

MESSAGE

Occasion : Morning Worship / Joint Fellowship Service
Date : January 24, 2016 / March 6, 2016

TITLE : WHAT WE NEED TO DO IF THE FOUNDATIONS BE DESTROYED

Text/s :

Psalms 11:1-7 (KJV)

- 1 In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?
- 2 For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.
- 3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?
- 4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.
- 5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.
- 6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.
- 7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Bible reading :

Ps 25:1-10

- 25 Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
 - 2 O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.
 - 3 Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.
 - 4 Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths.
 - 5 Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.
 - 6 Remember, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old.
 - 7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord.
 - 8 Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.
 - 9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.
 - 10 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.
- KJV

Song/s :

INTRODUCTION

Psalms 11:1-7 (KJV)

- 1 In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?

2 For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.
3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?
4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.
5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.
6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.
7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Ps 11

1 IN THE Lord I take refuge [and put my trust]; how can you say to me, Flee like a bird to your mountain?

2 For see, the wicked are bending the bow; they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they [furtively] in darkness may shoot at the upright in heart.

3 If the foundations are destroyed, what can the [unyieldingly] righteous do, or what has He [the Righteous One] wrought or accomplished?

4 The Lord is in His holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven. His eyes behold; His eyelids test and prove the children of men. [Acts 7:49; Rev 4:2.]

5 The Lord tests and proves the [unyieldingly] righteous, but His soul abhors the wicked and him who loves violence. [James 1:12.]

6 Upon the wicked He will rain quick burning coals or snares; fire, brimstone, and a [dreadful] scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the Lord is [rigidly] righteous, He loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold His face, or He beholds the upright.

AMP

The psalmist asks in this passage,

Ps 11:3

3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

KJV

In other words, in the midst of the destruction of foundational structures, what can the righteous believers do? What can we do when we are in the midst of threatenings? When the whole world turns upside down, what is there for us to do?

Do we go with the crowd? Do we go with the fashion? Or do we flee as a bird to our mountain?

In order for us to better understand let's change the sequence of the verses...

- **The problem**

Psalms 11:2 (KJV) For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

- **The probable consequence of the problem**

Psalms 11:3 (KJV) If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

- **David's conviction**

Psalms 11:1 (KJV) In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?

- **The reasons for such conviction**

Psalms 11:4-7 (KJV)

4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Now, consider...

Look at David's reasons. Why would he cite such reasons? He cites these specific truths because they are precisely the ones being threatened by the arrows of the wicked!

Ps 11:2

2 For, lo, **the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.**

KJV

The wicked aims and shoots his arrow at the upright in heart! He actually aims at the hearts of those who are upright. What are in their hearts? Those which they believe, wherein they stand, where their faith stands --- that they may CRUMBLE and be destroyed!

James 5:8

8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

KJV

1 Thess 3:13

13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

KJV

But what should the same righteous do even if they as their hearts are aimed at?

Consider now David's reasons and see what they mean... because they are exactly the descriptions of these foundations...

Psalms 11:4-7 (KJV)

4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

A) “The LORD is in His holy Temple.” This is the foundational truth of the existence and presence of God.

Ps 11:4

4 **The Lord is in his holy temple**, the Lord's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

KJV

The wicked wants to question and destroy the very truth in our hearts concerning the existence and presence of God!

The wicked wants us not to believe that God is present! He wants us to reject the very existence of God!

Psalms 139:7-12 (KJV)

7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

Jer 23:23-24

23 Am I a God at hand, saith the Lord, and not a God afar off?

24 Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the Lord.

KJV

This is not new. This mindset came from Jonah who thought he could run away!

Jonah 1:3-4

3 But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

4 But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

KJV

We live in a world and a society that not only rejects the existence of God but undermines the very presence of God!

B) “The LORD’s throne is in Heaven.” This is the foundational truth of the Rule of God. That from Him emanates all power.

Ps 11:4

4 The Lord is in his holy temple, **the Lord's throne is in heaven;** his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

KJV

The wicked wants us to believe that with all of what is happening around us and in this world, that God has forgotten us and He doesn't rule. He has been overtaken. That He has yielded His power to another! That He has ceased to rule! That He is not in control.

Rom 13:1

13 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

KJV

Ps 62:11

11 God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.

KJV

Colossians 1:16 (KJV) For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

John 19:10-11 (KJV)

10 Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?

11 Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.

Matthew 6:13 (KJV) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 (KJV)

17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth.

18 But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

Ecclesiastes 6:2 (KJV) A man to whom God hath given riches, wealth, and honour, so that he wanteth nothing for his soul of all that he desireth, yet God giveth him not power to eat thereof, but a stranger eateth it: this is vanity, and it is an evil disease.

C) "His eyes behold." The foundational truth of God knowing all.

Ps 11:4

4 The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven: **his eyes behold**, his eyelids try, the children of men.

KJV

The wicked wants to destroy our Biblical stand that God knows.

That He has forgotten us. That He does not care to know. That He has far and distant!

Prov 15:3

3 The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

KJV

Job 34:21-22

21 For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings.

22 There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.

KJV

Prov 5:21

21 For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he pondereth all his goings.

KJV

Jer 16:17

17 For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid from mine eyes.

KJV

Heb 4:12-13

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

KJV

D) “His eyelids try, the children of men.” The foundational truth that God is the Ultimate Judge.

Ps 11:4

4 The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, **his eyelids try, the children of men.**

KJV

The wicked wants us to believe that they can go away with everything they do. Nobody can overtake them.

Acts 17:30

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

KJV

Jer 17:10

10 I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

KJV

Rev 2:20-23

20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.
KJV

Rev 20:12

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

KJV

Gal 6:7-8

7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

KJV

Rom 2:6

6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

KJV

E) “He trieth the righteous.” The foundational truth that God refines, chastens and deals with us as sons.

Ps 11:5

5 **The Lord trieth the righteous:** but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

KJV

The wicked wants us to believe that God actually wants to destroy us. That He actually does not want us to come out from all these things and be as gold. That God has ceased to be to us the great Refiner!

1 Peter 4:12-16

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

KJV

1 Peter 1:7

7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

KJV

Mal 3:3

3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

KJV

Job 23:10

10 But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

KJV

Heb 12:10

10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

KJV

F) “The righteous LORD loveth righteousness.” The foundational truth that righteousness counts!

Ps 11:7

7 **For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness;** his countenance doth behold the upright.

KJV

The wicked wants us to be convinced that they can get away with it. That they can continue to do what they do and commit the perfect crime.

Gal 6:7-9

7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

KJV

G) “His countenance do behold the upright.” The foundational truth that we have our rewards.

Ps 11:7

7 For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness; **his countenance doth behold the upright.**

KJV

Ps 42:5

5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

KJV

2 Tim 4:6-8

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

KJV

