

“The Hopelessness of Atheism and the Joy of Knowing God” 11/17/18

Psalm 14:1-7

Studies in the Psalms- Finding Comfort for Life

LESSON 1- The bankruptcy of atheism is demonstrated by the fool’s WORDS

- A. The words of the fool are characterized by a denial of GOD
(V. 1a; Psalm 53; 10:4, 11; **Romans 1:18-32**; Isaiah 44:6; 45:5)

Sigmund Freud- fear of natural world’s evils and of guilt of murdering father.
Karl Marx- religion used to keep lower classes happy and to dominate them.
Ludwig Feuerbach- religion is wish fulfillment; our desire for immortality.
Friedrich Nietzsche- rooted in man’s weakness; the weak need virtues.
Bertrand Russell- Fear of death, trouble, defeat, unknown; like older brother idea.

Going God wants us to know that mankind is without excuse!
Deeper

LESSON 2- The bankruptcy of atheism is demonstrated by the fool’s Wanderings

- A. The wanderings of the fool are shown to be UNIVERSAL
(Vv. 1b-3; Gen 6:5; 11:5; 18:21; Psalm 53; **Rom 3:10-18; 10:18**)

Going God wants us to recognize that we too are part of the fool’s wanderings!
Deeper

LESSON 3- The bankruptcy of atheism is demonstrated by the fool’s WAYS

- A. The ways of the fool are demonstrated by acts of IMMORALITY
(Vv. 4-6; never learning; repeat mistakes of selfishness; no prayer; misuse weak; **cause trouble**; Abuse and mock God’s people- devour)

Going God wants us to examine whether we are practical atheists!
Deeper (**Titus 1:16-** “They profess to know God, but in their works deny Him”

LESSON 4- The bankruptcy of atheism is demonstrated by the fool’s WANT

- A. The want (or lack) of the fool involves no salvation or eternal HOPE
(V. 7; Ephesians 2:12; Acts 14:16; 1 Thessalonians 4:5)

Going God wants us to rejoice in Him and to be glad about our salvation!
Deeper

For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the Captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. (Heb 2:10)