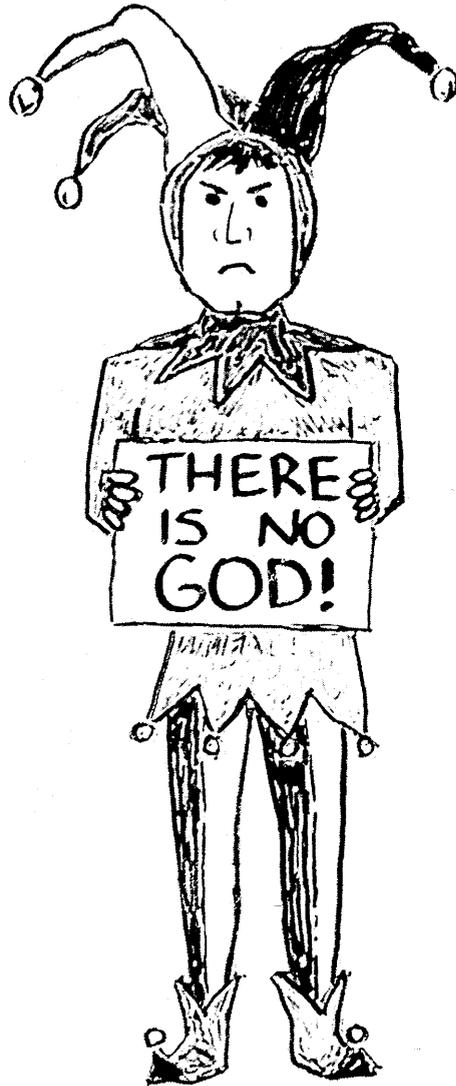


**Psalm 14: The Depravity of Man and
the Deliverance of the Righteous**

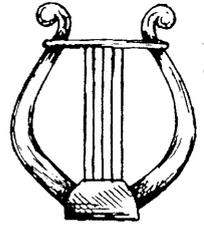
*The
Fool
Sath
Said
In
His
Heart,
There
Is
No
God.
Ps. 14:1*



PSALM 14:1, PROVERBS 1:7
1 CORINTHIANS 3:19

THE DEPRAVITY OF MAN: PSALM 14

Manfred E. Kober, Th.D.



INTRODUCTION:

1. The Subject of the Psalm.

This psalm of David cannot be easily classified. It combines features of the lament, wisdom and prophetic psalms.

Psalm 53 is virtually identical to this psalm. Whereas Psalm 14 seems to emphasize the comfort for the righteous, Psalm 53 offers more of a warning to the wicked.

2. The Summary of the Psalm.

After graphically depicting the godless and dangerous degradation of mankind, the psalmist predicts the total destruction of the ungodly. This prospect encourages the saints to long for the establishment of the millennial kingdom on earth under Messiah's righteous reign.

1A. THE DEPRAVITY OF MANKIND: 1-6

1b. The universal infidelity: 1

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.

The fool (*nabal*) is a person who is not mentally deficient but morally depraved.

1c. Their assertion: 1a

1d. The derivation of their assertion:

2d. The denial of their assertion:

3d. The deplorability of their assertion:

The fool has said in his heart. There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that does good.
Psalm 14:1



It is quite impossible for an individual to be an honest atheist, because to be one, he would have to be everywhere present in the universe at the same time. Since he doesn't find God on one planet, how does he know there's no God on another planet? In other words, omnipresence is required for someone to be a genuine atheist.

Atheism in our day is ever gaining many adherents. Lenin declared: "Our propaganda necessarily includes the propagation of atheism. The Marxist must be the enemy of religion."

Richard Dawkins says in his infamous book, *The God Delusion*, "we are all atheists about most of the gods that humanity has ever believed in. Some of us just go one god further."

One is appalled at the blasphemous comments of perhaps the world's best know evolutionist/atheist. How pertinent are the psalmist's comments!



Richard Dawkins > Quotes

Richard Dawkins quotes (showing 1-30 of 883)

"We are all atheists about most of the gods that humanity has ever believed in. Some of us just go one god further."

— Richard Dawkins, *The God Delusion*

tags: atheism, philosophy

"The God of the Old Testament is arguably the most unpleasant character in all fiction: jealous and proud of it; a petty, unjust, unforgiving control-freak; a vindictive, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser; a misogynistic, homophobic, racist, infanticidal, genocidal, filicidal, pestilential, megalomaniacal, sadomasochistic, capriciously malevolent bully."

— Richard Dawkins, *The God Delusion*

The atheists believe: no God
The atheist's behavior: no good

2c. Their abominations: 1b

1d. Their corruption:

2d. Their degradation:

3c. Their depravity:

2b. Universal ignorance: 2

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

1c. The inquiry by God: 2a

2c. The ignorance of the sinner: 2b

1d. Sinners have no information about God.

2d. Sinners have no interest in God.

3b. Universal immorality: 3

They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

1c. The departure from God:

2c. The depravity in action:

Paul cites these verses to support the universal and continuous sinfulness of man:

Romans 3:10-12

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

¹¹ There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

¹² They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

3c. The disregard for morality:

4b. Universal iniquity: 4

Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the Lord.

1c. Void of knowledge:

2c. Violent to others:

Micah 3:1-3

And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know judgment?

² Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones;

³ Who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron.

3c. Vain in their pride:

5b. Universal immolation: 5-6

There were they in great fear: for God is in the generation of the righteous.

⁶ Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the Lord is his refuge.

1c. Their extreme terror: 5

The Bible predicts the burning up of the wicked at the Second Advent.
2 Thessalonians 1:8. In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: (cf. Zechariah 14:12)

2c. Their ensuing shame: 6

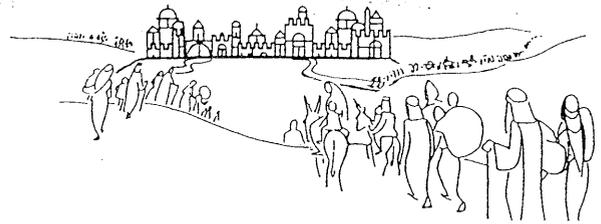
The main thought of verses 5-6 is that the time will come when the unbeliever will experience extreme terror. The reference is most likely to his final judgment at the end of the tribulation at the Second Advent of Christ.

2A. THE DELIVERANCE OF THE RIGHTEOUS: 7

Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! when the Lord bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

1b. A prayer for redemption:

2b. A prayer for restoration:



CONCLUSION:

Allen P. Ross has a most helpful summary of the psalm:

The righteous may have to live in a godless and corrupt world that seeks to destroy them, but there is coming a glorious day of reckoning when God will destroy the wicked and deliver his people (*A Commentary on the Psalms*, Vol. I, 384).

Several practical lessons may be derived from this psalm for the believer today:

1. The psalm discloses in a most powerful way the complete sinfulness of man and the antagonism of mankind against God.
2. The psalm enables the righteous to endure the trouble and turmoil of this world because he anticipates the coming judgment upon the wicked.
3. The psalm assures the believer that the day will come when the reign of Christ will bring relief from suffering and joy everlasting.
4. For the Lord Jesus Christ, it was because of the joy that was set before Him, that He endured the shameful cross (Heb. 12:2). For the Apostle Paul, it was "the hope of glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Cor. 4:6). Then too, it was the joyful anticipation of the "excellency and eternal weight of glory" (2 Cor. 4:17) that made him persevere despite severe and frequent persecution.
5. Believers are enjoined to maintain their moral integrity because they know this present world system will pass away and the wicked will perish.



Madalyn Murray O'Hair

AKA Madalyn Evalyn Mays

Born: 13-Apr-1919

Birthplace: Beechview, PA

Died: Sep-1995

Location of death: Austin, TX

Cause of death: Murder

Remains: Buried, Unmarked grave, near Austin, TX

Gender: Female

Religion: Atheist

Race or Ethnicity: White

Sexual orientation: Straight

Occupation: Religion

Nationality: United States

Executive summary: Atheist spokeswoman

Military service: US Army (cryptographer, Women's Army Corps, WWII)

The first atheist famous solely for her atheism, Madalyn Murray O'Hair participated in the movement that eventually saw mandatory prayer barred from tax-funded public schools in America.

She served as a US Army cryptographer during World War II, got discharged due to pregnancy, and bore two children out of wedlock to two different men.

She wrote a letter to the Soviet government in 1959 applying for Russian citizenship. In the summer of 1960, she brought her boys to the Soviet embassy in Washington, DC to make her case in person. Then in August, O'Hair took them to Paris. After a month of visits to the Soviet embassy there, she finally got discouraged and returned to the United States.

She sued the Baltimore public school system on behalf of her older son, who had been compelled to endure a daily prayer as part of his schooling. O'Hair's case was not unique. In fact, during the appeals process the case was merged with a few others before the whole thing got decided at the Supreme Court. But Madalyn eagerly claimed credit for starting it all, claiming that her role had been instrumental. Coupled with the fact that she loved publicity, O'Hair was the natural person to found a national atheist group. She was widely despised -- by Christians for her heresy, and other people for her abrasive personality and authoritarian manner.

Was chief speechwriter for Larry Flynt's 1984 Presidential campaign, after he renounced his born-again Christian period.

In the summer of 1995 she and her son and granddaughter were kidnapped and murdered by a disgruntled former employee with a long criminal record, David Roland Waters. He died in prison in 2003.



Religion has ever been anti-human,
anti-woman, anti-life, anti-peace,
anti-reason and anti-science. The god
idea has been detrimental not only to
humankind but to the earth. It is time
now for reason, education and science
to take over.

— Madalyn Murray O'Hair —

Psalms and Hymns of Isaac Watts

PSALM 14 PART 1

By Nature all men are sinners.

Fools in their heart believe and say
"That all religion's vain;
There is no God that reigns on high,
Or minds th' affairs of men."

From thoughts so dreadful and profane,
Corrupt discourse proceeds;
And in their impious hands are found
Abominable deeds.

The Lord from his celestial throne
Looked down on things below,
To find the man that sought his grace,
Or did his justice know.

By nature all are gone astray,
Their practice all the same;
There's none that fears his Maker's hand;
There's none that loves his name.

Their tongues are used to speak deceit,
Their slanders never cease;
How swift to mischief are their feet,
Nor know the paths of peace!

Such seeds of sin (that bitter root)
In every heart are found;
Nor can they bear diviner fruit,
Till grace refine the ground.

PSALM 14 PART 2

The folly of persecutors.

Are sinners now so senseless grown
That they the saints devour?
And never worship at thy throne,
Nor fear thine awful power?

Great God! appear to their surprise;
Reveal thy dreadful name;
Let them no more thy wrath despise,
Nor turn our hope to shame.

Dost thou not dwell among the just?
And yet our foes deride,
That we should make thy name our trust;
Great God! confound their pride.

O that the joyful day were come
To finish our distress!
When God shall bring his children home
Our songs shall never cease.

PSALM 14.

To the chief Musician, *A Psalm of David.*

THE fool hath said in his heart, *There is no God.* They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, *there is none that doeth good.*

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

³ They are all gone aside, they are *all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.*

⁴ Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? *who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.*

⁵ There were they in great fear: for God *is in the generation of the righteous.*

⁶ Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD *is his refuge.*

⁷ Oh that the salvation of Israel *were come out of Zion! when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.*

Psalms and Hymns of Isaac Watts