

14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay your vows unto the most High:

15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

16 But unto the wicked God says, What have you to do to declare my statutes, or that you should take my covenant in your mouth?

17 Seeing you hate instruction, and cast my words behind you.

18 When you saw a thief, then you consented with him, and have been partaker with adulterers.

19 You give your mouth to evil, and your tongue frames deceit.

20 You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother's son.

21 These things have you done, and I kept silence; you thought that I was altogether such an one as yourself: but I will reprove you, and set them in order before your eyes.

22 Now consider this, you that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver.

23 Whoso offers praise glorifies me: and to him that orders his conversation aright will I show the salvation of God.

PSALM 51

HAVE mercy upon me, O God, according to your lovingkindness:

according unto the multitude of your tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done this evil in your sight: that you might be justified when you speak, and be clear when you judge.

5 Behold, I was shaped in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

6 Behold, you desire truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part you shall make me to know wisdom.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which you have broken may rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from your presence; and take not your holy spirit from me.

12 Restore unto me the joy of your salvation; and uphold me with your free spirit.

13 Then will I teach transgressors your

50:16 Verses 16–23 contain a fearful word for a godless world that delights in entertainment glorifying theft, violence, adultery, and hatred. They assume that heaven's silence is heaven's sanction. God threatens fearful wrath, then offers salvation to those who will listen. This is the biblical order of gospel proclamation—Law before grace.

51:1–4 When a sinner is ready for salvation, he exhibits personal responsibility for his sins. In these four verses David uses the words *me*, *my*, and *I* ten times in reference to his sins. See also Luke 15:21 footnote.

51:6 Civil law can search your house. It can search your car and even your person, but it cannot search the heart. Civil law cannot see human thoughts. God's Law, however, searches the inward parts. Like ten hungry bloodhounds, it chases the scent of injustice. It will pursue the guilty criminal until he is brought to justice. There is only one way for the ten ravenous hounds to leave the trail: sinners must cross over a "river." There is a river of blood that flows from Calvary's cross. Only the blood of Jesus Christ satisfies the Law's insatiable appetite for righteousness. See Hebrews 9:22.

51:7 "Direct my thoughts, words, and work. Wash away my sins in the immaculate Blood of the Lamb, and purge my heart by Thy Holy Spirit. . . Daily frame me more and more into the likeness of Thy Son Jesus Christ." *George Washington*, in his prayer book

51:6

How to Use the Ten Commandments in Witnessing

This should be done in a spirit of love and gentleness:

“Do you think you have kept the Ten Commandments? Have you ever told a lie (including ‘white lies,’ half-truths, exaggerations, etc.)? If you have, then you are a ‘liar,’ and you cannot enter the kingdom of God. Have you ever stolen (the value is irrelevant)? Then you are a thief. Jesus said that if you look with lust, you have committed adultery in your heart. If you hate someone, then you have committed murder in your heart. God requires truth ‘in the inward parts’—He sees even the thought-life.

“Have you loved God above all else? Has He always been first in your affections? Have you made a ‘god’ to suit yourself (having your own beliefs about God)? That is called idolatry, and the Bible warns that no idolater will enter the kingdom of God. Have you ever used God’s holy name to curse, or been greedy? Have you kept the Sabbath holy? Have you always implicitly honored your parents? Have you broken any of the Ten Commandments?

“Knowing that God has seen your thought-

life and every deed done in darkness, will you be innocent or guilty on Judgment Day? You know you will be guilty. So, will you end up in heaven or hell?”

The Law brings individuals to a point of seeing that they have sinned against God—that His wrath abides on them. It causes them to see that their own “goodness” can’t save them. It stops their mouth of justification (Romans 3:19), and prepares the heart for the good news of the gospel:

“The only thing you can do to be saved from His wrath is to repent and put your faith in the Savior, Jesus Christ. When He died on the cross, He took the punishment for our sins. He, once and for all, stepped into the Courtroom and completely paid the fine for us. Then He rose from the dead, defeating death. If you want to be saved from God’s wrath, confess and forsake your sins, put your faith in Jesus for your eternal salvation, and you will pass from death into life. Then read the Bible daily and obey what you read (see John 14:21). God will never let you down.”

ways; and sinners shall be converted unto you.

14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, you God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

15 O Lord, open my lips; and my mouth shall show forth your praise.

16 For you desire not sacrifice; else would I give it: you delight not in burnt offering.

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

18 Do good in your good pleasure unto Zion: build the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then shall you be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon your altar.

PSALM 52

WHY boast yourself in mischief, O mighty man? the goodness of God endures continually.

2 The tongue devises mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.

3 You love evil more than good; and lying rather than to speak righteousness. Selah.

4 You love all devouring words, O you deceitful tongue.

51:10 Those who confess and forsake their sins are given a clean heart in Christ, and the fruit of genuine salvation is a concern for the lost. See verse 13.

51:13-17 “Transgressors” are those who have transgressed the Moral Law. It is the “schoolmaster” (Galatians 3:24) that teaches them that they are sinners in the eyes of God (Romans 3:19,20). It is the Law that sings aloud of God’s righteousness, breaks the human spirit, and gives the sinner reason to be contrite over sins in which he previously delighted. See Romans 7:13,24,25.

5 God shall likewise destroy you for ever, he shall take you away, and pluck you out of your dwelling place, and root you out of the land of the living, Selah.

6 The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him:

7 Lo, this is the man that made not God his strength; but trusted in the abundance of his riches, and strengthened himself in his wickedness.

8 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

9 I will praise you for ever, because you have done it: and I will wait on your name; for it is good before your saints.

PSALM 53

THE fool has said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that does good.

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

3 Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is

none that does good, no, not one.

4 Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread: they have not called upon God.

5 There were they in great fear, where no fear was: for God has scattered the bones of him that encamps against you: you have put them to shame, because God has despised them.

6 Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! When God brings back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

PSALM 54

SAVE me, O God, by your name, and judge me by your strength.

2 Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

3 For strangers are risen up against me, and oppressors seek after my soul: they have not set God before them. Selah.

4 Behold, God is my helper: the Lord is with them that uphold my soul.

5 He shall reward evil unto my enemies: cut them off in your truth.

6 I will freely sacrifice unto you: I will praise your name, O LORD; for it is good.

52:7 The New Testament reminds us of this truth: We cannot love God *and* mammon (Luke 16:13).

53:1 Atheism. It is much more reasonable to believe that this publication had no printer than to believe that there is no God. Who in his right mind would ever believe that no one compiled its pages, no one produced the graphic art, and no one printed it. The publication happened by chance...from nothing. There was no paper, no ink, no cardboard, and no glue. The paper just came into being (from nothing), then trimmed itself into perfectly straight edges. All the words fell into place, forming coherent sentences, and then the graphic art appeared. The pages fell into numerical order, and finally the book bound itself.

The fact that there was a printer is axiomatic (self-evident), so it would be intellectually insulting to even begin to argue for the case of the printer's existence. For the same reason, the Bible does not enter into the case for God's existence. It simply begins by stating, "In the beginning God..." (Genesis 1:1). See Psalm 90:2 footnote.

"It takes no brains to be an atheist. Any stupid person can deny the existence of a supernatural power because man's physical senses cannot detect it. But there cannot be ignored the influence of conscience, the respect we feel for the Moral Law, the mystery of first life...or the marvelous order in which the universe moves about us on this earth. All these evidence the handiwork of the beneficent Deity...That Deity is the God of the Bible and Jesus Christ, His Son." *Dwight Eisenhower*

53:1-3 There are many "good" people from man's viewpoint. However, here is God's point of view. These verses leave no room for the self-righteous.

7 For he has delivered me out of all trouble: and my eye has seen his desire upon my enemies.

PSALM 55

GIVE ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not yourself from my supplication.

2 Attend unto me, and hear me: I mourn in my complaint, and make a noise;

3 Because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked: for they cast iniquity upon me, and in wrath they hate me.

4 My heart is sore pained within me: and the terrors of death are fallen upon me.

5 Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror has overwhelmed me.

6 And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest.

7 Lo, then would I wander far off, and remain in the wilderness. Selah.

8 I would hasten my escape from the windy storm and tempest.

9 Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongues: for I have seen violence and strife in the city.

10 Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof: mischief also and sorrow are in the midst of it.

11 Wickedness is in the midst thereof: deceit and guile depart not from her streets.

12 For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him:

13 But it was you, a man my equal, my guide, and my acquaintance.

14 We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.

15 Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among

them.

16 As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.

17 Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

18 He has delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me.

19 God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abides of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God.

Holy practice is the most decisive evidence of the reality of our repentance.

JONATHAN EDWARDS

20 He has put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he has broken his covenant.

21 The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords.

22 Cast your burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain you: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

23 But you, O God, shall bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in you.

PSALM 56

BE merciful unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresses me.

2 My enemies would daily swallow me up: for they be many that fight against me, O you most High.

3 *What time I am afraid, I will trust in you.*

4 *In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.*

55:22 What an incredible promise—we have an anchor for the soul. See Matthew 6:25–34 for some of the ways the Lord sustains us.

QUESTIONS & OBJECTIONS

55:15

**“I don’t mind going to hell.
All my friends will be there.”**



Obviously, those who flippantly say such things don’t believe in the biblical concept of hell. Their understanding of the nature of God is erroneous. The slow-witted criminal thinks that the electric chair is a place to put up his feet for a while and relax.

It may be wise therefore to speak with him for a few moments about the *reasonableness* of a place called hell. Reason with him by saying, “If a judge in Florida turns a blind eye to the unlawful dealings of the Mafia, if he sees their murderous acts and deliberately turns the other way, is he a good or bad judge? He’s obviously corrupt, and should be brought to justice himself. If he is a good judge, he will do everything within his power to bring those murderers to justice. He should make sure that they are justly punished.

“If Almighty God sees a man rape and strangle to death your sister or mother, do you think He should look the other way, or bring that murderer to justice? If He looks the other way, He’s corrupt and should be brought to justice Himself. It makes sense then, that if God is good, He will do everything in His power to ensure justice is done. The Bible tells us that He *will* punish murderers, and the place of punishment—the prison God will send them to—is a place called hell.

“God should punish murderers and rapists. However, God is so good, he will also punish thieves, liars, adulterers, fornicators, and blasphemers. He will even punish those who *desired* to murder and rape but never took the opportunity. He warns that if we hate someone, we commit murder in our hearts. If we lust, we commit adultery in the heart, etc.”

Then take the time to tell him of the *reality* of hell. Sinners like to picture hell as a fun, hedonistic, pleasure-filled place where they can engage in all the sensual sins that are forbidden here. But Jesus said that it is a place of torment, where the worm never dies and the fire is never quenched (Matthew 9:45-47). We tend to forget what pain is like when we don’t have it. Can you begin to imagine how terrible it would be to be in agony, with no hope of relief?

Many human beings go insane if they are merely isolated for a long time from other people. Imagine how terrible it would be if God merely withdrew all the things we hold so dear—friendship, love, color, light, peace, joy, laughter, and security. Hell isn’t just a place with an absence of God’s blessings, it is punishment for sin. It is literal torment, forever. That’s why the Bible warns that it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

God has given His Law to convince men of their sins, and unless a sinner is convinced that he has sinned against God, he won’t see that hell is his eternal destiny. He may consider it a fit place for others, but not for himself. That’s why we mustn’t hesitate to open up the Law and show that each individual is personally responsible for sin, and that God’s wrath abides on him because of it.

Ask him to consider why you would say such things to him if it wasn’t true. Tell him to examine your motives. You are so concerned for his eternal welfare that you are prepared to risk offending him.

Then ask him if he would sell an eye for a million dollars. Would he sell *both* for ten million? No one in his right mind would. Our eyes are precious to us. How much more then is our eternal soul worth? (For a biblical description of hell, see Revelation 1:18 footnote.)

5 Every day they wrest my words: all their thoughts are against me for evil.

6 They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul.

7 Shall they escape by iniquity? in your anger cast down the people, O God.

8 You tell my wanderings: put my tears into your bottle: are they not in your book?

9 When I cry unto you, then shall my enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me.

10 In God will I praise his word: in the LORD will I praise his word.

11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

12 Your vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto you.

13 For you have delivered my soul from death: will not you deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

PSALM 57

BE merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusts in you: yes, in the shadow of your wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.

2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that perform all things for me.

3 He shall send from heaven, and save me from the reproach of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.

4 My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be above all the earth.

6 They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves. Selah.

7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.

8 Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery

and harp: I myself will awake early.

9 I will praise you, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto you among the nations.

10 For your mercy is great unto the heavens, and your truth unto the clouds.

11 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens: let your glory be above all the earth.

PSALM 58

DO you indeed speak righteousness, O congregation? do you judge uprightly, O you sons of men?

2 Yes, in heart you work wickedness; you weigh the violence of your hands in the earth.

3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

4 Their poison is like the poison of a serpent: they are like the deaf adder that stops her ear;

5 Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming never so wisely.

6 Break their teeth, O God, in their mouth: break out the great teeth of the young lions, O LORD.

7 Let them melt away as waters which run continually: when he bends his bow to shoot his arrows, let them be as cut in pieces.

8 As a snail which melts, let every one of them pass away: like the untimely birth of a woman, that they may not see the

56:11 The fear of man is the devil's paralyzing poison. Faith in God is the antidote. When the enemy feeds you the lie that you cannot share your faith, answer him with "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Then put works with your faith—follow your convictions. Don't be concerned if you don't *feel* compassion for the lost. If a firefighter rescues someone from a burning building, he may have saved the person because he was motivated by compassion or because it was the job he had committed himself to do. His motive is of little concern to the person who has been pulled from the flames.

56:11 "Stop caring about what people think; begin to think about caring for people." *Eneal Zwayne*

58:6 Some have wondered how David could possibly be "a man after [God's] own heart" (Acts 13:22) when he exhibited such a vindictive attitude. However, he was merely pouring out his anger in prayer. Let it be a lesson to those of us who would like to seek vengeance—take it to God in prayer. Those who learn that secret prayer is the place to leave grievances will find that like David, they can then show mercy to those who have wronged them (see 1 Samuel 26:1–12).

sun.

9 Before your pots can feel the thorns, he shall take them away as with a whirlwind, both living, and in his wrath.

10 The righteous shall rejoice when he sees the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.

11 So that a man shall say, Verily there is a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judges in the earth.

PSALM 59

DELIVER me from my enemies, O my God: defend me from them that rise up against me.

2 Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, and save me from bloody men.

3 For, lo, they lie in wait for my soul: the mighty are gathered against me; not for my transgression, nor for my sin, O LORD.

4 They run and prepare themselves without my fault: awake to help me, and behold.

5 You therefore, O LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel, awake to visit all the heathen: be not merciful to any wicked transgressors. Selah.

6 They return at evening: they make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city.

7 Behold, they belch out with their mouth: swords are in their lips: for who, say they, does hear?

8 But you, O LORD, shall laugh at them; you shall have all the heathen in derision.

9 Because of his strength will I wait upon you: for God is my defense.

10 The God of my mercy shall prevent me: God shall let me see my desire upon my enemies.

11 Slay them not, lest my people forget: scatter them by your power; and bring them down, O Lord our shield.

12 For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips let them even be taken in their pride: and for cursing and lying which they speak.

13 Consume them in wrath, consume them, that they may not be: and let them

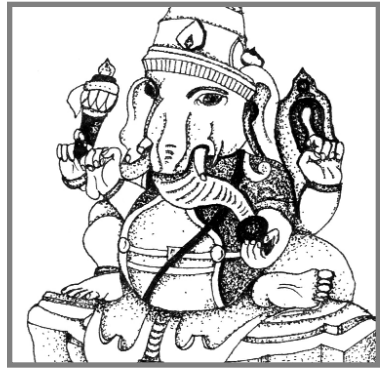
know that God rules in Jacob unto the ends of the earth. Selah.

14 And at evening let them return; and let them make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city.

15 Let them wander up and down for meat, and grudge if they be not satisfied.

16 But I will sing of your power; yes, I will sing aloud of your mercy in the morning: for you have been my defense and refuge in the day of my trouble.

17 Unto you, O my strength, will I sing: for God is my defense, and the God of my mercy.



To learn the beliefs of Hindus and how to witness to them, see page 546.

PSALM 60

O GOD, you have cast us off, you have scattered us, you have been displeased; O turn yourself to us again.

2 You have made the earth to tremble; you have broken it: heal the breaches thereof; for it shakes.

3 You have showed your people hard things: you have made us to drink the wine of astonishment.

4 You have given a banner to them that fear you, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah.

5 That your beloved may be delivered; save with your right hand, and hear me.

6 God has spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.

7 Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine; Ephraim also is the strength of my head; Judah is my lawgiver;

8 Moab is my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe: Philistia, triumph because of me.

9 Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?

10 Will not you, O God, which had cast us off? and you, O God, which did not go out with our armies?

11 Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man.

12 Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.

PSALM 61

HEAR my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer.

2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto you, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

3 For you have been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy.

4 I will abide in your tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of your wings. Selah.

5 For you, O God, have heard my vows: you have given me the heritage of those that fear your name.

6 You will prolong the king's life: and his years as many generations.

7 He shall abide before God for ever: O prepare mercy and truth, which may preserve him.

8 So will I sing praise unto your name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows.

PSALM 62

TRULY my soul waits upon God: from him comes my salvation.

2 He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.

3 How long will you imagine mischief against a man? you shall be slain all of you: as a bowing wall shall you be, and as a tottering fence.

4 They only consult to cast him down from his excellency: they delight in lies:

they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah.

5 My soul, wait only upon God; for my expectation is from him.

6 He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defense; I shall not be moved.

7 In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.

8 Trust in him at all times; you people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.

The root of joy is gratefulness... It is not joy that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us joyful.

DAVID STEINDL-RAST

9 Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance, they are altogether lighter than vanity.

10 Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart upon them.

11 God has spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongs unto God.

12 Also unto you, O Lord, belongs mercy: for you render to every man according to his work.

PSALM 63

O GOD, you are my God; early will I seek you: my soul thirsts for you, my flesh longs for you in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

2 To see your power and your glory, so as I have seen you in the sanctuary.

3 Because your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise you.

4 Thus will I bless you while I live: I will lift up my hands in your name.

5 My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise you with joyful lips:

6 When I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.

7 Because you have been my help, there-



"Worshipping God and the Lamb in the temple: God, for his benefaction in creating all things, and the Lamb, for his benefaction in redeeming us with his blood."

Isaac Newton

fore in the shadow of your wings will I rejoice.

8 My soul follows hard after you: your right hand upholds me.

9 But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

10 They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes.

11 But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that swears by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

PSALM 64

HEAR my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity:

3 Who whet their tongue like a sword, and bend their bows to shoot their arrows, even bitter words:

4 That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not.

5 They encourage themselves in an evil

matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them?

6 They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward thought of every one of them, and the heart, is deep.

7 But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded.

8 So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.

9 And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing.

10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.

PSALM 65

PRAISE waits for you, O God, in Sion: and unto you shall the vow be performed.

2 O you that hearest prayer, unto you shall all flesh come.

3 Iniquities prevail against me: as for our transgressions, you shall purge them away.

4 Blessed is the man whom you choose, and cause to approach unto you, that he may dwell in your courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, even of your holy temple.

5 By terrible things in righteousness will you answer us, O God of our salvation; who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea:

6 Which by his strength set fast the mountains; being girded with power:

7 Which still the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people.

8 They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at your tokens: you make the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice.

9 You visit the earth, and water it: you greatly enrich it with the river of God, which is full of water: you prepare them corn, when you have so provided for it.

10 You water the ridges thereof abun-

dantly: you set the furrows thereof: you make it soft with showers: you bless the springing thereof.

11 You crown the year with your goodness; and your paths drop fatness.

12 They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side.

13 The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

PSALM 66

MAKE a joyful noise unto God, all you lands:

2 Sing forth the honor of his name: make his praise glorious.

3 Say unto God, How terrible are you in your works! through the greatness of your power shall your enemies submit themselves unto you.

4 All the earth shall worship you, and shall sing unto you; they shall sing to your name. Selah.

5 Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.

6 He turned the sea into dry land: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him.

7 He rules by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.

8 O bless our God, you people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:

9 Which hold our soul in life, and suffers

not our feet to be moved.

10 For you, O God, have proved us: you have tried us, as silver is tried.

11 You brought us into the net; you laid affliction upon our loins.

12 You have caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but you brought us out into a wealthy place.

13 I will go into your house with burnt offerings: I will pay you my vows,

14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth has spoken, when I was in trouble.

15 I will offer unto you burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah.

16 Come and hear, all you that fear God, and I will declare what he has done for my soul.

17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.

18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

19 But verily God has heard me; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

20 Blessed be God, which has not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.

PSALM 67

GOD be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah.

2 That your way may be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

3 Let the people praise you, O God; let

66:10–12 We often blame tribulation on the enemy when God uses this very instrument to fulfill His will for our lives. God takes us through the fire, not to burn us, but to purify us. He takes us through the water, not to drown us, but to wash us. Understanding that the Lord chastens those He loves enables us to endure trials. The psalmist wrote, "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn your statutes" (119:71).

66:15 Animal rights advocates who insist that "meat is murder" are misguided. God was the first to kill an animal (Genesis 3:21). In Exodus 12:5–8 God told Israel to kill and eat lambs. King Solomon sacrificed 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep when he dedicated the temple to God (1 Kings 8:63). When three angels appeared to Abraham, he killed a "tender and good" calf for them to eat (Genesis 18:7,8). In Genesis 27:7 we are told that Jacob ate venison (deer meat), which was his favorite food. Jesus ate the Passover lamb (Mark 14:12,18). In the parable of the prodigal son, the father rejoiced at his son's return by "killing the fatted calf" (which was eaten). See 1 Timothy 4:3,4 footnote.

all the people praise you.

4 O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for you shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.

5 Let the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.

6 Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us.

7 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

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*Read a challenging letter from an atheist.
See Romans 9:2,3 footnote.*

.....

PSALM 68

LET God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.

2 As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

3 But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yes, let them exceedingly rejoice.

4 Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rides upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him.

5 A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation.

6 God sets the solitary in families: he brings out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.

7 O God, when you went forth before your people, when you did march through the wilderness; Selah:

8 The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: even Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

9 You, O God, did send a plentiful rain, whereby you did confirm your inheritance, when it was weary.

10 Your congregation has dwelt therein: you, O God, have prepared of your goodness for the poor.

11 The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.

12 Kings of armies did flee apace: and she that tarried at home divided the spoil.

13 Though you have lien among the pots, yet shall you be as the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold.

14 When the Almighty scattered kings in it, it was white as snow in Salmon.

15 The hill of God is as the hill of Bashan; an high hill as the hill of Bashan.

16 Why do you leap, you high hills? this is the hill which God desires to dwell in; yes, the LORD will dwell in it for ever.

17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.

18 You have ascended on high, you have led captivity captive: you have received gifts for men; yes, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.

20 He that is our God is the God of salvation; and unto GOD the Lord belong the issues from death.

21 But God shall wound the head of his enemies, and the hairy scalp of such an

67:4 "It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor." *George Washington*

"The foundations of our society and our government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country." *Calvin Coolidge*

one as goes on still in his trespasses.

22 The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring my people again from the depths of the sea:

23 That your foot may be dipped in the blood of your enemies, and the tongue of your dogs in the same.

24 They have seen your goings, O God; even the goings of my God, my King, in the sanctuary.

25 The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; among them were the damsels playing with timbrels.

26 Bless God in the congregations, even the Lord, from the fountain of Israel.

“Beloved, we must win souls; we cannot live and see men damned.”

CHARLES SPURGEON

27 There is little Benjamin with their ruler, the princes of Judah and their council, the princes of Zebulun, and the princes of Naphtali.

28 Your God has commanded your strength: strengthen, O God, that which you have wrought for us.

29 Because of your temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto you.

30 Rebuke the company of spearmen, the multitude of the bulls, with the calves of the people, till every one submit himself with pieces of silver: scatter you the people that delight in war.

31 Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.

32 Sing unto God, you kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord; Selah:

33 To him that rides upon the heavens of heavens, which were of old; lo, he does send out his voice, and that a mighty voice.

34 Ascribe strength unto God: his excellency is over Israel, and his strength is

in the clouds.

35 O God, you are terrible out of your holy places: the God of Israel is he that gives strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God.

PSALM 69

SAVE me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul.

2 I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.

3 I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: my eyes fail while I wait for my God.

4 They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head: they that would destroy me, being my enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away.

5 O God, you know my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from you.

6 Let not them that wait on you, O Lord GOD of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek you be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.

7 Because for your sake I have borne reproach; shame has covered my face.

8 I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.

9 For the zeal of your house has eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached you are fallen upon me.

10 When I wept, and chastened my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach.

11 I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them.

12 They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I was the song of the drunkards.

13 But as for me, my prayer is unto you, O LORD, in an acceptable time: O God, in the multitude of your mercy hear me, in the truth of your salvation.

14 Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink: let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters.

15 Let not the waterflood overflow me, neither let the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.

16 Hear me, O LORD; for your loving-kindness is good: turn unto me according to the multitude of your tender mercies.

17 And hide not your face from your servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily.

18 Draw near unto my soul, and redeem it: deliver me because of my enemies.

19 You have known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonor: my adversaries are all before you.

20 Reproach has broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none.

21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

22 Let their table become a snare before them: and that which should have been for their welfare, let it become a trap.

23 Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not; and make their loins continually to shake.

24 Pour out your indignation upon them, and let your wrathful anger take hold of them.

25 Let their habitation be desolate; and let none dwell in their tents.

26 For they persecute him whom you have smitten; and they talk to the grief of those whom you have wounded.

27 Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into your righteousness.

28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

29 But I am poor and sorrowful: let your salvation, O God, set me up on high.

30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanks-

giving.

31 This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bullock that has horns and hoofs.

32 The humble shall see this, and be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God.

33 For the LORD hears the poor, and despises not his prisoners.

34 Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moves therein.

35 For God will save Zion, and will build the cities of Judah: that they may dwell there, and have it in possession.

36 The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and they that love his name shall dwell therein.

PSALM 70

MAKE haste, O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O LORD.

2 Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and put to confusion, that desire my hurt.

3 Let them be turned back for a reward of their shame that say, Aha, aha.

4 Let all those that seek you rejoice and be glad in you: and let such as love your salvation say continually, Let God be magnified.

5 But I am poor and needy: make haste unto me, O God: you are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, make no tarrying.

PSALM 71

IN you, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.

2 Deliver me in your righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline your ear unto me, and save me.

3 Be my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: you have given

69:21 Messianic prophecy: This was fulfilled in John 19:29.

70:3 An accusing world is quick to point out the slightest weakness in the Christian. If we become impatient, they say, "Aha...you're supposed to be a Christian." They are unaware that they will be judged by the same measure by which they judge. See Romans 2:1,3.

commandment to save me; for you are my rock and my fortress.

4 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

5 For you are my hope, O Lord GOD: you are my trust from my youth.

6 By you have I been held up from the womb: you are he that took me out of my mother's bowels: my praise shall be continually of you.

7 I am as a wonder unto many; but you are my strong refuge.

8 Let my mouth be filled with your praise and with your honor all the day.

9 Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength fails.

10 For my enemies speak against me; and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together,

11 Saying, God has forsaken him: persecute and take him; for there is none to deliver him.

12 O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help.

13 Let them be confounded and consumed that are adversaries to my soul; let them be covered with reproach and dishonor that seek my hurt.

14 But I will hope continually, and will yet praise you more and more.

15 My mouth shall show forth your righteousness and your salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof.

16 I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of your righteousness, even of yours only.

17 O God, you have taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared your wondrous works.

18 Now also when I am old and grey-headed, O God, forsake me not; until I have showed your strength unto this generation, and your power to every one that is to come.

19 Your righteousness also, O God, is very high, who have done great things: O God, who is like unto you!

20 You, who have showed me great and sore troubles, shall quicken me again, and

shall bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

21 You shall increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side.

22 I will also praise you with the psalter, even your truth, O my God: unto you will I sing with the harp, O you Holy One of Israel.

23 My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto you; and my soul, which you have redeemed.

24 My tongue also shall talk of your righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt.

PSALM 72

GIVE the king your judgments, O God, and your righteousness unto the king's son.

2 He shall judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with judgment.

3 The mountains shall bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness.

4 He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor.

5 They shall fear you as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations.

6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers that water the earth.

7 In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endures.

8 He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.

9 They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

11 Yes, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

12 For he shall deliver the needy when he cries; the poor also, and him that has

no helper.

13 He shall spare the poor and needy,
and shall save the souls of the needy.

14 He shall redeem their soul from deceit
and violence: and precious shall their
blood be in his sight.

15 And he shall live, and to him shall be
given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also
shall be made for him continually; and
daily shall he be praised.

16 There shall be an handful of corn in
the earth upon the top of the mountains;
the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon:
and they of the city shall flourish like
grass of the earth.

17 His name shall endure for ever: his
name shall be continued as long as the
sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all
nations shall call him blessed.

18 Blessed be the LORD God, the God of
Israel, who only does wondrous things.

19 And blessed be his glorious name
for ever: and let the whole earth be filled
with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

20 The prayers of David the son of Jesse
are ended.

PSALM 73

TRULY God is good to Israel, even to
such as are of a clean heart.

2 But as for me, my feet were almost
gone; my steps had well near slipped.

3 For I was envious at the foolish, when
I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

4 For there are no bands in their death:
but their strength is firm.

5 They are not in trouble as other men;
neither are they plagued like other men.

6 Therefore pride compasses them about
as a chain; violence covers them as a gar-
ment.

7 Their eyes stand out with fatness: they
have more than heart could wish.

8 They are corrupt, and speak wickedly
concerning oppression: they speak loftily.

9 They set their mouth against the heav-
ens, and their tongue walks through the
earth.

10 Therefore his people return hither:
and waters of a full cup are wrung out to



"No educated man can afford to be ignorant of the Bible."

Theodore Roosevelt

them.

11 And they say, How does God know?
and is there knowledge in the most High?

12 Behold, these are the ungodly, who
prosper in the world; they increase in
riches.

13 Verily I have cleansed my heart in
vain, and washed my hands in innocency.

14 For all the day long have I been
plagued, and chastened every morning.

15 If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I
should offend against the generation of
your children.

16 When I thought to know this, it was
too painful for me;

17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God;
then understood I their end.

18 Surely you did set them in slippery
places: you cast them down into destruc-
tion.

19 How are they brought into desolation,
as in a moment! they are utterly consumed
with terrors.

20 As a dream when one awakes; so, O
Lord, when you awake, you shall despise
their image.

21 Thus my heart was grieved, and I was
pricked in my reins.

22 So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before you.

23 Nevertheless I am continually with you: you have held me by my right hand.

24 You shall guide me with your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

25 Whom have I in heaven but you? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside you.

26 My flesh and my heart fails: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

27 For, lo, they that are far from you shall perish: you have destroyed all them that go a whoring from you.

28 But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all your works.

PSALM 74

O GOD, why have you cast us off for ever? why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?

2 Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old; the rod of your inheritance, which you have redeemed; this mount Zion, wherein you have dwelt.

3 Lift up your feet unto the perpetual desolations; even all that the enemy has done wickedly in the sanctuary.

4 Your enemies roar in the midst of your congregations; they set up their ensigns for signs.

5 A man was famous according as he had lifted up axes upon the thick trees.

6 But now they break down the carved work thereof at once with axes and hammers.

7 They have cast fire into your sanctuary, they have defiled by casting down the dwelling place of your name to the ground.

8 They said in their hearts, Let us destroy them together: they have burned up all the synagogues of God in the land.

9 We see not our signs: there is no more any prophet: neither is there among us

any that knows how long.

10 O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme your name for ever?

11 Why do you withdraw your hand, even your right hand? pluck it out of your bosom.

12 For God is my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.

13 You did divide the sea by your strength: you brake the heads of the dragons in the waters.

14 You brake the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gave him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.

15 You did cleave the fountain and the flood: you dried up mighty rivers.

16 The day is Yours, the night also is yours: you have prepared the light and the sun.

17 You have set all the borders of the earth: you have made summer and winter.

18 Remember this, that the enemy has reproached, O LORD, and that the foolish people have blasphemed your name.

19 O deliver not the soul of your turtle-dove unto the multitude of the wicked: forget not the congregation of your poor for ever.

20 Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.

21 O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise your name.

22 Arise, O God, plead your own cause: remember how the foolish man reproaches you daily.

23 Forget not the voice of your enemies: the tumult of those that rise up against you increases continually.

PSALM 75

UNTO you, O God, do we give thanks, unto you do we give thanks: for that your name is near your wondrous

75:1 "It is a terrible thing, I found, to be grateful and have no one to thank, to be awed and have no one to worship." *Philip Yancey, What's So Amazing About Grace?*

works declare.

2 When I shall receive the congregation I will judge uprightly.

3 The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved: I bear up the pillars of it. Selah.

4 I said unto the fools, Deal not foolishly: and to the wicked, Lift not up the horn:

5 Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck.

6 For promotion comes neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.

7 But God is the judge: he puts down one, and sets up another.

8 For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he pours out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them.

9 But I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

10 All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off; but the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

PSALM 76

IN Judah is God known: his name is great in Israel.

2 In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.

3 There brake he the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle. Selah.

4 You are more glorious and excellent than the mountains of prey.

5 The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands.

6 At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.

7 You, even you, are to be feared: and who may stand in your sight when once you are angry?

8 You did cause judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still,

9 When God arose to judgment, to save

all the meek of the earth. Selah.

10 Surely the wrath of man shall praise you: the remainder of wrath shall you restrain.

11 Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared.

12 He shall cut off the spirit of princes: he is terrible to the kings of the earth.

There is no doctrine which I would more willingly remove from Christianity than the doctrine of hell, if it lay in my power. But it has the full support of Scripture and, especially, of our Lord's own words; it has always been held by the Christian Church, and it has the support of reason.

C. S. LEWIS

PSALM 77

I CRIED unto God with my voice, even unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.

2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted.

3 I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah.

4 You hold my eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times.

6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with my own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.

7 Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favorable no more?

8 Is his mercy clean gone for ever? does his promise fail for evermore?

9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? has he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah.

10 And I said, This is my infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High.

11 I will remember the works of the

QUESTIONS & OBJECTIONS

76:8

“Could you be wrong in your claims about Judgment Day and the existence of hell?”

The existence of hell and the surety of the judgment are not the claims of fallible man. The Bible is the source of the claim, and it is utterly infallible.

When someone becomes a Christian, he is admitting that he was in the wrong, and that God is justified in His declarations that we have sinned against Him. However, let’s surmise for a moment that there is no Judgment Day and no hell. That would mean that the Bible is a huge hoax, in which more than forty authors collaborated (over a period of 3,000 years) to produce a document revealing God’s character as “just.” They portrayed Him as a just judge, who warned that He would eventually punish murderers, rapists, liars, thieves, adulterers, etc. Each of those writers (who professed to be godly) therefore bore false witness, transgressing the very commandments they claimed to be true. It would mean that Jesus Christ was a liar, and that all the claims He made about the reality of judgment were therefore false. It would also mean that He gave His life in vain, as did multitudes of martyrs who have given their lives for the cause of Christ. Add to that the thought that if there is no ultimate justice, it means that the Creator of all things is unjust—that He sees murder and rape and couldn’t care less, making Him worse than a corrupt human judge who refuses to bring criminals to justice.

Here’s the good news, though, if there is no hell: You won’t know a thing after you die. It will be the end. No heaven, no hell. Just nothing. You won’t even realize that it’s good news. Here’s the bad news if the Bible is right and that there is eternal justice: You will find yourself standing before the judgment throne of a holy God, who has seen every sin you have ever committed. Think of it. A holy and perfect Creator has seen your thought-life and every secret sin you have ever committed. You have a multitude of sins, and God must by nature carry out justice. Ask Him to remind you of the sins of your youth. Ask Him to bring to remembrance your secret sexual sins, the lies, the gossip, and other idle words. You may have forgotten your past sins, but God hasn’t. Hell will be your just desert (exactly what you deserve), and you will have no one to blame but yourself. This is the claim of the Bible. If you don’t believe it, it is still true. It will still happen.

Yet, there is good news—incredibly good news. We deserve judgment, but God offers us mercy through the cross. He paid our fine so that we could leave the courtroom. He destroyed the power of the grave for all who obey Him. Simply obey the gospel, and live. By doing that you will find out for yourself that the gospel is indeed the “gospel truth.” Jesus said that if you obey Him, you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free (see John 8:31,32). Get on your knees today, confess and forsake your sins. Tell God you are truly sorry, then trust the Savior as you would trust yourself to a parachute. Then you will find yourself in a terrible dilemma. You will know for certain that hell is a reality. When you get up the courage to warn people you care about, they will smile passively, and say, “Could you be wrong in your claims about Judgment Day and the existence of hell?”



LORD: surely I will remember your wonders of old.

12 I will meditate also of all your work, and talk of your doings.

13 Your way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?

14 You are the God that does wonders: you have declared your strength among

the people.

15 You have with your arm redeemed your people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.

16 The waters saw you, O God, the waters saw you; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled.

17 The clouds poured out water: the

skies sent out a sound: your arrows also went abroad.

18 The voice of your thunder was in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook.

19 Your way is in the sea, and your path in the great waters, and your footsteps are not known.

20 You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

PSALM 78

GIVE ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:

3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

4 We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he has done.

5 For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:

6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:

7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:

8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with

God.

9 The children of Ephraim, being armed, and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.

10 They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;

11 And forgot his works, and his wonders that he had showed them.

12 Marvelous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

13 He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.

14 In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

15 He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths.

16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.

17 And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.

18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.

19 Yes, they spoke against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?

20 Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can he give bread also? can he provide flesh for his people?

21 Therefore the LORD heard this, and was wroth: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against

78:2 Messianic prophecy: Jesus fulfilled this in Matthew 13:34,35.

78:5,6 If you want to bring children to the Savior, teach them the Ten Commandments in light of New Testament revelation (lust is adultery, hatred is murder, etc.). Immediately after giving God's Moral Law (the Ten Commandments) to Israel, Moses said to teach them diligently. In Deuteronomy 6:6–9, he explains how to do that: speak of the Commandments when you sit with your children at home, as you go for walks together, at their bedtime, and when they get up (nighttime and morning devotions). Bind the Commandments on your hands, in front of your eyes, and at the entry of your house—in other words, do not forget them. Can you name the Ten Commandments? Can your children name them? See Exodus 20:1–17 and Deuteronomy 11:18–21.

To help your kids memorize the Ten Commandments, see page 456.

Israel;

22 Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:

23 Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,

24 And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven.

25 Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full.

26 He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by his power he brought in the south wind.

27 He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea:

28 And he let it fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations.

29 So they did eat, and were well filled: for he gave them their own desire;

30 They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat was yet in their mouths,

31 The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen men of Israel.

32 For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works.

33 Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble.

34 When he slew them, then they sought him: and they returned and enquired early after God.

35 And they remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer.

36 Nevertheless they did flatter him with their mouth, and they lied unto him with their tongues.

37 For their heart was not right with him, neither were they steadfast in his covenant.

38 But he, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yes, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath.

39 For he remembered that they were but flesh; a wind that passes away, and comes not again.

40 How oft did they provoke him in the

wilderness, and grieve him in the desert!

41 Yes, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.

42 They remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy.

43 How he had wrought his signs in Egypt, and his wonders in the field of Zoan.

44 And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink.

45 He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpillar, and their labor unto the locust.

47 He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycamore trees with frost.

The beginning of anxiety is the end of faith, and the beginning of true faith is the end of anxiety.

GEORGE MUELLER

48 He gave up their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.

49 He cast upon them the fierceness of his anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, by sending evil angels among them.

50 He made a way to his anger; he spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;

51 And smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of their strength in the tabernacles of Ham:

52 But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

53 And he led them on safely, so that they feared not: but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

54 And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, even to this mountain, which his right hand had purchased.

55 He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to

dwell in their tents.

56 Yet they tempted and provoked the most high God, and kept not his testimonies:

57 But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow.

58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images.

59 When God heard this, he was wroth, and greatly abhorred Israel:

60 So that he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent which he placed among men;

61 And delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand.

62 He gave his people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with his inheritance.

63 The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage.

64 Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation.

65 Then the LORD awaked as one out of sleep, and like a mighty man that shouts by reason of wine.

66 And he smote his enemies in the hinder parts: he put them to a perpetual reproach.

67 Moreover he refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim:

68 But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which he loved.

69 And he built his sanctuary like high palaces, like the earth which he has established for ever.

70 He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds:

71 From following the ewes great with young he brought him to feed Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance.

72 So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

PSALM 79

O GOD, the heathen are come into your inheritance; your holy temple

have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps.

2 The dead bodies of your servants have they given to be meat unto the fowls of the heaven, the flesh of your saints unto the beasts of the earth.

3 Their blood have they shed like water round about Jerusalem; and there was none to bury them.

4 We are become a reproach to our neighbors, a scorn and derision to them that are round about us.

5 How long, LORD? will you be angry for ever? shall your jealousy burn like fire?

6 Pour out your wrath upon the heathen that have not known you, and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your name.

7 For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste his dwelling place.

8 O remember not against us former iniquities: let your tender mercies speedily prevent us: for we are brought very low.

9 Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name: and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for your name's sake.

10 Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is their God? let him be known among the heathen in our sight by the revenging of the blood of your servants which is shed.

11 Let the sighing of the prisoner come before you; according to the greatness of your power preserve those that are appointed to die;

12 And render unto our neighbors sevenfold into their bosom their reproach, wherewith they have reproached you, O Lord.

13 So we your people and sheep of your pasture will give you thanks for ever: we will show forth your praise to all generations.

PSALM 80

GIVE ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that lead Joseph like a flock; you that dwell between the cherubims, shine forth.

2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up your strength, and come

and save us.

3 Turn us again, O God, and cause your face to shine; and we shall be saved.

4 O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry against the prayer of your people?

5 You feed them with the bread of tears; and give them tears to drink in great measure.

6 You make us a strife unto our neighbors: and our enemies laugh among themselves.

7 Turn us again, O God of hosts, and cause your face to shine; and we shall be saved.

8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt: you have cast out the heathen, and planted it.

Nothing worse can happen to a church than to be conformed to this world.

CHARLES SPURGEON

9 You prepare room before it, and did cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land.

10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars.

11 She sent out her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river.

12 Why have you then broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her?

13 The boar out of the wood does waste it, and the wild beast of the field does devour it.

14 Return, we beseech you, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine;

15 And the vineyard which your right hand has planted, and the branch that you made strong for yourself.

16 It is burned with fire, it is cut down: they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

17 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, upon the son of man whom you made strong for yourself.

18 So will not we go back from you: quicken us, and we will call upon your name.

19 Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause your face to shine; and we shall be saved.

PSALM 81

SING aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob.

2 Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.

3 Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.

4 For this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.

5 This he ordained in Joseph for a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: where I heard a language that I understood not.

6 I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots.

7 You call in trouble, and I delivered you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder: I proved you at the waters of Meribah. Selah.

8 Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto you: O Israel, if you will hearken unto me;

9 There shall no strange god be in you; neither shall you worship any strange god.

10 I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt: open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

11 But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.

12 So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels.

13 Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways!

14 I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries.

15 The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever.

16 He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied you.

PSALM 82

GOD stands in the congregation of the mighty; he judges among the gods.

2 How long will you judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.

3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.

4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked.

5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

6 I have said, You are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.

7 But you shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for you shall inherit all nations.

PSALM 83

KEEP not silence, O God: hold not your peace, and be not still, O God.

2 For, lo, your enemies make a tumult: and they that hate you have lifted up the head.

3 They have taken crafty counsel against your people, and consulted against your hidden ones.

4 They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.

5 For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against you:

6 The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes;

7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre;

8 Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah.

9 Do unto them as unto the Midianites; as to Sisera, as to Jabin, at the brook of Kison:

10 Which perished at Endor: they became as dung for the earth.

11 Make their nobles like Oreb, and like Zeeb: yes, all their princes as Zebah, and as Zalmunna:

12 Who said, Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession.

13 O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind.

14 As the fire burns a wood, and as the flame sets the mountains on fire;

15 So persecute them with your tempest, and make them afraid with your storm.

16 Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek your name, O LORD.

17 Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yes, let them be put to shame, and perish:

18 That men may know that you, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, are the most high over all the earth.

PSALM 84

HOW amiable are your tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!

2 My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts of the LORD: my heart and my flesh cries out for the living God.

3 Yes, the sparrow has found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God.

4 Blessed are they that dwell in your house: they will be still praising you. Selah.

5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in you; in whose heart are the ways of them.

6 Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also fills the pools.

7 They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appears before God.

8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer:

82:7 "Every man must do two things alone: he must do his own believing, and he must do his own dying." *Martin Luther*

give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah.

9 Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of your anointed.

10 For a day in your courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

12 O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusts in you.

PSALM 85

LORD, you have been favorable unto your land: you have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people, you have covered all their sin. Selah.

3 You have taken away all your wrath: you have turned yourself from the fierceness of your anger.

4 Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause your anger toward us to cease.

5 Will you be angry with us for ever? will you draw out your anger to all generations?

6 Will you not revive us again: that your people may rejoice in you?

7 Show us your mercy, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.

9 Surely his salvation is near them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 Yes, the LORD shall give that which is good; and our land shall yield her in-

crease.

13 Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set us in the way of his steps.

PSALM 86

BOW down your ear, O LORD, hear me: for I am poor and needy.

2 Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O you my God, save your servant that trusts in you.

3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto you daily.

4 Rejoice the soul of your servant: for unto you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

5 For you, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon you.

6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.

7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon you: for you will answer me.

8 Among the gods there is none like unto you, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto your works.

9 All nations whom you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord; and shall glorify your name.

10 For you are great, and do wondrous things: you are God alone.

11 Teach me your way, O LORD; I will walk in your truth: unite my heart to fear your name.

12 I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify your name for evermore.

13 For great is your mercy toward me: and you have delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

14 O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent men have sought after my soul; and have not set you before them.

15 But you, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, long suffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

16 O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give your strength unto your ser-

vant, and save the son of your handmaid.
 17 Show me a token for good; that they which hate me may see it, and be ashamed: because you, LORD, have helped me, and comforted me.

PSALM 87

HIS foundation is in the holy mountains.

2 The LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

3 Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God. Selah.

4 I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this man was born there.

5 And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her.

6 The LORD shall count, when he writes up the people, that this man was born there. Selah.

7 As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there: all my springs are in you.

PSALM 88

OLORD God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before you:

2 Let my prayer come before you: incline your ear unto my cry;

3 For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draws near unto the grave.

4 I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man that has no strength:

5 Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom you remember no more: and they are cut off from your hand.

6 You have laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps.

7 Your wrath lies hard upon me, and you have afflicted me with all your waves. Selah.

8 You have put away my acquaintance far

from me; you have made me an abomination unto them: I am shut up, and I cannot come forth.

9 My eye mourns by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon you, I have stretched out my hands unto you.

10 Will you show wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise you? Selah.

11 Shall your lovingkindness be declared in the grave? or your faithfulness in destruction?

12 Shall your wonders be known in the dark? and your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

13 But unto you have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer prevent you.

14 LORD, why cast off my soul? why hide your face from me?

15 I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up: while I suffer your terrors I am distracted.

16 Your fierce wrath goes over me; your terrors have cut me off.

17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together.

18 Lover and friend have you put far from me, and my acquaintance into darkness.

PSALM 89

I WILL sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known your faithfulness to all generations.

2 For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever: your faithfulness shall you establish in the very heavens.

3 I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,

4 Your seed will I establish for ever, and build up your throne to all generations. Selah.

5 And the heavens shall praise your wonders, O LORD: your faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints.

6 For who in the heaven can be com-

89:6 Nothing on this earth or in heaven compares to God. Even the regenerate mind can't begin to comprehend His infinite greatness.

QUESTIONS & OBJECTIONS

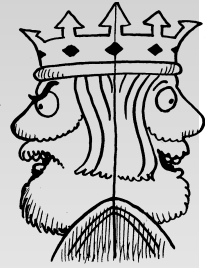
89:14

“Why does the Old Testament show a God of wrath and the New Testament a God of mercy?”

The God of the New Testament is the same as the God of the Old Testament. The Bible says that He *never* changes. He is just as merciful in the Old Testament as He is in the New Testament. Read Nehemiah 9 for a summary of how God mercifully forgave Israel, again and again, after they repeatedly sinned and turned their back on Him. The psalms often speak of God’s mercy poured out on sinners.

He is also just as wrath-filled in the New Testament as He is in the Old. He killed a husband and wife in the Book of Acts, simply because they told one lie. Jesus warned that He was to be feared because He has the power to cast the body and soul into hell. The apostle Paul said that he persuaded men to come to the Savior because he knew the “terror of the Lord.” Read the dreadful judgments of the New Testament’s Book of Revelation. That will put the “fear of God” in you, which incidentally is “the beginning of wisdom.”

Perhaps the most fearful display of His wrath is seen in the cross of Jesus Christ. His fury so came upon the Messiah that it seems God enshrouded the face of Jesus in darkness so that creation couldn’t gaze upon His unspeakable agony. Whether we like it or not, our God is a consuming fire of holiness (Hebrews 12:29). He isn’t going to change, so we had better . . . before the Day of Judgment. If we repent, God, in His mercy, will forgive us and grant us eternal life in heaven with Him.



pared unto the LORD? who among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?

7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.

8 O LORD God of hosts, who is a strong LORD like unto you? or to your faithfulness round about you?

9 You rule the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, you stillest them.

10 You have broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; you have scattered your enemies with your strong arm.

11 The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours: as for the world and the fullness thereof, you have founded them.

12 The north and the south you have created them: Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in your name.

13 You have a mighty arm: strong is your hand, and high is your right hand.

14 Justice and judgment are the habitation of your throne: mercy and truth shall go before your face.

15 Blessed is the people that know the

joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of your countenance.

16 In your name shall they rejoice all the day: and in your righteousness shall they be exalted.

17 For you are the glory of their strength: and in your favor our horn shall be exalted.

18 For the LORD is our defense; and the Holy One of Israel is our king.

19 Then you spoke in vision to your holy one, and said, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people.

20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:

21 With whom my hand shall be established: my arm also shall strengthen him.

22 The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him.

23 And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him.

24 But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted.

25 I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.

Four Simple Laws

God is holy and just:

“For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil” (*Ecclesiastes 12:14*).

The wages of sin is death:

“Sin is the transgression of the Law” (*1 John 3:4*).
(See the Ten Commandments on page 336.)

God is rich in mercy:

“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith He loved us...” (*Ephesians 2:4*).

Eternal life is in Jesus Christ:

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (*John 3:16*).

“[God] now commands all men every where to repent: because he has appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness” (*Acts 17:30*).

A Model Prayer of Repentance

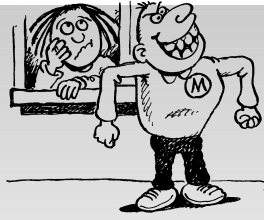
“God, please forgive me for sinning against You. I understand that, according to Your Law, I deserve to go to hell. However, You are not willing that I perish. Thank You that Jesus suffered and died for me and rose again on the third day. I now repent, and yield myself to Him to be my Lord and Savior. I will read Your Word daily and obey what I read. In Jesus’ Name I pray. Amen.”

QUESTIONS & OBJECTIONS

89:48

“Man is the master of his own destiny!”

If man is in total control of his future, then he should at least be in control of his own body. Instead, he is subject to involuntary yawning, sneezing, breathing, swallowing, sleeping, salivating, dreaming, blinking, and thinking. He can't even control hair and nail growth. He automatically does these things, irrespective of his will. God has set his body in motion and there is little he can do about it. He also has minimal control over his daily bodily functions. His kidneys, bladder, intestines, heart, liver, lungs, etc., work independently of his will. It is ludicrous to say that man controls his future when he has trouble predicting the stock market, political outcomes, earthquakes, and even the weather, let alone having control over these things.



26 He shall cry unto me, You are my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

27 Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.

28 My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.

29 His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.

30 If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments;

31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;

32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.

33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.

34 My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.

36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.

37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

38 But you have cast off and abhorred, you have been wroth with your anointed.

39 You have made void the covenant of

your servant: you have profaned his crown by casting it to the ground.

40 You have broken down all his hedges; you have brought his strong holds to ruin.

41 All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbors.

42 You have set up the right hand of his adversaries; you have made all his enemies to rejoice.

43 You have also turned the edge of his sword, and have not made him to stand in the battle.

44 You have made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground.

45 The days of his youth have you shortened: you have covered him with shame. Selah.

46 How long, LORD? will you hide yourself for ever? shall your wrath burn like fire?

47 Remember how short my time is: wherefore have you made all men in vain?

48 What man is he that lives, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah.

49 Lord, where are your former lovingkindnesses, which you swore unto David in your truth?

50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of your servants; how I do bear in my bosom the reproach of all the mighty people;

QUESTIONS & OBJECTIONS

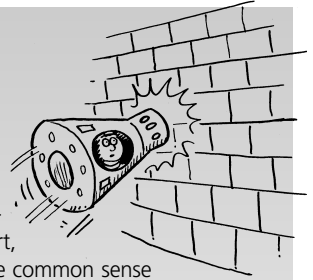
90:2

“Who made God?”

To one who examines the evidence, there can be no doubt that God exists. Every building has a builder. Everything made has a maker. The fact of the existence of the Creator is axiomatic (self-evident). That’s why the Bible says, “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’” (Psalm 14:1). The professing atheist denies the common sense given to him by God, and defends his belief by thinking that the question “Who made God?” can’t be answered. This, he thinks, gives him license to deny the existence of God.

The question of who made God can be answered by simply looking at space and asking, “Does space have an end?” Obviously, it doesn’t. If there is a brick wall with “The End” written on it, the question arises, “What is behind the brick wall?” Strain the mind though it may, we have to believe (have faith) that space has no beginning and no end. The same applies with God. He has no beginning and no end. He is eternal.

The Bible also informs us that time is a dimension that God created, into which man was subjected. It even tells us that one day time will no longer exist. That will be called “eternity.” God Himself dwells outside of the dimension He created (2 Timothy 1:9, Titus 1:2). He dwells in eternity and is not subject to time. God spoke history before it came into being. He can move through time as a man flips through a history book. Because we live in the dimension of time, logic and reason demand that everything *must* have a beginning and an end. We can understand the concept of God’s eternal nature the same way we understand the concept of space having no beginning and end—by faith. We simply *have* to believe they are so, even though such thoughts put a strain on our distinctly insufficient cerebrum.



51 Wherewith your enemies have re-
proached, O LORD; wherewith they have
reproached the footsteps of your anointed.
52 Blessed be the LORD for evermore.
Amen, and Amen.

PSALM 90

LORD, you have been our dwelling
place in all generations.

2 Before the mountains were brought

**forth, or ever you had formed the earth
and the world, even from everlasting to
everlasting, you are God.**

**3 You turn man to destruction; and
say, Return, you children of men.**

**4 For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past, and
as a watch in the night.**

**5 You carry them away as with a flood;
they are as a sleep: in the morning they**

90:2 Microevolution vs. macroevolution. While we *do* see what’s called “microevolution”—variations within species (different types of dogs, for instance)—we *don’t* see any evidence of “macroevolution”—one species evolving into another species. Microevolution is observable, while macroevolution takes a tremendous leap of faith. If Christians had as much faith in God as atheists have in the theory of evolution, we would see revival. Like little children, atheists believe without a shred of evidence. *Ken Ham* writes, “Adaptation and natural selection are biological facts; amoeba-to-man evolution is not. Natural selection can only work on the genetic information present in a population of organisms—it cannot create new information. For example, since no known reptiles have genes for feathers, no amount of selection will produce a feathered reptile. Mutations in genes can only modify or eliminate existing structures, not create new ones” (*The Answers Book*).

Evolutionists claim that the appendix has no purpose—that it’s left over from evolution. The truth is that the appendix is part of the human immune system. They also say that we have a tailbone (another leftover), proving that man is the product of evolution. The “tailbone” actually supports muscles that are necessary for daily bodily functions.

are like grass which grows up.

6 In the morning it flourishes, and grows up; in the evening it is cut down, and withers.

7 For we are consumed by your anger, and by your wrath are we troubled.

8 You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

9 For all our days are passed away in your wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

10 **The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.**

The average person dies at 70 years old.

IF YOU ARE:	YOU HAVE:
20 years old	2,500 weekends left
30 years old	2,000 weekends left
40 years old	1,500 weekends left
50 years old	1,000 weekends left
60 years old	500 weekends left

According to the U.S Census Bureau, 150,000 people die every 24 hours.

11 **Who knows the power of your anger? even according to your fear, so is your wrath.**

12 **So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.**

13 Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent you concerning your servants.

14 O satisfy us early with your mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

15 Make us glad according to the days wherein you have afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.

16 Let your work appear unto your servants, and your glory unto their children.

17 And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, the work of our hands establish it.

PSALM 91

HE that dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

3 Surely he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

4 He shall cover you with his feathers, and under his wings shall you trust: his truth shall be your shield and buckler.

5 You shall not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flies by day;

6 Nor for the pestilence that walks in darkness; nor for the destruction that wastes at noonday.

7 *A thousand shall fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you.*

8 Only with your eyes shall you behold

90:4 Time is God's creation. He Himself is not subject to the dimension of time. See 2 Peter 3:8 footnote.

90:7,8 The ungodly must be made to understand that every secret sin as well as sins of the heart are seen by God. He will bring every work to judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

"When we merely say that we are bad, the 'wrath' of God seems a barbarous doctrine; as soon as we perceive our bad-ness, it appears inevitable, a mere corollary from God's goodness." C. S. Lewis

90:12 "Your days at the most cannot be very long, so use them to the best of your ability for the glory of God and the benefit of your generation." *General William Booth*

91:1 This psalm is good medicine for those of us who sometimes feel sick with fear at the thought of evangelism. How can we not draw courage from such incredible promises?

and see the reward of the wicked.

9 Because you have made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, your habitation;

10 There shall no evil befall you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.

12 They shall bear you up in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shall you trample under feet.

14 Because he has set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he has known my name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

PSALM 92

IT is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto your name, O Most High:

2 To show forth your lovingkindness in the morning, and your faithfulness every night,

3 Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.

4 For you, LORD, have made me glad through your work: I will triumph in the works of your hands.

5 O LORD, how great are your works! and your thoughts are very deep.

6 A brutish man knows not; neither does a fool understand this.

7 When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; it is that they shall be destroyed for ever:

8 But you, LORD, are most high for evermore.

9 For, lo, your enemies, O LORD, for, lo, your enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.

10 But my horn shall you exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

11 My eye also shall see my desire on my enemies, and my ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me.

12 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

13 Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.

14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;

15 To show that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

PSALM 93

THE LORD reigns, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with

92:5,6 The unregenerate mind is able to see God's creation and not begin to comprehend how great God is. His understanding is darkened. He is alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in him (Ephesians 4:18). This ignorance is a willful blindness brought about by a hardened heart. See John 3:19,20 footnote.

92:13 "Most people think churches are like cafeterias; they pick and choose what they like! They feel the freedom to stay as long as there are no problems. But this does not agree at all with what the Bible teaches. You are not the one who chooses where you go to church. God does! The Bible does not say, 'God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as they please.' Rather it says, 'But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased' (1 Corinthians 12:18).

"Remember that, if you're in the place where God wants you, the devil will try to offend you to get you out. He wants to uproot men and women from the place where God plants them. If he can get you out, he has been successful. If you will not budge, even in the midst of great conflict, you will spoil his plans." *John Bevere, The Bait of Satan*

strength, wherewith he has girded himself: the world also is established, that it cannot be moved.

2 Your throne is established of old: you are from everlasting.

3 The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves.

4 The LORD on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yes, than the mighty waves of the sea.

5 Your testimonies are very sure: holiness becomes your house, O LORD, for ever.

PSALM 94

O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongs; O God, to whom vengeance belongs, show yourself.

2 Lift up yourself, you judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud.

3 LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?

4 How long shall they utter and speak hard things? and all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?

5 They break in pieces your people, O LORD, and afflict your heritage.

6 They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless.

7 Yet they say, The LORD shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob regard it.

8 Understand, you brutish among the people: and you fools, when will you be wise?

9 He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?

10 He that chastises the heathen, shall not he correct? he that teaches man knowledge, shall not he know?

11 The LORD knows the thoughts of man, that they are vanity.

12 Blessed is the man whom you chasten, O LORD, and teach him out of your law;

13 That you may give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be digged for the wicked.

14 For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance.

15 But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it.

16 Who will rise up for me against the evil-doers? or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?

17 Unless the LORD had been my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence.

18 When I said, My foot slips; your mercy, O LORD, held me up.

19 In the multitude of my thoughts within me your comforts delight my soul.

20 Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with you, which frames mischief by a law?

21 They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood.

22 But the LORD is my defense; and my God is the rock of my refuge.

23 And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; yes, the LORD our God shall cut them off.

PSALM 95

O COME, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

3 For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

94:1 "God is not disillusioned with us. He never had any illusions to begin with." *Luis Palau*

94:7-10 This is the great error of the ungodly. They don't consider the fact that if God can create an ear, He can therefore hear everything they say. If He can create an eye, He therefore can see everything they do.

94:12 Blessed is the man who is instructed out of God's Law. When God uses His Law to bring "the knowledge of sin," it acts as a "schoolmaster" (Galatians 3:24) to bring a sinner to the Savior.

4 In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also.

5 The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land.

6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

7 For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if you will hear his voice,

8 Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work.

10 Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:

11 Unto whom I swore in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

PSALM 96

O SING unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth.

2 Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; show forth his salvation from day to day.

3 Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.

4 For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.

5 For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

6 Honor and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

7 Give unto the LORD, O you kindreds

of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

8 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts.

9 O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

10 Say among the heathen that the LORD reigns: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously.

11 *Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof.*

12 *Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice*

13 *Before the LORD: for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.*

PSALM 97

THE LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.

2 **Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.**

3 A fire goes before him, and burns up his enemies round about.

4 His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.

5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

95:4,5 Scientific facts in the Bible. Only in recent years has man discovered that there are mountains on the ocean floor. This was revealed in the Bible thousands of years ago. While deep in the ocean, Jonah cried, "I went down to the bottoms of the mountains..." (Jonah 2:6). The reason the Bible and true science harmonize is that they have the same author.

95:6 "I can safely say, on the authority of all that is revealed in the Word of God, that any man or woman on this earth who is bored and turned off by worship is not ready for heaven." A. W. Tozer

96:11-13 When a murderer is brought to justice, good people rejoice. Justice is sweet to the upright in heart. We are informed that the whole of creation rejoices because God is going to judge the world with righteousness and truth. This is what Paul preached in Acts 17:30,31, and it is what we must preach if we want the world to be saved.

97:2 Righteousness and justice are the very essence of God's character.

97:3-6 This is perhaps a reference to the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19).

6 The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

7 Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all you gods.

8 Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of your judgments, O LORD.

9 For you, LORD, are high above all the earth: you are exalted far above all gods.

10 You that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserves the souls of his saints; he delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.

11 Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.

12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

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*Is "hell-fire" preaching effective?
See Acts 24:25.*

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PSALM 98

OSING unto the LORD a new song; for he has done marvelous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, has gotten him the victory.

2 The LORD has made known his salvation: his righteousness has he openly showed in the sight of the heathen.

3 He has remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

4 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

5 Sing unto the LORD with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.

6 With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the LORD, the

King.

7 *Let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.*

8 *Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together*

9 *Before the LORD; for he comes to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.*

PSALM 99

THE LORD reigns; let the people tremble: he sits between the cherubims; let the earth be moved.

2 The LORD is great in Zion; and he is high above all the people.

3 Let them praise your great and terrible name; for it is holy.

4 The king's strength also loves judgment; you do establish equity, you execute judgment and righteousness in Jacob.

5 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among them that call upon his name; they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

7 He spoke unto them in the cloudy pillar: they kept his testimonies, and the ordinance that he gave them.

8 You answered them, O LORD our God: you were a God that forgave them, though you took vengeance of their inventions.

9 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God is holy.

PSALM 100

MAKE a joyful noise unto the LORD, all you lands.

2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

3 Know that the LORD he is God: it is he that has made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

97:10 Do we truly hate evil, or do we secretly embrace lust and take pleasure in violent entertainment?

98:7-9 The whole of creation rejoices at the thought of God coming to judge the earth. Justice is a joy to the upright. See Psalm 96:11-13 footnote.

4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endures to all generations.

PSALM 101

I WILL sing of mercy and judgment: unto you, O LORD, will I sing.

2 I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when will you come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.

3 I will set no wicked thing before my eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

4 A froward heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked person.

5 Whoso privily slanders his neighbor, him will I cut off: him that has an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.

6 My eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walks in a perfect way, he shall serve me.

7 He that works deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that tells lies shall not tarry in my sight.

8 I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD.

PSALM 102

HEAR my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come unto you.

2 Hide not your face from me in the day when I am in trouble; incline your ear unto me: in the day when I call answer me speedily.

3 For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as an hearth.

4 My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I forget to eat my bread.

5 By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones cleave to my skin.

6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness: I

am like an owl of the desert.

7 I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top.

8 My enemies reproach me all the day; and they that are mad against me are sworn against me.

9 For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping.

10 Because of your indignation and your wrath: for you have lifted me up, and cast me down.

11 My days are like a shadow that declines; and I am withered like grass.

12 But you, O LORD, shall endure for ever; and your remembrance unto all generations.

13 You shall arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favor her, yes, the set time, is come.

14 For your servants take pleasure in her stones, and favor the dust thereof.

15 So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth your glory.

16 When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.

17 He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.

18 This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the LORD.

19 For he has looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth;

20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death;

21 To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem;

22 When the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

23 He weakened my strength in the way; he shortened my days.

24 I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: your years are throughout all generations.

25 Of old have you laid the foundation