

Daily Encouragement from Gordon – Thursday 2nd April

Psalm 14

1 The fool says in his heart,
'There is no God.'

We see people doing wicked things, but God sees people with rebellious hearts, the root cause.

They are corrupt, their deeds are vile;
there is no one who does good.

Non-Christians can do good things because they are made in God's image, but they cannot please God while they deny him.

2 The Lord looks down from heaven
on all mankind
to see if there are any who understand,
any who seek God.

3 All have turned away, all have become corrupt;
there is no one who does good,
not even one.

Whether it be war and hatred, or western selfishness and hard-heartedness, God sees the deeper problem.

And He looks down to save, not to condemn.

4 Do all these evildoers know nothing?
They devour my people as though eating bread;
they never call on the Lord.

**5 But there they are, overwhelmed with dread,
for God is present in the company of the righteous.**

Scattered though we are, he is in our midst. And that changes everything.

6 You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor,
but the Lord is their refuge.

A key theme in Psalms - 43 times God is called our refuge.

We flee to him, we abide in him, we are kept in him.

7 Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! We share the good news of the gospel
When the Lord restores his people, but it is God who brings repentance and faith
let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

God longs that the whole world - and our neighbours - would seek Him.

Oh that those who would pray for an end to the virus would pray for healing for their hearts

May God help us to live for him moment by moment

Gordon