

Psalm 5

Written by K B Napier
Sunday, 19 September 2010 19:24

“And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.” (Deut.6:5)

“What doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.” (Deut.10:12)

“Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee...” (Luke 12:20)

Foolish Christians do not understand the weight of God’s supremacy and sovereignty. That is why they ignore the need to call on God to destroy certain enemies. Imprecatory prayer is rarely heard of today, as ignorant believers continue to think we may only pray for the good of people, especially leaders, even if they are gross sinners, wicked to the core, doing us harm and blaspheming God! David is not so slow – he calls on God to destroy those who are wicked... and so should we.

This Psalm is again given by David to the Chief Musician of the Temple. This time the spelling of his role is different. Instead of ‘Negiloth’ we have ‘Nehiloth’. This spelling is only found here, at the start of Psalm 5. Though it is thought to refer to a melody or instrument, the meaning is not clear. However, it probably refers to a wind instrument, whereas ‘Negiloth’ usually refers to stringed instruments.

So, this Chief Musician was possibly the leader of the wind section of the Temple orchestra. The idea that it speaks of wind instruments comes from the root of nechiylah, which is, to bore (as boring out the center of a rounded piece of wood). The word is not a mis-spelling, for the similar, but different, word in the previous chapter is negiy nah.

Verses 1-4

1.

Psalm 5

Written by K B Napier
Sunday, 19 September 2010 19:24

Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.

2.

Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.

3.

My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

4.

For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.

Again, David calls on God to listen to his pleas and to think about what he says. As we said in Psalm 4, this is almost unnecessary, because God tells us He always listens to the prayers of those who are godly. And to ask God to 'think' about what we say is virtually irrelevant, because God does not 'think' as we do, for He knows all things instantly, and knows whether or not He will respond as we wish. No, these words are for the reader and for David himself, we being mere human beings.

'Meditation', hagiyy, can have one of several meanings, depending on context. In this context the meaning is of a 'fervent cry'. We know this because of David's circumstances. Note that the word for 'meditation' in this text can mean to muse or murmur, or even to whisper. Very often we can muse to ourselves about circumstances or situations, almost like day-dreaming... we see this if we look at a possible root for the word, hagah, meaning to imagine. All of this is acceptable if our aim is to think of God and His ways. Such may even contain the seed or content of actual help from God.

David goes on to cry out to "my King and my God". He asks God to listen with attention and refers to God as 'King', melek. This is a masculine noun, so it flies in the face of modern heretics who now wish to get rid of masculinity from God! This might suit the evil designs of perverted sexually-immoral people of the day, but it does not satisfy the ordinary fact that throughout scripture God is shown to be masculine! So, David is speaking to his King and

Psalm 5

Written by K B Napier

Sunday, 19 September 2010 19:24

'elohiym. The capital 'K' for 'King' shows us that He is King of kings and not just one of many.

David is not shy, and he tells the Lord that He will hear many of David's prayers! First thing in the morning, David will cry out, pleading with God to help him. We have a small clue about the way David prayed – looking upwards. This would seem natural to man, even though God is everywhere and Heaven is not necessarily 'up' in the sky! It does reflect the notion that we look up to what is higher than ourselves, so perhaps this is why David does it. However, this is the only example of this phrase in scripture and we cannot, therefore confirm why he put it this way.

This earthly king prays to His supreme divine King, because of His hatred for wickedness. God has no "pleasure in wickedness". Sin is not willed by God, nor does He delight in it. Thus, David adds: "neither shall evil dwell with thee." We know from a variety of texts that God will not tolerate sin anywhere in His presence. Sin is not found in Heaven and cannot be. That is one reason why unrepentant sinners will enter hell. Interestingly, 'evil' is both a masculine and feminine noun, and an adjective, so it covers everyone. Sin cannot stay in God's presence, nor in the lives of His people. To be holy and godly we must shun all manner of evil and sin, or we taint the life God has given us.

As human beings we easily tolerate sin and allow all kinds of evil to proliferate in our midst. Few will remonstrate with those who sin, and so we all live in a world badly harmed by sin and sinful people, without really speaking against it. It does not matter if the sin is ours or someone else's... we must hate it, get rid of it, and shun it. Beware, for God may demand your soul... today! Live godly lives NOW.

Verses 5-7

1.

The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

2.

Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.

3.

But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

Psalm 5

Written by K B Napier

Sunday, 19 September 2010 19:24

Christians hesitate to use this kind of language – most are far too busy trying to be ‘nice’! David and God have no such problems; they are just honest. Fools are not tolerated by God, and He *hates*

“workers of iniquity”. You will note that the text does NOT say God hates the sin and not the sinner! Rather, it says He hates the one doing the sin. Christians always avoid the issue by saying they ‘hate the sin but not the sinner’ (a Catholic and Hindu notion!). In this we are wrong and do not follow the Lord.

It is a fact of Christian life that Christians cover-up their true feelings and thinking under a thin veneer of Christian nicety, always attempting to seem pleasant and unjudging. Because of ignorance they think judging others is the same as being judgmental – which is a wrong assumption. When a Christian assures us he is not judging someone, or does not hate them, he is usually lying! He is saying what is expected of him, rather than the truth. Underneath his non-judging and supposed ‘love’ for everybody are the same feelings found in others, but he is afraid to admit to them.

The foolish (halal – by coincidence the same word used for Islamic-butchered meat!) are – fools. They even boast in their folly, though they act like madmen. Only madmen will boast before God and act sinfully. Very specifically, we are told that fools will never be accepted before God. Also, he hates workers of iniquity; that is, those who work hard at being wicked and causing trouble, creating mischief and affliction for others. So, nothing here about God accepting everyone to His bosom unconditionally!

We came across “leasing”, kazab, in Psalm 4. It means to lie and to deceive. This does not just apply to thieves. It also applies to false religions. Some, such as Hinduism and Islam, think it appropriate to lie and deceive to get what they want. They even call it ‘holy’. But, God sees it differently – those who lie and deceive will be destroyed! That is, put to death. It can also include losing a soul to hell.

Mainly, though, it refers to killing: so the wicked person who deceives will lose his life as a divine judgment. We are told in verse 5 that God hates those who deceive others. To ‘abhor’ is to find something abominable, to be detested. Do we abhor deceit as much as God does? We should, because ‘deceitful’ activity is treacherous and can include the spilling of blood. Let us not be stupid about it – God absolutely hates these people!

Psalm 5

Written by K B Napier
Sunday, 19 September 2010 19:24

The blunt truth is that God hates wicked people; He does not love them unconditionally, nor does He expect us to do so. Instead, if you follow the text, we are to openly condemn what they say or do, and tell them that they are headed for hell if they do not repent and be saved. Those who are predestinated will listen, but those who are not will simply carry on regardless. It is our task to be blunt, and not to cover their guilt with palliatives and ignorance.

David, on the other hand, says that he will enter the Temple with holy hands, without guilt. He wants to enjoy the “multitude of (his) mercy” as he worships. ‘Multitude’ shows us that God’s mercy is abundant towards those who are godly, who receive many blessings. And notice that David will worship in the Temple with fear of God, yir’ah. Once again we see that this fear is real fear that includes reverence and respect for God. If we go back two roots, we find this fear is based on awe of God and dread of what He can do to mankind.

Verses 8-12

1.

Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.

2.

For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness; their throat is an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.

3.

Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.

4.

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

5.

For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

Psalm 5

Written by K B Napier

Sunday, 19 September 2010 19:24

David asks God/Jehovah to lead or guide him, not by his own righteousness, but by *God's* own righteousness. This is because no man can be righteous before God, except through God's righteousness, given to him. For us today it is the righteousness of Jesus Christ. It is not just guidance but governance. Though himself a king, David asks God to govern him and to lead him away from harm, "because of mine enemies". He asks God to make His will clearly known, so that he will not put a foot wrong; 'lead' also meaning to do what is approved and right. This, of course, should be the call of us today. Note again that this begins with God, not with our own efforts or desires. All of grace and divine authority, and nothing of our own selves.

David could not rely on himself, let alone his enemies, who are always liars, cheats and deceivers, being inwardly and irrevocably wicked, except they obey the Lord. I constantly remind those who listen, especially if they are young, that friendship with unbelievers is bound to end in tears, for unbelievers are enemies of God, no matter how 'nice' they may appear to the human eye and mind. Why take up such friendships with unbelievers, when they will end up in hell and are condemned by God?

Youngsters in particular have a problem with this, preferring unsaved friends to faithfulness before God. But, God sees their desire for unsaved friends and prods their consciences, to cause them to remember who their God is, and His demand for their daily obedience. Those who will not comply will possibly know earthly advance... but they will also know spiritual demise.

As I myself know, I was young yesterday – today I am very much older. God has allowed me to live this long and has matured me spiritually. But, some, who disregard the need to be holy and to avoid friendship with the world, tend to think they are invincible and forget or ignore the fact that God sees and hears them at all times. So, they tend to be holy with their mouths but sinful in the actions, believing they will be 'holy' after they have had their fun. God will not tolerate this, and may act against them, even before they reach my age! Think on it if you are young, for God will demand your soul unexpectedly, ending your life suddenly.

Unsaved people say what they think you want to hear, but their hearts are wicked. Anyone who is unsaved is of this type, so we cannot ignore it. Why should anyone, young or old, want to have friendship with those God says are wicked? Their hearts and minds are "very wicked" and their mouths utter death, for they are an "open sepulchre".

Psalm 5

Written by K B Napier

Sunday, 19 September 2010 19:24

David's words are uncompromising: "Destroy thou them, O God."! There is no idea here of joining them as friends, or doing what they do. Instead, David knows what God thinks of them and, through long experience, he knows that such unsaved people are evil at heart. He asks God to let them fail miserably through their own ungodly thoughts and ways, and asks God to get rid of them because of their countless sins. This is because the unsaved can only do what is sinful – "they have rebelled against thee". If you have unsaved friends remember that God sees them as unworthy to live, and will not help them... they are rebels against Him. When you consort with the unsaved you are actually defying God, Who hates them.

On the other hand (verse 11) those who trust God (saved) will rejoice and "shout for joy" because God is their friend and saviour. He defends them against enemies, and against the unsaved, who wish them harm. Remember, too, that many enemies are found within the churches. They are saved men and women, but their hearts are evil towards us who seek God daily, because they perceive us to be wrong. But, we are not – for we follow the Lord in godliness, whilst they follow tradition and men's thoughts. Let all who love the name of God (that is, everything about Him) be joyful! 'Love' in this context can broadly be defined as being a friend of God rather than of the world and the unsaved.

When we do this, God will bless us and cover us with a shield of His power and might.

© September 2010

---oOo---

{loadposition btm_address}