

PSALM 14 vs 1

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This admirable ode is simply headed: "To the Chief musician by David." The same dedication stands at the head of fifty-three of the Psalms, which clearly indicates that they were intended, not merely for private use, but to be sung in the great assemblies.

Several psalms have little or no praise in them, and were not addressed directly to the Most High, yet were to be sung in public worship. Not only did the ancient Church sing sacred doctrine and offer prayer amid her songs, but David's wailing notes of complaint were also put into her mouth.



Since the Psalm has no title, we suggest: **CONCERNING PRACTICAL ATHEISM.** Paul showed in Romans 3 the idea of the writer is that both Jews and Gentiles are all under sin. With instructive alterations, David gave us in Psalm 53 a second edition, being moved by the Spirit, thus doubly declaring a truth that is distasteful to carnal minds.

Divisions: The world's foolish creed (1); its practical influence to corrupt (2-3); the persecuting tendency of sinners, their alarms, their ridicules (4-6) and a prayer to the Lord – Charles Spurgeon

For the Chief musician.

A Psalm of David.

¹ The fool said in his heart, There is no God.

Remember, this is a 3,000 year-old song, so feel free to learn it and sing along with David...

The fool said in his heart, God? No! / where there is No God, you will find there is No Good. No belief in God = No Good behavior. In Hebrew: **nabal**. Did you ask: what is a nabal? You don't know what a fool is? God does; and He tells us. In the OT, the word is used in various situations 18 times; **but it is also used in 1 Samuel 25**... also 18 times dedicated to one person: 36 times in the OT; Check it out! You'll discover a fool; it's interesting... David knew that fool.

The fool said in his heart, God? No! / **no way!** You know, there are 1 or 2... 21st century nabals who say, God? No way! And we all know... a little knowledge is dangerous.

In truth, some with great capacity to hold information... with their ability to dance around the subjects hypocritically... they never adequately answer C. S. Lewis, who said: When I was an atheist, I tried to persuade myself that most of the human race has always been wrong... about what mattered to them most. Lewis adds: The first big division of humanity is into the majority who believe in some kind of God or gods; and the very small minority who do not. On this point, Christianity lines up with the majority: with ancient Greeks, Romans; modern indigenous groups; Stoics and Platonists, Hindus, Muslims and others. That is 6,580,000,000 people versus the few modern materialists who have no moral compass if life is meaningless.

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So that's a lot of people versus the boneheads Barney or Betty Nabal... who say: **God? No!** Later, C.S. Lewis says, if the whole universe has no meaning, we should never have found out that it has no meaning!

But David, the psalmist is singing... it's not even the Lord; David observes his generation and says...

The fool said in his heart, God? Nah!

They are corrupt, they have done abominable works / in other words, positively speaking; those fools, those lawless nabals, they are rotten to the core. What they design; what they produce... it's bad, and not just a little bad. Look around. We are overpopulated with fools at every level of society, especially at leadership. What they produce is worthless. And that is as positive as the psalmist could be... about the fool,

Negatively speaking, David says...

none does good.

² **The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of Adam** / So the LORD was also curious? Now He investigates what the Psalmist sings about; and He sees further than all of us,

to see if there were any who did understand, who seek God / in Hebrew: **sakal**, so the Lord is looking for the **wise**: those who teach, and those who learn. Daniel says, the wise will shine like the stars in heaven. And to understand where to start. Jesus said, Seek first the kingdom of God. And as the Lord looks down from His heaven, I hope He is an unbiased, independent reporter, of course. I'd be a little curious to know exactly what His investigation discloses, wouldn't you? Wow! He's fast. It's already submitted. Here are the positive points first... because the Lord is always positive, isn't He?

The LORD looked down...

to see if there were any who did understand, who seek God.

³ **They are all gone** / they are all... The Lord saw them all! Wow! He is fast; and what does He say?

They are all gone aside / what? Now are they huddling or scattering? It is hard to tell; not a good vantage point... from down here; so let's read on,

they are all together / well, this is good news; so we can get along! That's so good! Oh?!

they are all together filthy / so that fresh smell is: is not springtime! It is: definitely toilet. Negatively speaking...the Lord sees the same thing that David saw:

they are all together filthy, none does good, no, not one.

4 Do all the workers of crimes, have no knowledge? / do all those who design and produce gross inequities and injustice, have no conscience? no scruples? And the answer is, **YES!** These angry, greedy, heartless... loveless... merciless **fools**... these workers of wickedness, what they produce... is only evil towards their fellow man. They have no conscience. In other words, do they ever learn? **No!**

these workers of wickedness who eat up My people as they eat bread / they consume God's people the way they gobble bread – and is this symbolic; or is this literal, or both? especially with all the socially elite admitting to cannibalism... that is being fashionably dropped in the global news... as well as the staggering, increasing, underreported numbers of missing children... year after year and for decades,

and do not call on the LORD / these fools who say in their heart: **God? No!** Who have no moral compass; whose god is their belly; who proudly say: I do not call upon the Lord.

5 There / where they have all gone aside...

There / where they are altogether filthy, and rotten, and perverse...

There / where none is really doing good; and no one has a conscience... where associates are only fools, and thugs, and workers of evil...in that place...where they put themselves in such ignorance; and in their state of a seared conscience; with no conscience, put themselves beyond clear thinking... and into such ignorance as to place themselves in such great fear. They put themselves in a place where they only fear... a fear. And with their growing phobias, dread, horror, and disgust, they become their own terrorists.

And these borderline sociopaths and pathological liars albeit geniuses who have severed and isolated themselves from the Source of life... only to be consumed by their own fears -- even their own shadows; we see them in the news all the time; no warmth of contentment; no smiles of satisfaction and joy; just blank stares, nasty sneers, and boiling anger emanates from their living dead souls:

for God is in the generation of the righteous / clearly, God has encircled those doing what is right; and what God says is right; what He does is always right.

6 You have mocked the plans of the poor / you fools; heartless, loveless, paranoid first-class clowns, who taunt the poorest of society; and if there are not enough to meet their quotas, promote open borders; like buffoons and greedy bastards... who think it's funny to consume yet more and more of the poor,

even though the LORD is his refuge / and the God of the poor... will have the last laugh;

7 who will give from Zion salvation to Israel / well, **Yeshua** is the Hebrew word for **salvation**; and it is where we get the name for **Jesus**; He did come out of Zion -- the city of David; the city of God. And one day, He is coming again to that same place! So, hear this promise:

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You have mocked the plans of the poor, even though **the LORD** is his refuge; who will give from Zion **salvation** to **Israel** / to the ones: **ruled by God**

when the LORD returns **His captive people**,

even **Jacob** will rejoice,

and **Israel** will be glad / so that once scoundrel, now ruled by God will finally have a smile, too.

And all these promises are not to fools; there won't be even one fool in heaven... because they wouldn't know what to do there; but all these promises can be ours. So be glad; get excited. **Call on the LORD**.

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