly despise them and is confident he can overthrow them with a puff.



## Psalm Ten Continued

Psalm Ten, as we saw last week, is a true picture of a religious but very ungodly man. We see here the true character of the anti-christ, of which there are already many in the world. Last week we looked at his mind and manners (verse 2-5), and today we will study his words and works (verses 6-11).

His words are mentioned in verses 6, 7 (read). Boasting words originate in the heart. Luke 6:45 “Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.”

Please notice verse 7. His mouth is full (room for nothing but cursings, deceit (crafty and subtle), and fraud: → Oppression (to cut to pieces with the idea of banishment).

**I. His words:** verses 6, 7 “He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved.”

**A. Carnal security:** (Will let in a whole army of lusts into the soul.)

*Illustration:* A city in battle with Pompey let some of his weak, wounded, and sick soldiers in, under conditions of peace, and when the city appeared to be secure the soldiers let Pompey in.

**B. Contented with a false peace:** (Shall never be moved.)

*Illustration:* Paul’s voyage to Rome, the soft breeze (Acts 27:13) then Euroclydon (verse 14).

**C. Congratulates himself prematurely:** (I shall never be in adversity.)

*Note:* It is not wise to stretch out the hands to receive the crown before we have been employed to fight the battle.

## **II. His works:** verses 8-10

**A. His stratage** (Stratagem) is planned: (Satan has a plan.) II Corinthians 2:11 → Holding grudges... We are not ignorant of satan's devices.

**1. He looks for the straying** Verse 9

(Like a roaring lion) I Peter 5:8

**2. He looks for the simple:** (Poor – verse 8, 9) Unhappy or unfortunate

**B. His set ambush:** (Verse 8 Lurking places)

*Illustration:* GOAT in Viet Nam

**C. He strikes the poor:** Verse 10 (The poor may fall)

**1. In their reputation**

**2. In their character**

**3. In their youth**

## **Psalm Ten Concluded**

In the last two weeks we have looked at this Psalm as a picture of the ungodly and wicked man, which is the true nature and character of anti-christ. We have seen “His Mind and Manners”, “His Words and Works”; and today, beginning in verse 11, we will conclude this Hymn by looking at his “His Feelings and Fate”.

### **I. His Feelings: “He hath said in his heart...”**

**A. Has forgotten the deceitfulness of man’s heart:** Jeremiah 17:9

**B. Has failed to trust the Lord:** Proverbs 3:5

**C. He leaned to his own understanding:**  
Proverbs 3:5 (Support one’s self)

**D. He feels he can avoid God:** “God hath forgotten”

*Note:* As foreknowledge extends to all acts that shall be done, so God’s memory extends to all acts that have been done.

#### **1. Past sins: verse 11**

**a. Cannot be erased by time:**

I Samuel 15:2

*Illustration:* Amalek

(Exodus 17:9)(Deut. 25:17)

**b. Cannot be erased by treachery:**

II Samuel 11 *Illus.:* David

**c. Cannot be erased by tears:**

Heb. 12:16, 17

*Illus.:* Esau and birthright

Genesis 27

- 2. Practicing sins:** (“He hideth His face”) *Illustration:* Saul
- a. Intrusion into the Priest’s office:** I Samuel 13:8
  - b. Incomplete obedience:**  
I Samuel 15
  - c. Ignorance in discerning David’s love:** I Samuel 18

- 3. Presumptuous sins:** Verse 11  
(He will never see)

*Definition:* Bold and confident to the excess; unduly confident: willful;  
(Willful sin brings a woeful end.)  
irreverent with respect to holy things.

*Illus.* Kadesh-Barnea: Num. 14:40-47

- 4. Provoking sins:** Verse 13 (“Thou will not require it”) *Definition:* To arouse to anger or wrath by offensive words.

*\*Note:* The bee naturally gives honey, and stings only when it is angered: God naturally loves, but when provoked, God will judge and punish.

*\*Note:* Because justice seems to wink, men suppose her blind; because she delays punishment, they imagine she denies to punish them; because she does not always reprove them for their sins, they suppose she always approves of their sins.

*\*Note:* But let such know, that the silent arrow can destroy as well as the roaring cannon.

**II. His Fate:** verse 14 “For thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand.”

**A. God avenges His own:**

*Note:* What greater comfort is there than this, that there is One Who presides in the world Who is so wise He cannot make a mistake, so faithful He cannot deceive, so pitiful He cannot neglect His people, and so powerful He can turn stones into bread if He so pleases.

1. **The fatherless;** verses 14, 18
2. **The friendless**
3. **His fellows**
4. **The humble:** verses 12, 17

*Note:* God loves to take part in the best, though the weakest side: and when a controversy arises He does not stand in indifference or neutrality until He sees which part is strongest: He immediately takes part with the just.

*Note:* The fate of anti-christ: verse 18 (The man of the earth shall no more oppress.)