

A SERMON SERIES FROM THE PSALMS

SONGS *for* SUMMER

VOLUME 3

Psalm 12

Lament

“What is the greatest thing in the Psalter but this earnest speaking amid the storm winds of every kind? ... Where do you find deeper, more sorrowful, more pitiful words of sadness than in the psalms of lamentation? ... That they speak these words to God and with God, this I repeat, is the best thing of all.” –Martin Luther

Psalm 12:1-8 (ESV)

To the choirmaster: according to The Sheminith. A Psalm of David. ¹ Save, O Lord, for the godly one is gone; for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man. ² Everyone utters lies to his neighbor; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak.

Psalm 12:1-8 (ESV)

³ May the Lord cut off all flattering lips, the tongue that makes great boasts, ⁴ those who say, “With our tongue we will prevail, our lips are with us; who is master over us?” ⁵ “Because the poor are plundered, because the needy groan, I will now arise,” says the Lord;

Psalm 12:1-8 (ESV)

“I will place him in the safety for which he longs.” ⁶ The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times. ⁷ You, O Lord, will keep them; you will guard us from this generation forever.

Psalm 12:1-8 (ESV)

⁸ On every side the wicked prowl, as vileness is exalted among the children of man.

Three Movements

1. Wicked Words (12:1-4)
2. God's Words (12:5-7)
3. Our Words (12:7-8)

Wicked Words

James 3:5b-10 (ESV)

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

James 3:5b-10 (ESV)

⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father,

James 3:5b-10 (ESV)

and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Psalm 12:5-6 (ESV)

“Because the poor are plundered, because the needy groan, I will now arise,” says the Lord; “I will place him in the safety for which he longs.”⁶ The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.

God's Words

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“Curse the wretch...[speaking of Jesus]...In twenty years Christianity will be no more. My single hand will destroy the edifice it took twelve apostles to rear.”

-Voltaire

**⁷ You, O Lord, will keep them;
you will guard us from this generation forever.**

**⁸ On every side the wicked prowl,
as vileness is exalted among the children of
man.**

Our Words

Luke 21:10-19 (ESV)

Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹ There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

Luke 21:10-19 (ESV)

¹² But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. ¹³ This will be your opportunity to bear witness.

Luke 21:10-19 (ESV)

¹⁴ Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends,

Luke 21:10-19 (ESV)

and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all for my name's sake. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your lives.

If you would like to talk to Chuck about the sermon, please feel free to call him or email him.



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