

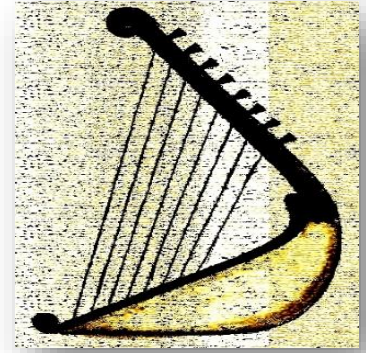
PSALM 53 vs 1

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Title: For the Chief musician – if the leader of the choir is privileged to sing the joys of divine grace; then he must not dislike to sing the miseries of human depravity. This is the second time he had the same Psalm entrusted to him ([see Psalm 14](#)); so be more careful in singing it; upon Mahalath, the musical instrument is here indicated: the word also suggests: disease.

Truly this Psalm is the **SONG OF MAN'S DISEASE**. It is not a copy of Psalm 14, emended and revised by a foreign hand; it is another edition by the same author; emphasized in certain parts, and re-written for another purpose. All repetitions are not vain repetitions; some things we are slow to learn.



David lived a long life; if our age has advanced from fourteen to fifty-three, we also will find the doctrine of this Psalm more evident than in our youth -- Charles Spurgeon.

For the Chief musician, set to the Mahalath.

A Contemplation of David.

¹ The fool said in his heart, **no God. They are corrupt, and did abominable injustice: there is no one who does good / [for endless days, the Lord has dealt with fools](#).**

² God from heaven looks on the children of Adam, to see if anyone understands, who seeks after God.

³ Everyone turned back: together they are corrupt; none does good, **no, not one. / think about it: The whole mass of mankind, all of it, is gone backward. Psalm 14 says, turned aside, which is bad enough; but here it is described as running in a completely opposite direction. The life of the unregenerate is in direct defiance of the law of God, not merely apart from it, but opposed to it.**

⁴ Have wrongdoers no knowledge? who eat up My people as if they eat bread: and not call on God.

⁵ There they fear a fear, where no fear was: for God scattered the bones of those who camp against Him: and shamed them, for God rejected them.

Think about it: This verse differs from Psalm 14; the rebellious march in fury against the gracious, but suddenly are seized with a panic. The once fearless boasters tremble, frightened at their own shadows. Without cause the wicked are alarmed. He who denies God is at bottom less than nothing and vanity. They sneer at us, but we with far greater reason laugh at them. The whole lump is fouled with pollution. Errors to God are not mild diseases.

⁶ Oh that [salvation](#) of Israel came from Zion! When God returns His captive people, let **Jacob rejoice, and **Israel** be glad.**

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