

## PSALM 14 & 53 – UNIVERSAL SINFULNESS OF MAN

### Introduction

- 1) **Psalm 14:1; 53:1** – “*The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’*”
- 2) Psalms 14 & 53 are nearly identical psalms of David
  - a) Some slight variations in wording; separate messages in 14:5-6 and 53:5
  - b) Likely these psalms were written on two different occasions, perhaps Psalm 14 when David was younger, and Psalm 53 when he was older and knew its message was needed again
  - c) Timeless principles of truth are often repeated throughout the Psalms and other scriptures
- 3) These two psalms remind us that all men have committed sin and need the salvation of God

### **I) The Fool Who Rejects God (14:1; 53:1)**

- A) A “*fool*” (Heb. *nabal*) is one who rejects wisdom and acts without understanding
  - 1) Not simply ignorant, but despises wisdom and instruction (Prov. 1:7)
  - 2) Hears the truth but chooses not to do what is right (Matt. 7:26-27)
  - 3) Acts hastily and carelessly without the understanding of truth (Eph. 5:15-17; Lk. 12:20)
- B) “*There is no God*” – the denial of the existence of the true God and His revelation
  - 1) Said “in his heart” – thinking affects character and actions (Prov. 23:7a; Matt. 15:19)
  - 2) Foolish because it rejects abundant and clear evidence of God (Psa. 19:1; Rom. 1:20)
  - 3) Not see fit to acknowledge God in their minds – serious consequences (Rom. 1:21-23, 28f)
  - 4) Some will deny God with their actions (Titus 1:16; 1 Tim. 5:8)
- C) Denying God will cause one to be corrupt, do abominable things, and refuse what is good

### **II) All Have Sinned (14:2-3; 53:2-3)**

- A) The LORD searches for a good person and finds none, “no, not one”
  - 1) No person has lived in perfect law-keeping – all have turned aside (cf. Isa. 53:6a)
- B) Quoted by Paul in Romans 3:10-12 in his argument that all have sinned (3:9, 19, 23)
  - 1) All accountable persons have turned away from God and His way, and only by His grace can we be restored to His fellowship and salvation (Rom. 3:24-26)

### **III) Problems for Sinners (14:4-6; 53:4-5)**

- A) Workers of iniquity have “no knowledge” and “do not call on the LORD” (v. 4)
  - 1) Cannot distinguish good and evil actions, and do not seek divine guidance or authority
- B) They will be put to great fear and shame for two reasons:
  - 1) God is with the righteous and the refuge of the poor (14:5-6)
  - 2) God despises and punishes them [“scatters the bones”] (53:5)

### **IV) David’s Fervent Desire for Salvation (14:7; 53:6)**

- A) David desires that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion – messianic desire
  - 1) “Zion” – used for earthly Jerusalem, but here the heavenly realm of God’s rule
  - 2) The Lord will “bring back the captivity” of His people – restore their fortunes
- B) Quoted partially in Romans 11:26 – salvation of Jews and everyone today is found in faith and obedience to Jesus Christ

### Conclusion

The **Deliverer** has come out of Zion, and all who come to God in Christ have come to Mount Zion, the spiritual city of God today (Heb. 12:22). Have you been delivered from the curse of sin by the sacrificial death of Jesus? Believe, repent, confess, and be baptized into Christ today!