

PRAYER MEETING

21 August 2017

Text: Psalm 11

Author: King David

TRUST IN THE LORD

1. A frequent theme in the Book of Psalms
2. Psalm 11 was written to reflect the testing of David's trust in the LORD

THE PRINCIPLE OF TESTING

1. "That I may test them" (Exodus 16:4)
2. This was announced
3. This was a principle God adopted

CLEAR STATEMENT OF TESTING

1. His eyelids test the sons of men (Psalm 11:4d)
2. The LORD tests the righteous (Psalm 11:5a)

SOME TESTS ARE TOUGH ONES

1. When the wicked attacks
 - a) They bend their bow (Psalm 11:2a)
 - b) They make ready their arrow on a string (Psalm 11:2b)
 - c) That they may shoot secretly
At the upright in heart (Psalm 11:2c)
2. When the foundations are challenged
 - a) What if the foundations are destroyed? (Psalm 11:3a)
 - b) What can the righteous do? (Psalm 11:3b)

THE SUGGESTION OF SOME

1. Flee as a bird to your mountains (Psalm 11:1a)
2. Flight is a commonly offered solution
3. But how does this square with “Trust in God?”

THE EXERCISE OF DEEP TRUST

1. Knowledge of God

- a) The LORD is in His holy temple (Psalm 11:4a)
- b) The LORD’s throne is in heaven (Psalm 11:4b)
- c) His eyes behold (Psalm 11:4c)

2. Understanding of the ways of God

- a) God’s ways with the righteous
The LORD tests the righteous (Psalm 11:5a)
- b) God’s ways with the wicked
 - i) He hates the wicked
 - ii) He hates those who resort to violence (Psalm 11:5b)
 - iii) He will rain coals upon the wicked (Psalm 11:6a)
 - iv) Fire and brimstone too (Psalm 11:6b)
 - v) And a burning wind (Psalm 11:6c)
- c) The above are the portions of the wicked (Psalm 11:6d)

3. Trust in the LORD

- a) That He is righteous (Psalm 11:7a)
- b) He loves righteousness (Psalm 11:7b)
- c) His countenance beholds the upright (Psalm 11:7c)

SIGNIFICANCE

1. To be righteous before God
2. Never allow fear to come in
3. The LORD will look upon the righteous with grace and mercy